



*The CSPRA*

# *Wave*

*Newsletter*

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 1

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

JAN - FEB 2007

## 35 YEARS for OHMVR



Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation, 1971-2006: page 3 -7

Legislative Committee Update: page 13, 14

Back in the Day at Pismo, page 14

2007 Parks Conference: page 2, 12



## CSPRA OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

**Angy Nowicki**, Silverado  
(707) 538-8734, [angy@cspra.com](mailto:angy@cspra.com)

### PRESIDENT ELECT

**Gail Sevens**, No. Service Center  
(916) 445-8827, [gail@cspra.com](mailto:gail@cspra.com)

### SECRETARY

**Rebecca Schenone**, Plumas-Eureka  
(530) 836-2380, [rebecca@cspra.com](mailto:rebecca@cspra.com)

### TREASURER

**Natalie Lohi**, Mendocino  
(707) 964-7462, [natalie@cspra.com](mailto:natalie@cspra.com)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

**Ron Brean**, Retired  
(541) 547-3640, [ron@cspra.com](mailto:ron@cspra.com)

### DIRECTORS

**Brett Mizeur**, Castle Crags  
(530) 235-2684, [brett@cspra.com](mailto:brett@cspra.com)

**Sal Goshorn**, Orange Coast  
(714) 377-5691, [sal@cspra.com](mailto:sal@cspra.com)

**Joe Mette**, Retired  
(707) 875-9492, [joemette@cspra.com](mailto:joemette@cspra.com)

### ADMINISTRATION

**Allison Pedley**, Executive Manager  
P.O. Box 10606, Truckee, CA 96162  
(530) 550-1268  
[allison@cspra.com](mailto:allison@cspra.com)

### INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS

**Jeff Price**, Webmaster  
(805) 278-9201, [webmaster@cspra.com](mailto:webmaster@cspra.com)  
[www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

### *The CSPRA Wave*

**Janet Carle**, Editor  
(760) 647-6431, [wave@cspra.com](mailto:wave@cspra.com)

### *The CSPRA Wave*

(ISSN0087-9176)

is published by CSPRA, P.O. Box 10606,  
Truckee, CA 96162

Articles and letters are always welcome.  
All submissions become the property of  
CSPRA and may be edited without notice.

Cover photo: Ocotillo Wells SVRA  
by **Aaron Freitas**. All other OHMVR  
photos also by **Aaron Freitas**.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**ANGY NOWICKI**  
*CSPRA President*

If you have not already done so, it's now time to register for the **Annual California Parks Conference**.

The 2007 Conference will be held at the Tenaya Lodge just south of Yosemite, March 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. It will prove to be a wonderful venue and a great experience. To make reservations for the Tenaya Lodge call 1-888-514-2167. Press 1 for Group Reservations. If you book on-line, use our group code, 30948J. The cost is \$84.00 per night plus tax.

A training memo was sent out to all Division and Office Chiefs, District and Sector Superintendents in November which provides for **50 percent reimbursement of registration, travel, per diem, and use of state time. Department employees recognized on the conference agenda as presenters are eligible for 100 percent support.**

To top it off, if you are a member of CSPRA we offer scholarships for professional training up to \$200. All you have to do is sign up on ETMS for the 2007 Conference listed on ETMS as "CSPRA Conference." Please go to our website for detailed instructions: [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com).

Registration packages will be mailed out by the first of January. If you do not receive yours, please contact us as soon as possible. The Registration Package will also be available for download on our

website as soon as it is released.

**Join us at Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite, March 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in 2007!**

See ya there!

(See page 12 for more conference details)

## EXEC. MANAGER



**Allison Pedley**, CSPRA's new executive manager has worked for a public sector environmental planning consulting firm and as a program manager at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has extensive experience in auditing, budgeting, financial statement preparation, and administration. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Allison is married to State Park Ranger **Scott Elliott**, who is assigned to Donner Memorial SP. They live in Truckee with their two daughters. Allison brings a passion for park professionalism and protection to the job. In her free time, she enjoys an abundance of recreational pursuits (particularly camping!) with her family.

**Allison:** *I'm excited and very much looking forward to taking on this position, and helping to promote CSPRA's important mission.*

*Fortunately, Laura will be assisting in the transition, so our goal is to make this as smooth as possible. Looking forward to seeing you all at the conference in March!*

# 35 YEARS FOR OHMVR

## *Message from the Deputy Director*

Saying the words “off-highway motor vehicle recreation” will always elicit a reaction. People smile, frown, raise their eyebrows, nod in acceptance or sigh in disgust. Yes, people feel passionately about off-highway vehicles. The challenge for us at the OHMVR Division is to remind everyone that it is our responsibility as a Division of California Department of Parks and Recreation, to carry out our mission to provide and manage for legal off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities and to protect natural and cultural resources. This is not always easy. At Carnegie SVRA we have seven species currently on the threatened or endangered species list. Oceano Dunes has the largest visitor attendance of any State Park unit, yet also hosts one of the most successful Snowy Plover colonies found in any State Park unit. Our job is not to make a value judgment on the form of recreation, nor try to persuade those who don't like the form of recreation to become enthusiasts. However, it is important to keep in mind that:

- OHV recreation is the fastest growing form of recreation in the state and contributes \$11-14 billion annually to the California economy;
- In the past five years, ATV registrations have increased 87%;
- In the past five years, dirt bike registrations have increased 85%;
- Sales of Recreational Utility Vehicles have increased 273% in the past three years and these vehicles are becoming increasingly popular in our

State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs);

- Registrations of street licensed four-wheel drive vehicles increased 1654% from 1989 to 2004.

