



The CSPRA

Wave

Newsletter

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 4

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2010

"...to support, protect, and defend the integrity of State Parks for present and future generations."

A Pass to the Future?



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*Cover: Ranger looking over the
Santa Rosa Mountains in Anza-
Borrego Desert State Park, cour-
tesy of California State Parks.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by *Pam Armas, CSPRA President*

CSPRA held its annual off-site meet-
ing at beautiful Cuyamaca Rancho
State Park on May 7th and 8th.
Board Member **Nedra Martinez**
hosted us at her house and we ac-
complished a great deal of planning
for the next year. As discussed in an-
other article in this newsletter (page
5), we have a new CSPRA Historian
– thank you **Pat Clark-Gray**!

The Sierra Club asked CSPRA
to support AB 2301, a new defen-
sible space law. The CSPRA Board
voted to support the bill. We are
also revising our Scholarship policy.
The Scholarships have been put
on hold temporarily until we can
tighten up our policy. We will have
a new Scholarship policy out within
the next two months. The Board
voted to produce the *Wave* newslet-
ters quarterly instead of every other
month. This was basically due to
the difficulty in getting articles and
the need to reduce costs. **Nedra
Martinez** is working with **Jeff Price**,
CSPRA's Webmaster, for a new look
and updated contents on our Website.

The 2011 Parks Conference is
still up in the air. We are discussing
two locations with our partners, the
Park Rangers Association of Cali-
fornia: Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite
or the Santa Monica Mountains. We
have not had a Parks Conference in
Southern California in many years
and just recently had the conference
in Tenaya Lodge. The Board is

strongly supporting a Southern Califor-
nia conference.

Karyn Lombard and myself are still
scheduling the Professional Develop-
ment training. However, with the busy
season coming on we may have to table
this until the end of the summer.

California State Parks Foundation
presented an award to CSPRA for help-
ing gather signatures for the State Park
Access Pass initiative. **Don Schmidt**
and I met with Director Coleman the
end of May. This meeting was to
update her on activities CSPRA was
involved in and discuss what she would
like to see CSPRA support. Among our
topics of conversation were the private
sponsorship of State Parks, this year's
budget, and of course the State Park
Access Pass. We were pleased to hear
that Headquarters is discussing strate-
gic plans for "when" the Access Pass
passes. She is hopeful, as we are, that
we will be funded at the 2008/09 fund-
ing level for the 2010/11 fiscal year.

And lastly, and most importantly,
besides the incredibly busy summer
we will have with staffing shortages,
CSPRA is putting all its efforts into
campaigning for the State Park Access
Pass.

The Board is working very hard in
this most difficult time to support State
Parks. We always appreciate any sup-
port you can give – newsletter articles,
phone calls with suggestions, website
information, etc. Thanks to all our
members for your continued support.



State Parks Access Pass Initiative Qualifies for the November Ballot

by YesForStateParks.com

In June, the California Secretary of State Debra Bowen announced that the *State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010* had qualified for the November 2 statewide ballot. The measure will provide a stable and adequate funding source to keep state parks open. . With passage of the initiative, not only will state parks have a long-term funding solution, but also important General Fund dollars will be made available for other vital needs.

A wide-ranging coalition that includes business, public health, education, labor, entertainment, public safety, Latino, conservation and environmental interests already support the November state parks initiative. The campaign submitted more than 760,000 signatures, nearly twice the number required to qualify the measure. "The breadth and depth of support for this initiative is evident across California and among the wide range of individuals and organizations that have endorsed the measure," said Mike Sweeney, executive director of The Nature Conservancy California. "This measure represents the best and most reliable path to keeping our parks and wildlife areas open for the enjoyment of Californians."

