



The CSPRA

Wave

Newsletter

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 4

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

JULY - AUG 2008

Parks Remain Open



No Park Closures, pages 4, 5

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Mongolian Sister Park, page 5



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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
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**Cover: Interpretive Specialist David
Marquart opens the Visitor Center at
Mono Lake.**

Photo by Janet Carle

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CSPRA President Gail Sevrens

Fighting for Parks

by Gail Sevrens

We were heard, loud and clear. The entire state has rallied to the defense of State Parks. Cooperating associations, the media, advocacy groups, chambers of commerce, the legislature, and the public sent a strong message to the Governor: don't close our parks!

In response to this hard work, the Governor's May revised budget reinstated funding to parks so that the 48 parks on the closure list will remain open. Great job!

Thank you to all, from the venerable California State Parks Foundation who coordinated a coalition of groups and put together endless activities, rallies, and campaigns to the small park-specific coops, the private citizens, and the families who advocated for funding for our parks.

So, are we going to have to go through this every year? Just to maintain our bailing-wire budget level? Every year will we have to fight just to have enough park aids to try to help us do the minimum to keep our parks from falling apart and the public safe?

A Permanent, Elegant Solution

\$60 million would go a long way to beefing up our operations and public safety, don't you think? How about a cool \$182 million for maintenance, both ongoing and deferred?

And not just one time, but ongoing.

Every year.

To boot, ALL Californians would be able to visit parks, not just those willing to plunk down \$6, even if all they want is a scenic place to spend a half-hour eating their brown bag lunch.

Elegant.

That's the word that overwhelmingly describes to me the solution to our perennial funding woes proposed by Assemblymember (and not incidentally chair of the assembly's budget committee) **John Laird** (D-Santa Cruz), called the State Park Access Pass.

Each California non-commercial vehicle would pay \$10 when they register their vehicle. (The equivalent, we all know, of just over two gallons of gas for said vehicle.) That registration would entitle each California vehicle free day use entrance into the parks.

In one fell swoop, we'd solve problems that have plagued our parks my entire career, plus for many years before I drew that first seasonal paycheck. But wait, you say, wouldn't free access flood the parks with hordes of people, overrunning our law enforcement capability, wrecking havoc on our facilities? I say: \$60 million will hire a lot of park aids, interpreters, lifeguards and rangers; buy a lot of vehicles, POPES, and signage; and pay for a lot of training; all to provide those visitor services, won't they? \$182 million is beaucoup bucks for toilet paper, paint, water systems, PMAs, Worker I's, park aids, replacement buildings, and those much-needed vehicles.

This is our golden chance. The chance of a park lifetime.

We can't let this slip away. We can't let it fail.

I know our members also realize that the parks belong to ALL Californians. When people have an opportunity to visit parks, they love them. They want to protect them, have them funded. They want to volunteer, dedicate their careers to them. (Who among us had never visited a park before working for one?)

It has been documented that access to

See PRESIDENT, page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT, from page 2

parks reduces delinquency, contributing to public safety inside and outside the parks. After the public school system, parks are the largest providers of education in the state. We all went into the parks field to serve the public. We've all been to many, many parks that already provide free access. I personally have not witnessed high levels of mayhem in those parks.

I am not ashamed to say that I have turned around when approaching a kiosk at the entrance of a non-DPR park and seen that there is an entrance fee. Even my firmly middle class salary has not left me immune from such economic pressures.

So what are you waiting for? If you want money, equipment, personnel, and an opportunity to introduce parks to a new generation of supporters and potential recruits, step up to the plate. Take that mouse, click on over to www.calparks.org/park-access/, endorse the proposal, send an email to a legislator, join the 74% of Californians who support this proposal. In the same amount of time that it takes you to compose an email, you can make your opinion heard by decision makers and, just maybe, solve our problems.