These figures must be viewed in conjunction with projected increases in population and demands for housing. By the year 2036, California is expected to have an additional 19 million more people, and an additional 7 million more homes. Where will off-highway enthusiasts go to recreate and how are we going to provide legal places for them to ride?



These are just some of the questions for which we at the OHMVR Division must plan.

It is not uncommon to see our SVRAs filled to capacity on the weekends with families encompassing every age, ethnic and economic group. We have also seen a significant increase in legal OHV recreation at some of the non-SVRA State Park units like Anza Borrego and Red Rock Canyon. The demand is there. And while some would hope to see OHV recreation disappear from the

California landscape, it is not going to go away. Regardless of how people feel about OHV recreation, as land managers, we can't afford to close our eyes to the increases in the recreational demand. We have to approach this challenge thoughtfully and responsibly. We can, through smart planning and careful management, provide opportunities for responsible enthusiasts to engage in their preferred form of recreation in a sustainable environment.

## OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

*by the OHMVR staff*

The mission statement of California Department of Parks and Recreation charges the department with protecting the natural and cultural resources, and also providing recreational opportunities for the people of California. Recreational opportunities are available in many units of the system, most notably in the State Beaches, State Recreations Areas, and

SVRAs. Indeed, one of the most popular units in the California Department of Parks and Recreation is Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area which last year had over 3.1 million visitors.

This year marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program in California State Parks. The OHMVR Division (“Division”) is charged with managing one of the fastest growing forms of recreation in California.

*See OHMVR, page 4*



# OHMVR

## ***OHMVR, from page 3***

Vehicle registrations for non-highway legal vehicles (also known as “green sticker” registrations) rose from 400,000 vehicles in 2000, to over 1,000,000 vehicles in 2006. The popularity and sales of Sport Utility Vehicles has exploded. More and more Californians are looking for well managed places to operate these vehicles.

Off-highway vehicle operation requires intensive management to insure the environment is protected in a way that provides for long-term use without causing environmental damage. The Division provides recreational opportunities in eight State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) throughout the state. In addition, the Grants and Cooperative Agreements program provides funding to other local, state, and federal agencies. Through this program, the Division has provided over \$230 million to the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, and over \$60 million to local agencies and law enforcement organizations to support active management of OHV recreation.

Managing OHV recreation is not so different from managing other forms of recreation such as hiking, mountain biking, or rock climbing. One of the core principles employed by the Division is that if you educate people on how to recreate responsibly, and provide appropriate areas for them to engage in their desired form of recreation, then a dynamic balance can be achieved between recreation and environmental sustainability.

### **SVRAs**

There are currently eight State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) managed by the OHMVR Division: Prairie City, Carnegie, Hollister Hills, Oceano Dunes, Hungry Valley,



***^^ Hollister Hills***

Octotilo Wells, Heber Dunes and Clay Pit. SVRAs are very popular with OHV enthusiasts throughout the State. They are significantly more developed than non-state managed OHV sites and offer a wide range of facilities and amenities for the diverse groups which use the parks units. OHV recreation in the SVRAs varies from motorcycles and all-terrain

vehicles (ATVs) to Jeeps, SUVs, sand rails and dune buggies, all of which come to enjoy an array of different recreational opportunities.

The sport is continually evolving, and management practices in the SVRAs must be adapted as new vehicle types are developed. The introduction of ATVs, Rock Crawling Buggies, and Recreational Utility Vehicles (Yamaha Rhinos and Polaris Rangers)) have resulted in a marked change in the ways people recreate. The park staff at the SVRAs are constantly challenged to stay current with recreational trends and to provide safe and sustainable recreational opportunities.

Many SVRAs have dedicated significant portions of land as off-limits to motorized use. For instance, over half the property managed by Oceano Dunes SVRA is set aside for resource management purposes. These lands are available for less intensive recreational uses such as hiking, and bird watching, and serve as a buffer between the more intensively used OHV riding areas and surrounding landowners and communities. The SVRAs maintain excellent working

relationships with neighboring communities, and serve as vital economic engines for the local economies.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

There is a misperception that OHV recreation is more dangerous than other forms of recreation. In actuality, accident rates for OHV recreation are significantly lower than those of many other activities such as skiing and skateboarding. The percentage of young children injured while riding bicycles is far higher than that of



***Oceano Dunes***



←Ocotillo Wells

## OHMVR, from page 4

children operating OHVs. This is due in part to an aggressive training and educational effort designed to teach safe vehicle operation practices, proper use of safety gear, and age appropriate sized vehicle use. Both Park Rangers and Technical Services staff are involved in teaching safe riding practices through

programs such as the ATV Safety Rider Course, Dirt Bike School and California Off-Road PALs, a partnership with the California Police Activities League

However, given the large numbers of visitors engaging in high intensity active recreation at the SVRAs, accidents are bound to happen. While the percentage of accidents is low, the high volume of visitors results in a large number of calls for medical emergencies. Park Rangers and Technical Services staff in the SVRAs are very adept at handling medical calls, and provide vital life saving assistance on a regular basis. It is a little known fact that the SVRAs employ State Lifeguards as well. Since many of the units have riding seasons opposite the popular beach seasons, they are able to employ



## AA OHMVR Commission site visit

seasonal Lifeguards to augment their routine medical response experiences and capabilities. Additionally, Oceano Dunes has an active summer Lifeguard program to provide aquatic safety and response to medical emergencies in the riding area.

## NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The OHMVR Division has taken a leadership role in developing effective resource management techniques for off-highway vehicle areas. The Division will soon release a comprehensive new set of Soil Standards, developed in cooperation with the California Geological Survey and a multi-agency council. Compliance with these standards will

be required of all entities receiving grants from the OHV Trust Fund as well as our SVRAs. Efforts are underway to incorporate the new techniques into the Computerized Asset Management Program (CAMP) used by all California State Park units. The new standards will provide a clear and easy way to perform regular facility assessments of roads and trails, and guidance for how to repair damage at its source and prevent future damage.

The Division also requires intensive

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plans and Habitat Monitoring Plans (WHPP/HMP) at all SVRAs and grant-funded areas. These plans monitor wildlife and vegetation to gauge the effect of OHV recreation upon them. Management measures can then be designed to minimize impacts to vegetation and wildlife.

## GRANTS AND

## COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

The Division allocates funds in the form of Grants and Cooperative Agreements to public land agencies and local entities for the provision of managed OHV recreation opportunities. For the past three years, \$18 million has been available for allocation. This year, the Division received more than \$40 million in requests for a variety of projects such as trail maintenance, scientific research, resource management, and law enforcement. More than 200 projects from over 50 organizations were submitted. Teams of grant administrators spend weeks reading and scoring the projects prior to submitting them to the OHMVR Commission for final funding allocation.

See OHMVR, page 6



<< *Prairie City*

*Snow program* >>



## ***OHMVR from page 5***

tion. The Grants and Cooperative Agreements program helps fund the development and management of new and existing OHV areas, as well as provide environmental protection for California's natural and cultural resources.

Through the Grants and Cooperative Agreements program, the Division impacts numerous OHV recreation programs. Grant administrators travel to project areas throughout the State to review progress on funded projects, evaluate the effectiveness of their programs and share lessons learned.

The Division has also partnered with the U.S. Forest Service in its Route Designation process in California. Through this five-step process, the U.S. Forest Service has inventoried all the roads throughout the 19 National Forests in California. The next step will be to designate a system of routes to provide a managed network of roads and trails on which the resources can be protected. Over the last five years, the Commission has allocated \$9.9 million in cooperative agreements to the Forest Service to support this effort.

**6** CSPRA *Wave*, Jan-Feb, 2007



*^^ Ocotillo Wells*

## **WINTER RECREATION / SNOW PARKS**

California offers wonderful winter recreation opportunities. Recognized as one of the best winter recreation areas in the United States, Californians, and those visiting California, venture to the mountains for winter recreation in record numbers. The Division operates 19 SNO-PARKs and 29 Snowmobile Trailheads. Both the SNO-PARKs and Trailheads

provide snow-cleared parking lots, rest rooms and garbage removal. The SNO-PARK sites offer access to snow play areas, cross-country skiing and snow shoeing. Some SNO-PARKs allow snowmobiles. The Snowmobile Trailheads provide additional access for snowmobiles to a system of groomed trails. Both programs are administered in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Caltrans.

## **THE FUTURE OF OHV RECREATION**

As the California population continues to grow and the popularity of OHV recreation increases, innovative management of this form of recreation will become paramount in providing increased recreational opportunities while protecting shrinking open lands. The importance of providing all families the chance to recreate together, away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life cannot be minimized. This is the essence of California State Parks and the opportunities provided by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.



## Commemorative OHMVR Recreation Badge

To commemorate the 35-year OHV recreation anniversary and to recognize the contribution of the state park peace officers, past and present that worked to protect and manage the state's Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Areas, a commemorative badge has been authorized. The silver colored commemorative badge, with the department logo as a center seal, may be worn from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 to December 31, 2007. The badges are available, on a voluntary personal purchase basis, **to all active and retired state park peace officers.** The badges are expected to be delivered by September 2006.

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program was born in 1971 out



of the critical need to better manage growing demands for off-highway recreation, while at the same time foster respect for private property rights and protect California's natural and cultural resources. 35 years later, this program, a

division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, is the largest and most successful program of its type in the U.S. Today, the program continues its commitment to provide safe, enjoyable recreation while balancing the need to protect the state's resources.

In addition to providing accessibility to off-highway recreation for everyone from hikers to bikers to bird watchers, the program provides a variety of services and benefits to California's residents and the state's visitors, including resource management of its lands, wildlife habitat protection, youth development and law enforcement.

**LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE!**

### California OHMVR Commemorative Badge Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Classification: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Order**                      Number of badges wanted: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$56.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping/handling      \$4 per order                      =      \$4.00

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: **Make checks to: OHV Badge**

Send to: **OHV Badge, P.O. Box 3212, Auburn, CA 95604-3212**

More Info – Mike Lynch – 530-885-9420 or [lynch@psyber.com](mailto:lynch@psyber.com)

## NATIONAL ASSOC. FOR INTERPRETATION WORKSHOP

by **Bill Lindemann**,  
Sierra District Interpretive Specialist

### Does your child inside get out enough?

U. S. Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne sees the writing on the wall. Inspired by futurist and journalist Richard Louv, he opened an inaugural conference on the subject of children and nature this September. Kempthorne understands government as “a catalyst, an encourager, a motivator and a provider of great places for children to have fun, to exercise and to love the outdoors. We can reconnect children to nature.”

This November Richard Louv spoke to over 500 National Association for Interpretation attendees at the National Interpreters Workshop in Albuquerque, NM. He preached to the veritable choir. Through a sea of misty eyes rose steeled conviction and a rousing standing ovation. Louv strikes a deep and fundamental chord whenever he speaks. He coined a new phrase, reluctantly he says, part of the title of his recent book: *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder*.