"Once considered to be among the best in the nation, California's state parks now rank among the most endangered sites in the country," said



Elizabeth Goldstein, president of the California State Parks Foundation. "Budget cuts forced nearly 150 of the state's 278 state parks to close or reduce services last year, and chronic underfunding is forcing the more than \$1 billion maintenance backlog

strengthening California's economy. Annually, California's 278 state parks attract millions of tourists, who spend \$4.32 billion annually in park-related expenditures. In fact, Visitors generate so much local economic activity that every dollar spent on state parks

creates another \$2.35 for California's treasury.

Budget cuts have forced state parks to accumulate a backlog of more than \$1 billion in needed maintenance and repairs. Roofs and sewage systems leak, restrooms are not cleaned regularly, bridges have collapsed, trails are washed out, campgrounds and visitor centers are shuttered and buildings and structures throughout the system are badly deteriorated. Currently, the proposed state

budget provides some General Fund money for state parks, but it is still insufficient to address the ongoing funding needs of the system. Without

See ACCESS PASS, page 4

to continue to grow. This initiative will provide the stable and adequate source of funding needed to keep state parks open and contributing to our economy, the public's health and education."

State parks play an important role in

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State Parks Initiative

ACCESS PASS, from page 3

the long-term solution offered by the state parks initiative, state parks will continue to slowly starve from underfunding.

In addition to providing a reliable funding stream for state parks, through the initiative more than \$130 million in state General Fund dollars - that have historically provided a portion of overall state parks funding - will now be available for other vital needs, like schools, health care, social services or public safety.

"California's state parks are priceless public assets, and these assets could be lost forever if we don't invest in them," said Ruskin Hartley, executive director of Save the Redwoods League. "Our state parks have been forced to ride a budget rollercoaster, but Californians will have the opportunity this November to vote to stop that sickening ride and ensure that these valuable assets are protected and accessible for future

generations."

Approval of the state parks initiative will provide California vehicles with free, year-round day-use access to state parks, in exchange for a new \$18 surcharge. This new surcharge will be assessed as part of California's annual vehicle registration. All California vehicles will be subject to the surcharge, except larger commercial vehicles, mobile homes and permanent trailers. Funds from the surcharge will be placed in a trust fund dedicated specifically to

state parks and wildlife conservation, which cannot legally be used for other purposes. Approximately \$500 million will be generated annually from the trust fund, providing the funding needed to restore, maintain and keep state parks accessible today and for future generations.

"State parks are important to Californians and are an important tool in strengthening the state's economy," said Graham Chisholm, executive director of Audubon California.



Courtesy of the California State Parks Foundation



Shari, Sam, and Jude Hansen showing their appreciation at Angel Island State Park



*Signature gathering at Bodega Head:
L to R: Bill Bambrick (President of Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods), Retired Ranger Rich Lawton, and Bonnie Davis (CA State Parks Foundation)*

"The strong endorsements we have received from bi-partisan leaders in the business, education, public health, entertainment, conservation and environmental communities are testament to the value and importance of our state parks."

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

by Pat Clark-Gray
CSPRA Historian and Boardmember

At the last CSPRA Board retreat I volunteered to be the new CSPRA Historian. Our last historian Kim Baker (see Chronicles this issue) had been storing all the CSPRA files at her home and had asked Board President Pam Armas to pick up the files. Pam delivered the files to my home this past month.

I soon realized that my new assignment was going to be more involved than first envisioned. The files were moved to my spare bedroom and the boxes take up the entire room. My plan is to organize all the files and start purging the files that we do not need to keep. I also will complete an inventory. I plan to take the photos out of the plastic scrapbooks and photo albums and place them in acid free albums and will scan each photo to place on a CD. Once all the files are organized, we need to find a permanent home. The board has concerns about keeping such an important collection of CSPRA and State Park history in a private home and is looking for a solution.

Each newsletter, I will write an article from the material in the CSPRA archives and plan to include some of the photos. Once the scanning is complete, the CD will be given to Jeff Price, CSPRA Webmaster to place on the website so all CSPRA members and the public can have access to this important historical collection.