Larger Scholarships

Due to the generous donation of Ambassador **Bill Lane Jr.** and his wife **Jean**, in conjunction with the **Jim Whitehead** Memorial Scholarship Fund and other donations, CSPRA is able to increase the amount of professional development scholarships to \$500. Professional development is one of the key missions of CSPRA, and your board feels that \$500 will go a longer way to cover education.

All scholarship recipients must submit an article to the Wave regarding their training so that all members can benefit. Download your application form at www.cspra.com/scholarship.html and email it to scholarship@cspra.com. CSPRA wants to support training opportuni-

ties not covered by DPR, so please also include a denial form from ETMS.

Retiree Rendezvous

Many members may not know that the Retiree Rendezvous is open to active parks folks as well as those who've graduated to the life of leisure. It's a great opportunity to socialize with (and, at least for me, to learn from) some of the park greats. And this year's Rendezvous is going to be held in conjunction with the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park 75th Anniversary in the mountains of San Diego County. The Rendezvous will be held October 7-9, while the 75th Anniversary celebration will be the weekend of October 10-12. Available accommodations include cabins, local B&B's and lodges, and of course, camping. See page 6 or contact chair Kirk Wallace at rendezvous@cspra.com for full info. This "retiree trainee" hopes to see you there!

CPC at the Castle

Next year's California Parks Conference will be held in Cambria, taking advantage of gorgeous scenery and proximity to Hearst Castle, which will provide great opportunities for behind-the-scenes learning and festive and historic nighttime activities. While precise dates are not finalized, the conference will be held in March or April, giving us an opportunity to catch the tail end of the elephant seal breeding season too. If you'd like to be involved in planning or implementing the conference, please contact Cochair **Nick Franco**.

The Name

The name of our organization is well-understood by the public and legislature—to them, I'm a "ranger" and you are a "ranger", whether you maintain the buildings, answer the phones, or qualify at the range.

But, internally of course, our definition of a "ranger" is more focused. I am not a ranger and never have been. Nor have many members, board members, or district reps. Some great

park professionals have even told us they don't want to join, despite agreeing with our mission, because they feel the name does not accurately reflect their roles in the parks.

So, to change or not to change? That will be one of the questions in a forthcoming member survey. We will be asking you not only what to call ourselves, but what services are important to you, what you think we should be doing, where we should go. Got an opinion? We want to hear from you.

Merchandise

Everybody loves cool stuff. Hats, backpacks, T-shirts. We all need 'em. New CSPRA member **Ben Fenkell** has graciously created a new merchandise design based on **Laura Svendsgaard's** great idea of "Speak to the Paw". Watch for a new line of merchandise that you can use to show your support for—as well as provide support for—your organization. Thanks Ben and Laura!

Recruitment

If you can't wait for the new line of gear to premier, take the opportunity NOW to get a FREE stylish backpack. How? Simply recruit a new member. Share with them the benefits of a CSPRA membership: professional development, scholarships, networking opportunities, advocacy and a strong voice for parks, this beautiful newsletter, Gray Bear opportunities. Seasonals can now join at a reduced price with full benefits (including scholarships and conference attendance discounts). Plus, the new recruit ALSO gets a free backpack. What a bargain!

Watch for new recruitment materials to be introduced for posting in every unit. Contact us if you would like to work with district reps to host a recruitment event in your district. The bigger and stronger we are, the more we can do for parks, and for you.

No Closures!

Funding for State Parks Restored

Press Release from
Director Ruth Coleman

As you have probably heard, the Governor has proposed to fully restore our budget as part of the May Revise. We are very grateful to the Governor for this action which enables us to keep all our parks open and staffed with seasonal lifeguards. The reinstatement came in the form of \$11.8 million of General Fund plus increased fee revenue authority of \$1.5 million. Taken together these proposals would fully offset the budget cuts proposed in January.

We expect that we will be able to realize the increased revenues by adjusting day use fees where we can do so without discouraging visitation. Likely increases will be limited to selected parks and will be no more than \$1 or \$2. In addition we will continue to explore revenue generating opportunities with automated pay machines, alternative camping, concessions, and new development such as the campground at El Moro.