The day of publication, Louv searched the web for nature deficit disorder and found no results. Within a month the search turned up over 100,000 web pages, as of this writing the count is over 1,200,000. So what's all the buzz about? Suzanne Lewis, superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, told the Associated Press in September, “When I grew up in suburban Ohio, we played in the woods all day long. But today, a lot of kids aren't comfortable outdoors. When you add computers, video games, TV and all those things, we're producing a culture of children that don't identify with the outdoors.” She added, “If that is true, then who is going to come to parks in the next 20 years?”

“Stranger Danger,” says Louv, really  
**8** CSPRA *Wave*, Jan-Feb, 2007



compounds the problems. More negative and repetitious media hype about stranger abductions has left parents afraid to let their kids out of their sight. Louv told the NAI/NIW group, “...when you look at the statistics on abductions, most are by family members, and the number of abductions has been going down for about a decade. One study done at Duke University says kids are safer outside the home than at anytime since the 1970's.” He went on to say fear is the number one reason children aren't experiencing the unstructured play time in nature so critical to their early development.

According to Louv federal, state and local laws and ordinances, most probably well meaning and necessary, show our unwillingness as a society to make sensible personal risk assessments. We have adjudicated away our

common sense in fear of “strange lawyers.” According to Louv there is a radical increase in CCR's: codes, covenants and restrictions, about 75 million Americans are living in communities covered by these. He told a story of one woman who complained of living in a community that outlawed chalk drawing on sidewalks. My own community lives with a code that outlaws tree houses.


“Martin Luther King Jr. said over and over again: no movement will succeed if it cannot paint a picture of a world people want to go to. That's the great failure of progressives in the last decade, and the great failure of environmentalism.” Stated Louv in an interview with David Roberts posted on Gristmill, the Environmental News Blog. Louv continues, “Schools are doing such a good job of teaching kids about the mass of ecological threats that kids, in the absence of experiencing the pure joy of being in nature, start to associate nature with fear.”

“We're in danger of seeing a whole generation disassociate from nature.” Louv told the generation of interpreters before him. “Not only because

*See NATURE DEFICIT, page 9*

**ACTIVITY BOOKS ♦ TRACK REPLICAS & MOLDS**

COME VISIT OUR NEW CENTER FOR SCIENCE  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



**Acorn Naturalists**  
155 El Camino Real, Tustin, CA 92780  
Phone (800) 422-8886 / Fax (800) 452-2802  
www.acornnaturalists.com

Free catalog of resources for rangers, interpreters & naturalists

**RESOURCES FOR INTERPRETERS ♦ FIELD GUIDES**

FIELD EQUIPMENT ♦ FISH PRINTING

OUTDOOR EDUCATION ♦ VIDEOS



## INTERPRETATION

### **NATURE DEFICIT**, from page 8

they don't go outside, but because the message sent, often unintentionally, by environmental organizations and the news media is when it comes to the environment, game over, it's already too late."

"Nature isn't the problem it's the solution," says Louv. The number of children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder has skyrocketed by 33 percent from 1997 to 2002. Medication prescriptions of stimulants and amphetamines have risen as well, especially for preschoolers. From 2002 to 2003, spending on ADHD drugs for children under five went up 369 percent.

According to a study published in the September, 2004 issue of the American Journal of Public Health, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is the most common neurobehavioral disorder of childhood. It manifests as an unusually high and chronic level of

inattention, impulsivity/hyperactivity, or both, and it may affect more than 2 million school-aged children.

Findings from the study indicate that exposure to ordinary natural settings in the course of common after-school and weekend activities may be widely effective in reducing attention deficit symptoms in children. Analyses of the sample as a whole indicated that green outdoor activities resulted in reduced children's symptoms and had more positive aftereffects on symptoms than did activities conducted in other settings. Moreover, the advantage of green outdoor activities over other activities was consistent for children across a wide range of individual, residential, and case characteristics.

The value of getting children outside is one of the fundamental issues being discussed now. To that end Louv is spearheading a "no child left inside" movement. Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell recently launched a major

state initiative "No Child Left Inside" to reconnect children with the outdoors. New research shows getting outside dramatically decreases ADHD, improves concentration, reduces stress and obesity, increases creativity and problem solving ability, improves cognitive function and grade point averages. Louv says, "Coining the term Nature Deficit Disorder was no accident." He searched for a term that everyone would recognize immediately and understand the portent of. We are by no means out of the woods.

Richard Louv's seventh book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* was published in 2005 and is available from Algonquin Books. Visit Algonquin books at [www.algonquin.com](http://www.algonquin.com)

Visit National Association for Interpretation at [www.interpnet.com](http://www.interpnet.com) and visit the Children in Nature Network at [www.cnaturenet.org](http://www.cnaturenet.org)

## ***DPR Interpreters Bring Home Awards***

California State Parks was well-represented at the National Association for Interpretation's 2006 professional awards ceremony. DPR's Chief of Interpretation and Education, **Donna Pozzi** was bestowed the highest honor given by NAI, the title of "Fellow." Pozzi received a standing ovation from the audience of nearly 500 professionals. The Fellow award is presented to a member exemplifying career achievement in guiding the interpretive profession through instruction, mentoring, research, writing, front-line interpretation and management, and who provides strong support for NAI.

In addition to her long-time advocacy of interpretation, Pozzi was recognized for her participation in one of NAI's parent organizations, the Western Interpreter's Association (WIA). The WIA joined



*NAI President **Evie Kirkwood** presents "Fellow" award to **Donna Pozzi***

with the Association of Interpretive Naturalists to form NAI in 1988. She was also honored for her leadership at California State Parks and her dedica-

tion to the interpretive profession.