I know that this will be a fun project for me personally as I have been a member of CSPRA during my entire 30 year plus career. **Nedra Martinez** and **Cris Sanguino**, recently came by to look over the material. They found a file that contained questionnaires for a March 1983 CSPRA Family Album that someone was going to compile and she found the questionnaire that I had completed. On it I had writ-



Above: CSPRA Board of 1965 from the archives.
Below: 2010 Board, l to r, back row, Cindy Spencer and Don Schmidt; front row: Pam Armas, Lynn Rhodes, Nedra Martinez, Pat Clark-Gray



ten that my current assignment was at the California State Indian Museum as a Ranger. My husband **Ken Gray** was working at Natural Heritage as a State Park Resource Ecologist. I laughed when I read what I had written for leisure activities: Jazzercise, Jogging, Reading and Yard work. Nedra also found Ranger Trainee Rosters where she found both of our names. I was in Ranger Trainee Program Group W and it was sad to see **John A. Kelso-Shelton** as he has passed away. Many of the other staff in my class have

retired. I found a CSPRA General Executive Council (GEC) Guest Book and found an entry that my husband Ken had signed Ken and Pat Gray on 3/8/83. It was fun looking at and recognizing many of the names in the book and it brought back many fun memories of many years attending the annual conference.

I am looking forward to reading the files and looking at the photographs to learn more about CSPRA history and the history of California State Parks.

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Dave Gould is highlighting a different CSPRA member for each edition of the WAVE. In his many years in working for State Parks and being a longtime member of CSPRA, Dave has found that the personal and professional lives of CSPRA members are quite varied and fascinating. Enjoy...

CSPRA Chronicles...Kimberly Baker

Where do you work, what is your job classification, and how long have you worked for California State Parks? I am a State Park Superintendent I at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park. I have worked for California State Parks since the early 1990s and graduated from BVST 12 in 1995.

Where were you born and where did you grow up? I was born in Jacksonville Florida, moved to Sayre, PA when I was two, and then to Santa Cruz County when I was 7. I remember my mother taking us out to see the breeding elephant seals at Ano Nuevo SR and then when I was in high school I saw a docent recruitment flier posted at the bus station and thought that might be something interesting to do. I did it for a year, and then later, when I was in college at UC Santa Cruz, I took an internship at the park thinking it would be a fun diversion while I was slogging through organic chemistry. Working there again rekindled my love of the place and made me reconsider my career path.

Do you have any hobbies? What do you like to do when you are off of work? My husband and I have two kids (11 and 13), so that's pretty time-consuming, but I am also an obsessive gardener, I keep chickens, I read a lot, and this summer I'm trying to get out with the kids and do some hiking.

What is your educational background? I went to Cabrillo Community College in Aptos and then studied biology at UCSC. I say "studied" because I still need to complete my physics classes in order to graduate. I was hired as a ranger after a long hiring freeze and at the time I figured I should jump at the



Kim with a banana slug at the Big Basin Centennial in 2002

chance for a paying job while I had it. Now I'm completely re-thinking my degree and after retirement and I might pursue a different major altogether.

What were the jobs you held before joining California State Parks?

I worked at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Del Mar Movie Theatre, as an elementary school teacher's aide, and as a waitress. Those jobs all prepared me for working in State Parks. Waitressing especially—you have to be able to do many things at once, and deal with all sorts of personalities.

When did you get the idea that you would like a career in working for California State Parks? In college I didn't really know what I wanted to do. I thought teaching might be a good career, but then it seemed like the rangers I was working with at Ano Nuevo had it pretty good. I later realized that there was a lot of diversity in the ranger classification and none of the jobs I've had have been much like the Ano Nuevo job, ironically.