In addition to thanking the Governor, there are several staff here that I want to thank for their assistance over the past few months. They include **Michael Harris, Manuel Lopez, Bill Herms, and Ted Jackson** and all the other staff who have provided us all the data we needed on a moment's notice. They have been tireless in providing solid, defensible information on the impacts of the cuts on our operations.

We have a lot to be thankful for today. We all know that our department continues to face challenges in the future but the Governor's proposal is very good news indeed and we need to be grateful that he took this positive action.

4 CSPRA *Wave*, July-Aug, 2008



DEDICATED FUNDING PROPOSAL

A Light at the End of the Tunnel?

by *California State Park Foundation*

In the last few months, we've brought you news about the Governor's proposal to close state parks, CSPRA's participation in the statewide Save Our State Parks campaign and the victory in mid-May when the Governor reversed his stance on closing state parks. Yet it's a victory tempered by the fact that it's now all too easy to imagine the next time we'll be facing another park closure list. It didn't take much – only \$13 million – to push the state park system to the edge, where 17 percent of the entire system was proposed for closure in order to generate some modest savings. We said after the Governor's mid-May announcement that our work is not done, and California State Parks Foundation and CSPRA would fight for long-term, sustainable funding for our state parks.

Well, a funding solution has emerged! On the heels of the Governor's announcement, Assemblymember **John Laird** (D-Santa Cruz) announced a new proposal for

dedicated funding for our state park system. At the end of May, Mr. Laird proposed the State Park Access Pass program, which would raise over \$280 million annually for maintaining and improving our state parks. The program would raise funds from a \$10 surcharge on annual vehicle fees, paid at time annual registration. And for paying the fee, Californians would receive free day-use access to state parks. This is quite a bargain – in many cases, Californians are already paying \$6-\$8 for day use access, for one day's visit only. In southern California, many of the popular state beaches already charge \$10 per visit. As we know, the need for a stable source of funding for state parks is one that has been elusive for decades. The lack of dependable funding has meant that more than \$1.2 billion in deferred maintenance projects have built up in the state park system.

Clearly, there are many competing priorities in this year's state budget. But the State Park Access Pass

proposal is one that is commonsense and is sorely needed. A year ago, few people would have ever thought that closing state parks would be seriously considered as a way to save the state a modest amount of funding. Sadly, that door has now been opened, and it's not an exaggeration to say we could be there again. Just as strong public support helped turn the tide on the proposal to close state parks, we all need to be there again to support this solution to keeping our parks system open and accessible for the future. CSPRA strongly supports the State Park Access Pass and urges you to join us. Help us convince our lawmakers that it's not enough simply to keep the doors open to our state parks. We must have a vision for excellence in our state parks and the funding to make it a reality, and the State Park Access Pass achieves that. Take a moment and visit www.savestateparks.org to lend your voice and send a letter to your legislators. Thank you for your support!

MONGOLIAN SISTER PARK

by *Mark Jorgensen*

Supt. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

My brother Steve and I spent three weeks in Mongolia this time. We had three meetings with the Governor Bold of the local Soum (county) to discuss the Sister Park agreement and to further investigate the needs of Ikh Nartiin Chuluu Nature Reserve. We signed on to Phase II of our Cooperative Agreement.

We delivered lots of equipment for the rangers and researchers at Ikh Nart and made plans for additional equipment to be sent in the coming months. We took donations: eight sets of binoculars, two spotting scopes, a night-vision scope, two GPS units, daypacks, boots, an expedition back-

pack, uniforms, new custom-made uniform patches and Ikh Nart decals, along with reading glasses, art supplies, cigars and even a basketball.

Much of our time was spent hiking in the Reserve, observing Argali sheep, Siberian ibex, capturing and banding Cinereous vultures, and working on park boundary issues.