Pozzi joins the lofty ranks of some familiar names in the interpretive field. **Grant Sharpe, Sigurd Olson, Bill Lewis, Ron Russo and Sam Ham** have all been named Fellow in the past.

An excerpt from her nomination states, "Donna represents everything this award signifies, and more. An excellent manager and a brilliant interpreter; she is a remarkable person. She has fostered a love of our precious natural and cultural heritage not only for the millions who have visited our parks and historic sites, but for the staff, volunteers and colleagues who know and appreciate her many talents. Not content with 'good enough' she continually inspires us all toward excellence." Sierra District Interpretive Specialist

***See AWARDS page 10***

**CSPRA Wave**, Jan-Feb 2007 **9**

**PROMOTING PROFESSIONALISM IN  
CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS  
Membership**

To join CSPRA, mail this application  
to: P.O. Box 2132  
Newport, OR 97365  
For all except "Active" member  
payroll deduction, please include  
check for 1 year's dues.

Name:

Address

City State Zip

Job Classification

Social Security #

Phone: Work

Phone: Home

Email:

District, Section, or Park:

Membership type (Circle one):

Active \$8/month

Active Retired \$36/year

Supporting \$36/year

Organization \$50/year

Benefactor \$1,000/life

I hereby authorize the State Controller to  
deduct from my salary and transmit as  
designated an amount for membership  
dues in the California State Park Rangers  
Association. This authorization will  
remain in effect until cancelled by myself  
or by the organization. I certify I am a  
member of the above organization and  
understand that termination of my  
membership will cancel all deductions  
made under this organization.

Signature

Date

## INTERPRETATION

### AWARDS from page 9

**Bill Lindemann** coordinated  
the nomination with help from  
numerous department staff.

Earlier in the ceremony,  
Anza-Borrego / Colorado  
Desert District Regional  
Interpretive Specialist (PI)

**Joanie Cahill** was one of two  
people awarded the designa-  
tion of "Master Interpreter."

The Master Interpreter award  
is presented to outstanding  
interpreters who demonstrate mastery  
of interpretive techniques, program  
development, and design of creative  
projects. In addition to her professional  
award, one of Cahill's projects, the new  
exhibits at the Anza-Borrego Desert  
State Park Visitor Center won first  
place in the media awards held earlier  
in the week. The Visitor Center exhibit  
project was funded by the 2000 Parks  
Bond.

The National Association for



*Anza Borrego Dist. Supt. **Mark Jorgensen** with **Joanie Cahill***

Interpretation is a professional  
organization with over 4,500 mem-  
bers in countries throughout the  
world. Its mission is to inspire  
leadership and excellence to advance  
heritage interpretation as a profes-  
sion. This year's conference was held  
in Albuquerque, New Mexico with  
1,200 interpreters attending.

## Drury Award for Ingenuity

**Kim Baker**, Supervising Ranger at  
Columbia SHP, is the 2006 recipient of  
the Director's "Drury Award for  
Ingenuity," for her creative solution to a  
challenging collections management  
project and utilizing available resources  
to complete a collections stewardship  
project. Kim is a past-president of  
CSPRA.



***Want a CSPRA scholarship?***

Go to [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com) or email  
[scholarship@cspra.com](mailto:scholarship@cspra.com)

## CSPRA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

California State Park Rangers  
Association

Minutes of October 7, 2006

**Officers Present:** Angy Nowicki,  
President; Gail Sevens, President Elect;  
Natalie Lohi, Treasurer.  
**Officers Absent:** Rebecca Shonone

**Board Members Present:** Joe Mette,  
Sal Goshorn, Ron Brean  
**Board Members Absent:** Brett Mizeur

**Also in attendance:** Janet and Dave  
Carle, Wes and Celeste Cater, Dale  
Buschke, Kirk Wallace, Bud Getty

**Presidents Report:** Angy met with  
Director Ruth Coleman. The Director  
has agreed to the Department's support  
of the Conference as has been done in  
previous years. The announcement will  
be coordinated through the Mott  
Training Center. Michael Greene is  
interim Training Manager. CSPRA  
needs to get the word out early. Natalie  
agreed to coordinate advising of DPR  
support of the conference on the "Save-  
the-Date" notice. Janet and Dave Carle  
will also be sure the WAVE indicates  
support by the Department. Angy will  
also see about getting announcements  
out on the Reflector and Backbone.

Angy reminded that board that we  
need a new Executive Manager. One  
candidate has been identified and will be  
interviewed. We are also still in need of  
a person to replace Kim Baker as  
Historian.

Angy reported that she is currently  
managing the Scholarship program. She  
asked for rules creation/clarification  
from the board. The board passed a  
motion to restrict training scholarships  
as follows: only one request can be  
funded per individual per fiscal year,  
training will be job performance or  
career development related, funding will  
be provided only after efforts at receiv-  
ing training support from the Department  
have been exhausted, and funding will

obligate the recipient to writing an  
article for the WAVE about the  
experience.

**Advocacy:** Gail reported that  
Advocacy Day will be March 26,  
2007. Last year 30 CSPRA mem-  
bers were in attendance. The  
Legislative Committee now consists  
of Dick Troy, Donna Pozzi, Sal  
Goshorn, and Gail. Issues currently  
active include support for a sea otter  
protection bill, on going efforts on  
the San Onofre Toll Road, Big  
Lagoon protection, and the potential  
of a bill to take portions of Old  
Sacramento State Historic Park away  
from DPR for an unrelated children's  
museum.

Gail reported that talking points  
are being developed relative to the  
Park Bond (proposition 84). Cur-  
rently support is polling at 50% with  
20% undecided.