Tell us about your State Park career. As a park aid, I worked at Ano Nuevo, then Natural Bridges/Wilder Ranch. After completing the academy I worked at Silverwood Lake SRA. Sil-

verwood gave me a solid public safety base which I continue to draw on. I worked with some great staff; people like **Ron Kreuper, Jim Fitzpatrick, Steve Hopkins, Rick Reisenhoffer, Danita Rodriguez, Lisa Lay.** Then I worked at Half Moon Bay State Beach, Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Columbia State Historic Park, back to Big Basin, then Railtown in 2008.

What have been some of the more interesting things you have done in your State Park career? We all have those moments where time just freezes, and you think "I can't believe I'm doing this right now", and I hope those are the memories that I'll get to mull over in my retirement years. Recently, the Railtown staff was invited to spend the afternoon on a privately owned and restored steam yacht in the San Francisco Bay. We anchored off of the Angel Island Immigration Station. The ship is over 100 years, and is an amazing piece of fully functioning old technology. It also had a lot of relevance to the kind of work I am doing now.

The project I'm most proud of, though, is the Big Basin Oral History Project. We interviewed and transcribed over 30 oral histories, from many different segments of the park's history. That experience profoundly changed my perspective of parks. I think that we assume (especially in public safety) that we can somehow control how people interact with the resource. What I realized was that a "sense of place" is one of the most primitive and visceral connections that human beings can have, and while we can preserve these places, and assist with access, we sure can't dictate how those connections happen. At the time we were doing the project, I really didn't think that it would be appreciated for at least a few decades,

CSPRA Chronicles

BAKER, from page 6

but I've been happy to see that others have benefited from the document. That has been very edifying.

What type of things do you do in your current assignment as a Park Superintendent? I just have to say it never crossed my mind that I'd be running a railroad, which is one of the things I do! I love that I don't fit the image people expect as the superintendent of a railroad park and one of my favorite things to do is just roam around and talk with visitors and open doors (literally) so that they can see some of the hidden parts of the park. It's the kind of 'surprise and delight' that just makes people's day. We are so lucky that all of the park staff enjoys interacting with visitors and we have low enough attendance that we occasionally have time to do that sort of thing. Aside from that, I help plan events, deal with community relations issues, work with the foundation on a myriad of projects, manage the park budget, manage permanent staff and volunteers, assist with interpretive programming, update the Railtown blog, that sort of thing. I feel so fortunate that I get to work at this little park where I still get to keep my hand in a lot of fun stuff.

Working at Railtown 1897 SHP must be interesting. Tell us a little about the park and describe a typical day for the staff at the park. 26 acres of the historic Sierra Railway Shops have been preserved as Railtown 1897 State Historic Park. Many people don't realize that this type of facility used to be found in almost every community in the US, but most were demolished when diesel locomotives replaced steam technology. Today we still have the roundhouse and turntable, three original locomotives, and a lot of other original equipment. The most amazing thing is that we still operate and maintain the equipment in the historic setting. It's a different kind of preservation thinking. A visitor said to me

once "this is like one of those living farms, but with locomotives". It has only been a state park since the early 1980s. Like most historic parks, we have our share of challenges just keeping the buildings and collections from rotting into the ground. We are very fortunate that we have an amazing foundation (The California State Railroad Museum Foundation), and district staff and district superintendent (**Cathy Taylor**) that understand and support the high demands of a park like this. There is no such thing as a typical day, especially since the majority of our resources the past couple of years have been directed to restoring the Sierra #3, so, like many other parks, we tend run around putting out fires. A lot of time is spent in the support of our locomotive restoration staff. The chief mechanical officer **George Sapp**, has been here for 21 years and is part of the historic resource himself with his detailed knowledge and application of the historic trades, but the focus is usually keeping the locomotives running, because that's what keeps the visitors and the volunteers showing up!

Have you ever gotten to drive one of the locomotives?