The next big issues to be addressed are boundary signs, interpretive signage, funding for rangers, motorcycles and gasoline for patrol, and the need for a used laptop computer and digital projector for the local school's environmental education program ("local school" being 75 miles away).

What's amazing is how much can be accomplished with so little. The

equipment and uniforms we supply make such a huge difference to the Mongolian rangers, volunteers and research staff.

If anyone has any equipment they think would assist our Sister Park in the Gobi Desert, please contact me by phone or e-mail (mjorgensen@parks.ca.gov). We need new or used GPS units, laptops, binoculars and digital cameras. Our next trip will take place in September, this year.

I'll continue to use financial donations to assist putting volunteer rangers into paid status and begin a project to purchase a couple of motorcycles

See SISTER PARK, page 9

RETIREE'S RENDEZVOUS

16th Annual, CSPRA Sponsored "California State Park Retiree's Rendezvous"

Dear California State Park Employees; Active, Retired, Retiree Trainees, Family and Friends

The 16th Annual "Retirees' Rendezvous" is moving SOUTH to a new venue. This year it will be held at CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK. The dates will be Wednesday and Thursday, October 8 & 9, 2008.

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park will be celebrating it's 75th Anniversary, with events on October 11, 2008, at the City / County School Camp area. The "Rendezvous" is being planned so participants can enjoy both events.

The "Retirees Rendezvous" events will actually begin, with arrivals on Tuesday, October 7, 2008, (or a few days earlier). The campground that is reserved at Cuyamaca Rancho SP will be the Los Vaqueros Group Camp. This campground accommodates larger RV units and tent camping. There are restrooms, showers and water available. There is an RV dump available in the Paso Picacho area.

The "**Clyde Strickler** Road-Kill Grille" will be held the evening of Wednesday, October 8. Bring whatever you run over, catch, shoot or buy, to Bar-B-Q for yourself (or to share), and a side dish to share with others. A continental breakfast with pastries, fruit, juice and coffee will be served on the morning of October 9. The Thursday night (October 9), dinner will be semi-potluck style with the participants to provide salads (green, potato, macaroni, etc.), veggie plates or French bread. The committee will provide the tri-tip / chicken, beans and dessert.

The raffle of donated items will be held after the Thursday night dinner. Donations of items that are homemade, purchased, self crafted or otherwise appropriated, will be gratefully accepted. Any income, over and above the cost of the "Rendezvous", will be placed into the CSPRA Jim Whitehead Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The camaraderie of old and new friends is the main reason for the "Retirees' Rendezvous", therefore the "Rendezvous" is put on as an informal gathering of friends and acquaintances who have a common tie with each other through the California State Park System as Active or Retired Employees, family or friends. Should you know someone who fits this loose definition, that is not receiving "Rendezvous" information, please let us know. Send their name & address to **Allison Pedley**, Executive Manager, CSPRA @ P.O. Box 10606, Truckee, CA 96162 and / or copy the information you have received and give it to them. Then, bring them along.

A small number of cabins may be available in the park, on a first come basis, by contacting Supervising Ranger **Bob Hillis** at bhillis@parks.ca.gov or (760) 765-0655. A list of motels, B&B's, etc. can be found on the internet or suggested facilities by calling **Kirk Wallace** at the address/number below. Any questions on the "Rendezvous", do not hesitate to contact Kirk Wallace, (209) 586-3209; kirkw@mlode.com; rendezvous@cspra.com.

We look forward to receiving your reservation form, prior to 9-15-08, and seeing your smiling face at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park for the "Retirees' Rendezvous".

The "Rendezvous" Committee

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE



^~At the 2006 Rendezvous, **Bob Allen and Jim Peat** worked the grill

<<Pitch & putt golfers at the 2006 Rendezvous

RENDEZVOUS REGISTRATION FORM

Retirees' Rendezvous
Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
October 8th and 9th, 2008

Please include registration fee with form
Checks payable to: CSPRA

Names _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Number attending _____ x \$5.00 per person = \$ _____

_____ Number attending the Continental Breakfast, Wednesday, October 8th

_____ Number attending the Thursday night barbecue: free to retirees & spouses, others \$8.00 per person:

_____ chicken _____ beef \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

_____ We will stay at Cuyamaca Rancho SP in a tent or RV.


Note: no hookups, however, water and combination building are available. RV sanitation station available in the Paso Picacho area of the Park.