**Conference Report:** Natalie is  
working on setting up a shooting  
range for competition. Tracks and  
trainers are still being developed.  
Many vendors are already lined up.  
Monday of the conference will be  
the day when the more extensive  
training opportunities will be  
presented rather than at the end of  
the conference as in the past. Gail is  
coordinating the interpretive track.  
The Carles volunteered to coordinate  
the Gray Bears Track.

**Financial Report:** Natalie  
presented a spreadsheet that Laura  
Svendsgaard had prepared.

Ron Brean will be putting together  
a training program outline designed  
to teach members how to prepare for  
promotional exams. Joe Mette (and  
others to be named later) will  
participate in preparation of the  
materials that will be described in  
the outline.

There was discussion on develop-  
ment of a membership recruitment  
package for new hires. Angy will

check on the status with Pam Armas.  
Gail and Angy will work together to  
be sure the package is developed  
and available.

**Board and Officer Candidate  
Report:** Ron reported on a meeting  
held in accordance with the bylaws  
to solicit candidate nominations for  
officer and board positions. He  
reported on the candidates currently  
agreeing to run and encouraged  
discussion of additional potential  
candidates. Various board members  
agreed to follow up with prospective  
candidates to determine willingness  
to serve and/or to acquire candidate  
statements.

**Honorary Member Discussion:**  
Some names were discussed as  
possible honorary members of  
CSPRA (names omitted here to  
maintain secrecy until announce-  
ments are appropriate. John Mott,  
as chair of the nominating commit-  
tee, will be asked for additional  
names. Additional names will also  
be solicited via the reflector and web  
page.

**Image of the Ranger:** Joe Mette  
lead a discussion based on his  
concerns about the waning image of  
the Ranger. The board has previ-  
ously agreed to do everything  
possible to support the concept of  
the traditional generalist ranger

Next Meeting: December 4, 2006

---

### ***Welcome New and Renewing Members***

Renewing retired members:

**Daniel Abeyta**  
**Ed Bastien**  
**Chazz Potthast**

New members:

**Robyn Ishimatsu**  
**Nicole Van Doren**



# ***PARKS ROCK! California Parks Conference***

## ***March 5 - 8, 2007***

Plans are being finalized for a fantastic CA Parks Conference at **Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite**. The lodge in Fish Camp is located near the south entrance to Yosemite, near the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees, a perfect location for late winter exploration of the towering forest, while still allowing snow-free locations for golf, pistol shoot, and field trips.

**Monday's activities** include an array of field trips: a snowshoe exploration of the Mariposa Grove with a NPS Ranger. If there is no snow, it will be a hike! A special tour of the new Yosemite Valley Visitor Center exhibits will also be held on Monday, which might work out as an en-route stop for those of you coming from the north. A tour of the CA State Mining & Mineral Museum in Mariposa will be offered, and of course, the ever-popular pistol shoot and golf match. The organizers hope to coordinate the timing and place of these two events to make it possible to do both.

A reception, sponsored by the California State Parks Foundation, will start things off at Tenaya Lodge at 6pm. Beer Tasting with **Ira Bletz** will complete the evening.

On **Tuesday**, things will be in full swing, starting with the keynote speaker. Either the Superintendent or Asst. Superintendent of Yosemite NP will address the group. Sessions will follow with **five tracks of activities including Public Safety, Operations, Interpretation, Resources, and GrayBears (retirees)**. GrayBears will hold a panel discussion with Dep. Dir. of Operations for CA State Parks, **Ted Jackson**, along with representatives

from PRAC and NPS, on the future of the park profession. Many of the participants in the **Exchange Ranger Program of the 1970's**, between CA State Parks and NPS, will attend and present an afternoon program and discussion for the GrayBears track.

The Resources track will cover the War on Weeds and Lizards in Grasslands. Phil Johnson will present research on Artificial Nest Structures for Raptors. Public Safety track plans sessions on Conflict Resolution and Weapons Safety. Fire Management and Search and Rescue are a big part of Yosemite park management, and sessions will cover these topics also. **The lunch speaker on Tuesday is National Park Ranger Shelton Jackson, who portrays a Buffalo Soldier** in a Living History presentation. **Dave Gould** will speak on the history of State Parks, and **Frank Padilla Jr.** on Interpretive Tools for Scientific Inquiry. **Lee Stetson will portray John Muir** in a dinner performance on Tuesday evening.

Sessions continue on **Wednesday**, along with association lunch meetings for CSPRA and PRAC.

GrayBear **Dave Carle** will present an illustrated talk on his new book *Introduction to Air in California*. The Resources track will cover Bear Management and Geocaching. Public Safety track will offer a class on Arson Investigations.

GrayBears will host an afternoon field trip to either the Mariposa Grove, Nelder Grove, or Pioneer History Center, depending on group interest and weather conditions. DPR Dep. Dir. for Communications, **Roy Stearns**, will speak on Public



Relations & Working with Media. Wednesday will conclude with the **banquet and dance**.

**Thursday**, longer training sessions will be held on a range of topics including Tree Hazard Management, Training the Interpretive Trainer, and POST-certified training by CA Fish and Game.

More details will be available as sessions get confirmed. Check [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com) for updates. Please see **Angy's column on page 2 for hotel reservation information**.

See you in the Big Trees!



## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

by *Gail Sevrems*  
CSPRA President-Elect

Hi members. Lots is happening in our advocacy efforts. Let's get right to it:

### **Proposition 84 passed!**

Thanks for all your votes and getting the word out. Prop. 84 will, among other things, provide \$400 million for State Parks, and another \$500 million for DPR to award as grants to local parks. In an election year with several bond measures on the ballot, your hard work helped keep Prop. 84 from being lost in the shuffle. Good work!