Nope. I'm not qualified. Even though we only run on 'two streaks of rust in the prairie', we have to follow all of the same rules and regulations as the big railroads. Our train crew takes a lot of pride in their professionalism and adherence to the federal regulations. It would be fun to be qualified on the train crew, but I just can't justify the time commitment right now. As the superintendent though, I've had to learn a whole new set of regulations! I do get to ride in the cab, and it's amazing.

Train lovers are a passionate group of folks. Do you have any interesting stories about a train-loving volunteer or visitor at Railtown 1897 SHP? We just completed the restoration of the Sierra #3, a famous 1891 steam locomotive, in a major part because of the passion of railfans and donors. I've worked with volunteers

my entire career and I can honestly say the caliber and commitment of volunteers we have at Railtown is the best I've ever seen. So, yeah, I think there is something about the allure of the railroad that draws volunteers and visitors. We all know, however, that our challenge is to get the average visitor to engage with this special place. 'Preaching to the choir' is easy.

How long have you been a CSPRA member and what inspired you to join CSPRA? I actually didn't join CSPRA until I'd been a ranger for a few years. I wasn't really inspired, so much as 'strong-armed' by another member, but I came to feel very passionate about the organization.

You are a past president of CSPRA. When was your term and what were the big issues you dealt with as President? What was your motivation to get involved as President of CSPRA? I can't remember when my term was! I was pregnant with my daughter, and she was born in 1999. **Rusty Arcias** was director at the time, and we were starting to get much more involved in politics, lobbying for park integrity issues. I think one of the most significant things CSPRA ever did was engage a lobbyist to help us get our voice heard in the legislature. The CA Parks Foundation has done an amazing job of carrying that even further.

What is your favorite California State Park? Big Basin. In 2008 I demoted and went back to work the summer there before I started at Railtown. Every superintendent should have such a great experience before promoting! It was great to spend that time in the classic ranger role. It really helped me gain perspective on why I love this job.

If you could have one wish come true for California State Parks, what would it be? Don't we all wish that we had a secure funding source?

See BAKER, page 10

The Value of Our Public Trust Resources

by *Lynn Rhodes, CSPRA Board*

When taken individually and separated from politics, people the world over demonstrate a common denominator; love of our natural and cultural resources. There is a general desire to share the best of those with friends and visitors. In order to ensure that possibility, a functioning economy, security, and the ability to realize ones cultural and national identity are needed.

We have heard a lot about the choice voters will have in November regarding the proposed vehicle assessment to provide stable funding for California's State Parks while allowing free day-use access. The assessment would importantly help to protect our state's critical natural and cultural resources. Equally important to protecting these public trust resources, is providing a meaningful and safe environment. People from all over the world visit California and many of them find one or more of our state parks a destination during their visit.

These public trust resources have much to offer; from the giant sequoia redwoods, golden deserts, pristine beaches and coastline, historic buildings, oak woodlands, Native American sites, and yes, off highway vehicle recreation areas where the energy and exuberance which personifies the American spirit is exercised while riding off-road motorcycles. Parks are maintained and protected not only to provide places for residents and visitors to enjoy but to also protect them for future generations and to preserve critical elements of our heritage and ecosystems. Our public trust resources are an integral part of what makes California a special place to live, work, visit and recreate.

When people visit California, we

take them to places of which we are proud. We did not create California's coastline or the redwood trees or other natural features. But what Californians can take credit for is the commitment to preservation of the natural features and cultural sites which make California unique.

In other countries, as in California, I have found that people want to share who they are, especially with visitors from the United States. They want to share what is important to them; their



2010 Honorary Ranger Fred Keeley with Ranger Richard Rocha at Seacliff SB

culture, their food, and the things which make them proud of their heritage and country. Protecting and making public trust resources readily available, helps accomplish the very experiences they, and we, frequently want to share. In addition to a reliable funding base, providing accessibility for those who visit requires creativity on the part of resource-custodians.