_____ We will stay at a local motel or commute.

Please return form and payment by September 15, 2008 to
Allison Pedley, Exec. Mgr., CSPRA, P.O. Box 10606, Truckee, CA 96162

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A RANGER'S SPOUSE REMEMBERS

by **Thelma Kishbaugh**

How many of you remember when rangers were known as custodians and head rangers were wardens? They wore gray uniforms. The only thing that has been constant, and I hope never changes, is the Stetson with its standard crease. The rangers did it all, and very few were specialists. Most rangers were naturalists who gave campfire programs and led nature hikes. The ranger collected fees and did maintenance or anything else that was needed to keep the park in order and campers happy. If you were in the mountains, you shoveled snow; at the coast, you shoveled other things, including dead whales.

My late husband **Gordon** entered

the park service as a summer custodian ranger in 1938. He worked only summers for the first three years before a permanent position opened up. When we started there were about 100 units and the same number of employees. We knew most of the rangers, as the philosophy of the time was to move a lot. We served in parks from Morro Bay to Prairie Creek, and Calaveras and Tahoe as rangers; Stockton and Santa Rosa at the district level, and two stints in Sacramento. Gordon's last assignment was as head of Land Planning and Development.

I often use the term "we" as I felt very much part of the park family, as most wives did. Our park and the other rangers were our family -- we

worked together and played together and helped each other when needed. Our state house was also the office most times -- when the ranger was doing his thing, the wife was left to answer the door, answer questions, and help solve problems. How do you keep a straight face when a young man says he's on his honeymoon and forgot his fishing license, and asks where he can get one? Yes, I have a lot of memories....some wonderful, some laughable, and some, "How did I manage that?" I'm sure a lot of retirees that read the Wave will relate, and also be as happy and honored with the years served in the park system.

EARLY REMEMBRANCES OF CUYAMACA RANCHO SP

by **Wesley Cater, retired**

On April 1, 1951 I was transferred from Will Rogers State Park to Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, while a deputy ranger of the Division of Beaches and Parks.

My family and I arrived at Cuyamaca at about 4:30 PM. I remember it was cold and almost dark. Our furniture and belongings were moved to Cuyamaca from Will Rogers on a state-owned flat bed truck, using our blankets and throw rugs as padding to protect our belongings. As we had never been to Cuyamaca before we did not know what to expect, but we soon found out, as the truck transporting our belongings had arrived before we did and all of furniture, boxes, and childrens' toys had been unloaded in the front yard and there was no one there to greet us or help get everything in the house. At that time, my wife Celeste and I had a 20-month old daughter and a 6-month old baby to care for, as well as having to move

beds, clothing and food into the house along with the furniture.

The following morning Assistant Ranger **Bill Allison** arrived shortly after 8 AM to take me to work. So much for moving in!

My first job that morning was to go to Green Valley and help remove fallen trees from the campground. That is where I met **Tiny Philbrook** and **Les McKnight** who were to work with me in cleaning up downed trees. Tiny and Les showed no mercy on me and we cut up large downed trees with a two-man saw. Actually it was more like a three-man saw as I worked one end of it and Tiny and Les traded off on the other end. Having come from a sea level park to Cuyamaca at over 3,000 feet, I was not really adjusted to the high altitude in less than 24 hours. So on my first day at Cuyamaca, I swear they tried to work me to death.

A normal work day in the summer season began with the rangers cleaning the restrooms, hauling the trash and garbage, changing into class A uniforms about noon and opening the check station and doing a campground

check, after closing the check station in the evening we then directed the evening campground program. There were many 12-hour days with no overtime or compensation except to feel good about being a park ranger.