### **Proposed Dairies Adjacent to Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park**

Two dairies are being proposed next to this Central Valley historic gem. CSPRA is joining the Department and others to find alternatives to the proposal, which we fear will impact the park with odors, flies, and traffic. CSPRA submitted an opposition letter to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, which has agreed to delay their vote on the dairies. DPR has raised the idea of purchasing development rights from the neighbors, which would allow them to keep their land but not put in the dairies. Letters of opposition to the dairies, and in support of creative alternatives such as the sale of development rights, can be sent to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, 2800 West Burrell Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291. Read more about it (and other threats to our parks) at [www.cspra.com/legislation.html](http://www.cspra.com/legislation.html).

### **Proposed Toll Road through San Onofre State Beach**

CSPRA is working with the California State Parks Foundation and the Sierra Club to turn back this proposal. Legislative Committee members Dick Troy and Donna Pozzi are working hard. A current tack is to gather support locally and throughout the state for protection of the park. Several city councils throughout the state have passed resolutions against

the proposed toll road. We are working to get support from the Sacramento City Council, and efforts are ongoing in San Diego as well. We are looking for CSPRA members who would be willing to either meet with local council members or attend a council meeting in support of San Onofre State Beach. Please contact me at [gail@cspra.com](mailto:gail@cspra.com) if you are interested in finding out more.

### **Generalist Ranger**

DPR Director Ruth Coleman has recently brought the issue of the generalist ranger to the forefront, asking District Superintendents to demonstrate how rangers can continue to include interpretation and other key duties in their job description in addition to the law enforcement role. This is an issue that of course affects more than rangers; it is a key issue to what happens in the parks, our public image, safety, and education. Members, what are your ideas? How do you feel about this? Send an email to me, another board member, or your district rep to join the discussion. There will be a panel on this subject at the CA Parks Conference, with Dep. Dir. for Operations **Ted Jackson**.

### **California Parks Conference and Park Advocacy Day**

The **California Parks Conference, March 5-8**, will be an exciting time of learning and sharing ideas. The conference will also feature California State Parks Foundation's **Traci Verardo**, who will provide an opportunity to learn effective techniques for conveying to legislators the importance of parks and the key threats and opportunities at this year's annual **Park Advocacy Day**. Sponsored by the Foundation, this year's PAD will be held **Monday, March 26 in Sacramento**. Here's how it works: teams of 3-5 people have pre-set appointments with members of the legislature or their staffs. Teams are first briefed on key issues. The teams meet with the legislators/staffs,

discuss the key issues and ask for support. Sound intimidating? Well, guess what? The folks we meet with are always gracious and pay close attention to what we say. Many legislators have not had much time to think about parks given all the issues they are faced with, and our first-hand stories are very powerful and effective. I urge you to join us this year. Check out the PAD website: <http://ga3.org/calparks/park-advocacy-day.html>.

### **New Legislation**

A new two-year legislative session has just begun, and with it are opportunities for us to advance park protection. We will be working with our lobbyist, **Monica Miller** of Governmental Advocates, and DPR Director of Legislation **Bill Herms**, to identify these opportunities. Already, there is encouraging news: many of the new committee leaders are park advocates. Stay tuned!

### **Identification of Issues**

Is there a threat to YOUR park or district? Part of CSPRA's mission is to protect parks and park values. We can serve as advocates to help stop threats and support opportunities for your parks. If something is brewing, please drop one of us a line.

### **Member Participation**

CSPRA continues to recruit folks that are willing to serve as local advocates as issues arise. Our list is growing, but we still need more. If you are located near Sacramento, you could join our list of folks willing to come and speak to legislators on specific issues informally or in hearings. We are also looking for people from throughout the state who could do the same at the local offices of legislators. As I said above, my experience has been that lawmakers and their staffs are ALWAYS willing to listen—even if they don't agree with us right off the bat. Numbers count!

*See LEGISLATIVE, page 14*

*LEGISLATIVE from page 13***New Member Recruitment**

Know someone at your workplace who cares about parks but is not yet a CSPRA member? Is there a new hire who hasn't joined? Know a seasonal employee who would like an opportunity for training, networking, and to make a difference in parks? Then please invite them to join us! Pass on this newsletter, which also contains an application form. The more members, the stronger our voice.

**New Executive Manager**

We are all thrilled to have **Allison Pedley** join us as our new Executive Manager. Welcome to the team, Allison! (See page 2 for more details.) But I would also like to acknowledge the incredible contributions made by our outgoing EM, **Laura Svendsgaard**. Laura has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty, working tirelessly to keep our finances in order, send out ballots, maintain our membership lists, and a million other things. She has shared with CSPRA her experience in advocating for parks and given invaluable advice. And she has always been there when we needed her. As Laura goes on to fight other battles, including protection of the Smith River, we wish her lots of luck and send her our gratitude.

## THIS CUP COULD BE YOURS!

**All  
contributors  
to the *WAVE*  
receive a  
stain-less steel  
CSPRA  
travel mug**



**14** CSPRA *Wave*, Jan-Feb 2007

# Pismo Memories

*by Skip Shelton, Retired*

I was assigned to **Pismo State Beach** from 1978-79. I was led by such notables as **Wes Cater**, **Bill Beat** and **Don Kinney**, and tutored by such legends at **Dick "Cesar Romero" Lokey**, **Bill "Crash" Carter**, **Larry "Flash" Froley**, and **Bob "I Never Sleep" Jones**. I worked side by side with such rangers as **Don "Bust 'Em" Barnes**, **"Dynamite" Dan Dungy**, and **Joe "You Want a Piece of Me" Von Herrmann**.