When visiting natural, histori-



^^Maintaining the Big Sur bluffs, photo courtesy of Rain Greenslate

cal areas and religious sites in other countries and meeting with their public ministers and law enforcement officials I have become even more aware of the difficulties facing us all in our preservation efforts. For both large and small countries, just as in California and throughout the US, the challenges are consequential. People the world over, look to us as problem solvers. How we face the challenges of sustaining our own public trust resources will be closely evaluated and perhaps emulated if we are successful. Time will tell as we think globally and act locally.

Our public trust resources help to sustain and give meaning to people. Protection of them is something that provides us with that common denominator. For a sustainable, long-term and healthy future, they deserve and require stewardship and protection.

Lynn Rhodes is the former Chief of Law Enforcement for California State Parks and works with state and international public safety and resource protection programs. She can be reached at lynnrhodes2@hotmail.com.

2 New Lifeguards for Sonoma Coast State Parks

by **Jenny Donovan**, Public Safety Supt., Russian River District

Russian River District has two new Lifeguards. **Timothy (Tim) Murphy** and **Alexis (Lexi) Jones** will be watching the waters this summer to help protect visitors from the unpredictable conditions that exist along the rugged Sonoma Coast.

Murphy began his career with State Parks in 1991 as a lifeguard in San Diego for 3 seasons and 2 seasons on the Sonoma Coast before becoming a State Park Peace Officer Lifeguard in 1997.

Murphy graduated from the State Parks Peace Officer Academy and worked for two and a half years in Orange County at Huntington Beach State Park. In 1999 he returned to the Sonoma Coast as a Ranger where he has remained active in the aquatics program as a trained Personal Water Craft operator in addition to swift water and cliff rescue, Field Training Officer and Firearms Instructor. Murphy has been awarded the State of

California's Medal of Valor, the USLA Medal of Valor, and the United States Coast Guard's Silver Lifesaving Medal.

Jones began her career with State Parks in 1996 as a Lifeguard in the Orange Coast District for 9 seasons while she attended college obtaining her Bachelors degree from the University California, Santa Barbra and a Masters Degree from San Diego State University. Jones graduated the State Park Peace Officer Academy in 2007 as a badged Lifeguard. Her first assignment was in Orange County for Crystal Cove State Parks before transferring to the Russian River District on April 1, 2010. Jones is on the State Parks dive team and is an Emergency Medical Responder Instructor. She enjoys snow skiing, mountain biking and enjoying the outdoors.



Lifeguard Lexi Jones on the job.

It is starting to get hot in Sacramento...

by **Monica Miller**, CSPRA Lobbyist

... and you know what that means. The budget fight begins and everyone becomes very grumpy. Having said this, today is June 14th and there is no budget deal in place. As a matter of fact, we are only in the middle of the budget conference committee process, which has normally concluded its business or at least is close by this time.

The budget conference committee has run through about half of what we term the "binder". This means that the departments are broken out and then the issues are broken out where each house either did not deal with the item in the budget subcommittee process or where each house had a

different outcome. It isn't necessarily a bad thing to be "in conference" but not always a good thing either. While this is open to the public, most decisions are made behind closed doors and the committee does not take public testimony.

Needless to say, the State Parks budget is entirely in the budget conference committee. Please recall that the Administration had proposed to supplant State Parks Funding for the royalties realized as a result of the Tranquillion Ridge Project in Santa Barbara County. After the BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico this spring the Administration withdrew their proposal. However, they openly admit they don't have the real dollars to keep the parks whole. When the discus-

sion arose in Conference Committee, the State Parks Access Pass initiative slated for the November 2010 ballot was also discussed. Unfortunately, the discussion then focused on the concern of making the parks suffer in an effort to get the voters to realize that the State Access Pass is the better way to go for the on-going funding for State Parks.