In 1951, Cuyamaca was way out in the middle of nowhere and still more or less an extension of the Cattle Ranch it had been. The park operated more or less as two parks, Green Valley in the south portion and Paso Picacho in the north portion. Cuyamaca Rancho State Park was in District 6 and the district office was located on South Broadway, in the city of Los Angeles.

Harvey Moore was the Chief Ranger along with, at Green Valley Falls: **Tiny Philbrook**, Assistant Ranger; **Les McKnight**, Deputy Ranger; **Homer Craig**, Deputy Ranger; **Max LaBrier**, Deputy Ranger. At Paso Picacho, were: **Bill Allison**, Assistant Ranger; **Wes Cater**, Deputy Ranger; **Jim Richardson**, Deputy Ranger.

See *BACK IN THE DAY*, page 9



Carol Bryce

During the many years of outstanding service that **Doug Bryce** devoted to CSPRA as the Executive Secretary, Carol was always his right arm and was very involved helping Doug with all the administrative work that the job required. As a team they worked countless hours providing the members of CSPRA with the needed administrative services as the organization grew over the years.

Carol was a very special person and will be deeply missed by all those who knew her. Doug and Carol would have celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary this year.

Budget Debate Heats Up in Sacramento

by **Monica Miller**, CSPRA Lobbyist

It is that time of year again in Sacramento. It is the beginning of summer and things are heating up. Although it may be literally starting to get hot, so are the budget discussions. The budget was due on Sunday, June 15th at midnight, which came and went without a budget in place. This is the 19th year that the budget has been late, not a big surprise given the \$15.2 billion dollar budget deficit that we are facing in California.

The budget conference committee continues to meet in an effort to reconcile any and all outstanding issues, which is most of the budget. As you may be aware, the Senate and the Assembly adopted very different budgets in their subcommittees and now must try to come to a compromise. Additionally, after the Governor released his May Revision the Legislative Analysts office released their proposals, again very different than those of the Governor. One of the major sticking points continues to be how to close the deficit; as such California is faced with many tough decisions.

Many of these involve state parks and how to keep them open. Assembly Member **John Laird** (D – Santa Cruz) along with the California State Parks Foundation has come up with a creative solution for a long-term fix (See the Presidents message for more details). This is one of many things being discussed in the Conference Committee.

The next hurdle will be the June 30 deadline by which the Governor must sign the budget act. We do not expect to meet that deadline; however by August 15, 2008 we will run out of money if we do not have a plan in place. The State Controllers Office and the Department of Finance are working together to try to come up with a funding mechanism to avoid this scenario. Keep in mind that in California our Governor has the line-item veto authority, so regardless of what goes down to the Governor's office, he can still delete the funding. We will continue to keep you posted on the outcome of the budget debate and hope to have the situation resolved prior to this fall.

BACK IN THE DAY, from page 8

For motorized equipment we had two pickups, one powerwagon, and a 1-and-a-half ton flatbed truck. There were no radios in any of the equipment or offices.

The only telephones were one in the park office at Paso Picacho and one in **Harvey Moore's** residence. There was a pay phone at Green Valley and another one at Cuyamaca. All of the residences were connected by the old hand crank telephones.

The Los Caballos horse camp was in the process of being constructed and **Bert Perrin** was the Deputy Ranger assigned to the Riding and Hiking Trails program. The Girl and Boy Scout Camps were operating within the park, as was the City

County Camp of the San Diego County School District.

A ski lift was operated on Cuyamaca Peak by a ski club out of San Diego, with adequate snow fall in the winter months. A cattle concession was operating in the park with several hundred head of cattle; **Ralph Jasper** was the concessionaire. Cuyamaca Lake was dry and **Harvey Moore** and **George Daly** ran cattle on the lake bed.