Dungy and I were a couple of the first PI's to complete BPOT (Basic Peace Officer Training). We drove daily from Big Sur to the Mott Training Center. Meanwhile, back at Pismo, Lokey was piling up citations at the rate of about 600 a year. This was during the final years of "almost anything goes". No noise regulations, unlicensed vehicles on the beach proper, and drivers painting over their off-road stickers and not understanding why we didn't accept them. Some drivers would turn themselves in at our "movable kiosk" rather than waste a day's work going to Fresno to get their vehicle registered. (They then carried their "copy" of the ticket for the weekend.)

There were also the under-age drinkers—pouring 4 cases of ice cold beer and a fifth Jack Daniels thirty seconds after they hit the beach, then talking to a large group of teens with a lot of limes, and returning and kicking up 3 bottles of buried "Jose Cuervo Gold"!!

There was Dungy's "Midnight Clam Bust"! Buckets of undersized clams, destined for Asian restaurants in LA... trying to photograph clams while they were trying to return to their homes.

Funny vehicle situations: An 18-wheel semi buried at the Grover City Ramp because the driver didn't understand the tides! First tow truck was lifted off the ground, and then

when the second "genius driver" hooked on his winch he kinked the frame of the first one! Stopping a Porsche at 65mph (in second gear) who missed the three "15 mph" signs at the ramp!

This is a small sample of a normal summer month at Pismo "back in the day"!

## More Pismo

*by Steve Hill, retired*

In April of 1973, as a newly badged Ranger Trainee, I went out on my first patrol at Pismo Beach with Ranger **Dale Haskins**. Pismo was open for vehicles, and the quality of its sand easily held the weight of a vehicle when it was wet. I had been hearing many of the war stories and hazards of working on the beach. Some of the stories were dramatic, some comical. One thing was certain: every day had the potential for a new story. Little did I know that within minutes into our patrol I'd garner my first story. It was a week-day morning, and there was little activity on the beach. Radio traffic was basically limited to advising of vehicle locations, direction and the like—routine stuff. Then a pursuit call suddenly crackled over the radio as another ranger unit was "Code-3" after a speeder. Excitedly, Dale said, "there they are!", and moments later the speeder and the ranger jeep passed by. Then the pursuit terminated just as quickly when the light bar fell off the jeep! ...Rust was a conspirator. This was a very humbling, "keystone" cops experience for everybody. But what it really demonstrated, very dramatically, was the difficulties of operating in this environment, and the importance of maintenance.



## humor in unicorn



## Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

*by Jeff Price, retired*

Elastic finances.

*I can't afford to pay a \$44 ticket; I am a student on tight money.*

Not exactly to the letter.

*That's what he said, per batim.*

I just report them and can't explain them all.

*After several early failures he re-jumped his career.*

Spinning amperage.

*We got hit by one of those rotating blackouts last summer.*

The deep reduction.

*We want to cut back as much as possible, but we can't go underboard either.*

## GET CONNECTED

### CSPRA Online:

Catch up on activities, contact your District Reps., Board, or Officers at [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

## District Reps

District	Name	Email Address
Angeles	Frank Padilla	fpadilla@parks.ca.gov
Capitol	Mark Hada	mhada@parks.ca.gov
Central Valley	Wayne Harrison	wharr@parks.ca.gov
Channel Coast	Tyson Butzke	tbutzke@parks.ca.gov
Colorado	Jeri Zemon	jzemon@parks.ca.gov
Diablo Vista	Carl Nielson	junctionrangers@earthlink.net
	Ann Meneguzzi	amene@parks.ca.gov
Four Rivers	Greg Martin	gmart@parks.ca.gov
Gold Fields	Matt Cardinet	mcardinet@parks.ca.gov
	Kevin Pearce	kpearce@parks.ca.gov
Inland Empire	Sue Neary	sneary@parks.ca.gov
Monterey	Pat Clark Gray	pgray@parks.ca.gov
North Coast Redwoods	Rick Sermon	sermon@wave.net
North Bay	Karen Broderick	karen@mcn.org
Northern Buttes	Val Nixon	nixons@mchsi.com
Orange	Jenny Donovan	roadkill151@aol.com
	Robert Simoneaux	bob4q@cox.net
San Diego	Fred Jee	jeeology@yahoo.com
San Joaquin	Sean Malis	sean.malis@us.army.mil
San Luis Obispo	Nick Franco	nfranco@hearstcastle.com
	Robert Latson	rllatson@aol.com
Santa Cruz	Charles Edgemon	charlesedgemon@earthlink.net
	Linda Hitchcock	lhitchcock@parks.ca.gov
Sierra	Susan Grove	susan@gbis.com
Administration	Jann Bullock	jbull@parks.ca.gov
OHV	John Pelonio	jpelonio@parks.ca.gov

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.

## GRAYBEARS



*Attention retired members!*  
Want to keep in touch after you leave DPR? Join the GrayBears list server. It is FREE and EASY to use. Just send your name and email address to:  
[graybears@cspra.com](mailto:graybears@cspra.com)

## Do you know someone who is retiring?

CSPRA provides a plaque for each member when they retire. Contact us at (530) 550-1268, or email [allison@CSPRA.com](mailto:allison@CSPRA.com), or write to CSPRA, P.O. Box 10606, Truckee, CA 96162



California State Park Rangers Association  
P.O. Box 10606,  
Truckee, CA 96162  
[www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
163, PASO  
ROBLES, CA

## **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***