The item was left open for the time being. We anticipate they will go back to this item sometime late this week. We will continue to monitor Conference Committee and keep you apprised of the outcome as well as the

See LOBBYIST, page 10

**PROMOTING PROFESSIONALISM IN
CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS**

Membership Mail to: CSPRA,
Allison Pedley, P.O. Box 10606,
Truckee, CA 96162. Or join online
at: <http://www.cspra.com>

*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 _____

EXEC. MGR.



by **Allison Pedley**, Executive Manager

I'm happy to report that CSPRA has four new members! **Ruth Bergener**, an office technician out of Sacramento; **Ben Fenkell**, Railroad Museum Guide Supervisor; **Mike Gleckler**, a Capital District Ranger; and **Phil Sexton**, State Park Interpreter III also from the Capital District. Welcome new members!

As I close out the books for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, I will also be sending dues receipts to those eligible

for dues reimbursement. For those of you who would like receipts, please remember to keep your addresses updated with me so you're sure to get them. Keeping up with a membership that is constantly shifting geographically is perhaps the hardest part of this job!

Speaking of which, there have also been so many retirements lately, that I've also been busy updating the database with those changes. Many retirees leave without updating their address and are hard to track down. So everyone, please remember to keep the CSPRA office posted with each career change and/or move you make. Thanks so much!

Finally, just a reminder that the 18th annual Retiree Rendezvous will be held this year on October 1-3 at McConnell SRA. More information on this soon!

BAKER from page 7

But what I really wish was that we all didn't have to work so darned hard! I know so many park professionals who are so exhausted because they try to keep things going in the face of budget cuts, staff reductions and furloughs. I think they impact us more than a lot of other state agencies, so I keep my fingers crossed about the parks access pass.

Is there a message you would like to share with CSPRA members?

CSPRA is a volunteer driven organization. You pay your monthly dues, but if you care about park integrity issues, it might just take a bit of your time, too. And, because we are all overworked, please give some thanks to the folks who are taking the time to carry the torch. I haven't had time to volunteer in a while, so I appreciate all that the board and representatives are doing. I know they are busy too. So, thanks.

LOBBYIST, from page 9

discussion surrounding the on-going funding for State Parks.

On another note, the legislature just wrapped up two major deadlines, the "house of origin" deadline and the fiscal committee deadline. There were many casualties due to the fiscal constraints on the state, but we will still see hundreds of bills move ahead.

Finally, on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, California had a very significant primary election. There will be 1/3rd new Assembly Members elected in November due to term-limits and half of the Senate will be subject to an election battle. Keep your eyes and ears open for any possibility to get to know the newly elected member in your area and invite them to your park's event to share with them the

beauty of the land you work towards promoting and protecting!





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: *Malaprop*; a wrong word that renders a statement ridiculous. Usually the mistake occurs when the speaker attempts a vocabulary much beyond their learning. Feel free to send along any you hear - webmaster@cspira.com

The Inside Scoop
The USA is now the largest debtor nation in this country.

Seasonal fare
It is now open game on hourly employees!

Internal Affair?
After an exchange of gunfire between police, the suspect was arrested.

Blocks Wrinkles
We still have several stumbling blocks to iron out before we get past the sticking point.

Bass-ackwards
Yes, but isn't that like putting a round peg in a square hole?

District/Program Representatives

District	Name	Email Address
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OHV	John Pelonio	jpelonio@parks.ca.gov
	Jeff Gaffney	jgaffney@parks.ca.gov
COM Centers	Cris Sanguino	cksanguino@parks.ca.gov

Representatives are needed for: Angeles, Central Valley, Goldfields, North Coast Redwoods & San Diego Districts, 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 email ListServ. It is FREE and EASY to use. Email graybears@cspira.com

Do you know someone who is retiring? CSPRA provides plaques when members retire. Contact Allison: (530)550-1268; allison@CSPRA.com.

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Catch up on CSPRA activities, contact your District Reps, Board. or Officers, read the WAVE online:

<http://www.cspira.com>
CSPRA IS ON FACEBOOK
Get information about upcoming events, discuss hot topics, and message the board members. Check it out!





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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