I spent an enjoyable two years at Cuyamaca, and had my first experience in a park with camping and day use. There were other activities such as the crowds in the snow season. Deer season was a busy time for the rangers, as Cuyamaca had many deer herds that attracted poachers, day and night.



SISTER PARK, from page 7

for patrol (\$900 for a new motorcycle).

Currently Ikh Nart has one paid ranger at \$86 per month and three local nomads volunteer as rangers. We would like to put the volunteers on salary to further the cause of conservation, public education and poacher patrol.

PROMOTING PROFESSIONALISM IN
CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Membership Mail to: CSPRA,
Allison Pedley, P.O. Box 10606,
Truckee, CA 96162. Or join online
at: www.cspra.com/membership
For all except "Active" or "Active
retired" 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

Check one: I prefer getting the WAVE
_____ as a PDF file by email;
_____ by postal mail (hard copy).

May we print your name as a new member in
the WAVE? _____

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 _____

EXECUTIVE MANAGER



by Allison Pedley, Executive Manager

Things slowed down a bit in the CSPRA office following the excitement of the conference in April, although the busy season is about to begin again as I close out the fiscal year, mail dues receipts, distribute dues reminders to our annual dues paying members, and gear up for another Retiree Rendezvous. For those of you hoping to attend the Rendezvous this year, please note that there has been both a change of date and venue. Rendezvous planners have decided it would be fun to tie the event in with the CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK's 75th Anniversary this year. Accordingly, the Rendezvous, originally scheduled for October 3-5, has been changed to October 7-9. More details are posted on the CSPRA website, included in this issue of the *Wave*, and mailed out to all those on the Rendezvous mailing list in July. Anyone not currently on the Rendezvous mailing list who would like to be added, please contact me at allison@cspra.com or (800)749-8749.

Speaking of retirees, CSPRA "lost" a lot of members to retirement over

the past year, and only a small handful have signed up as GrayBears. If anyone has any recently retired park friends who have not yet renewed at the significantly discounted rate of \$36/year, please encourage them to do so!

I love to hear from retirees, and particularly enjoyed hearing from 95-year-old **Thelma Kishbaugh**, wife of the late **Gordon Kishbaugh**, whose memories are included in this issue (page 8). Thelma has been living in independent retirement communities in Santa Rosa and now Modesto since Gordon passed away in 1996. Although Gordon served as a ranger in a very different time, I felt myself identifying with much of what Thelma remembers from all those years as a park spouse, particularly, the joys of park family. It's nice to know that, through all of the tough times park employees have faced over the years, the notion of "park family" is still with us. We just returned from an annual camping trip with park family, will be going fishing next week with park family, will enjoy the Graeagle Fourth of July parade with park family, will visit still others on the coast this fall, and we will forever be grateful for all of you.

**Do you know
someone
who is retiring?**

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

**Scholarships have
been increased to
\$500. Go to www.cspra.com or email
scholarship@cspra.com**

humor in unicorn



Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price, retired

Here is another mixed up batch of overheard slips of the tongue and misfires of the brain. Sometimes people get so excited they mix comparisons and come up with some very funny concoctions. Feel free to send along any you hear - malaprops@cspra.com

Bound to fail?
The modern military has so many strings tied on its hands that it can't get the job done.

Heads up!
They really handed him his lunch on a plate.

So, you work in Personnel?
He's now the career holder for yards per carry this year.

Another casting problem.
I think you are throwing disper-sions.

Endless awe, I guess.
Nothing has ever ceased to amaze me.

District Reps

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OHV	John Pelonio	jpelonio@parks.ca.gov

Representatives are needed for:

Orange Coast, Mendocino, Capitol, and San Diego Districts, Grants, Historic Preservation, Northern Service Ctr., Southern Service Ctr., Interpretation Div., Cultural Resources Div., Natural Resources Div., Planning Div., and Tech Services Div.

GET CONNECTED

CSPRA Online: Catch up on CSPRA activities, contact your District Reps, Board or Officers, get latest information www.cspra.com



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.
E-mail graybears@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