



The CSPRA

Wave

Newsletter

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CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

JAN - FEB 2010

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

An Access Pass to Save State Parks





CSPRA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Pam Armas, Sierra
(530) 525-9523, pam@cspra.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Lynn Rhodes
831-600-5209, lynnrhodes2@hotmail.com

SECRETARY

Don Schmidt, Sierra
(530) 908-3993, don@cspra.com

TREASURER

Blythe Liles, Orange Coast District
(619) 384-9648, blythe@cspra.com

DIRECTORS

Craig Mattson, retired
(209) 795-7440, craig@cspra.com

Pat Clark-Gray, Monterey
(831) 384-5119, patricia@cspra.com

Nedra Martinez, Colorado Desert
(760) 765-3019, nedra@cspra.com

Cindy Spencer, Santa Cruz, San Mateo
(831) 706-8093, cindy@cspra.com

ADMINISTRATION

Allison Pedley, Executive Manager
P.O. Box 10606, Truckee, CA 96162
(530) 550-1268, (800) 749-8749
allison@cspra.com

INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS

Jeff Price, Webmaster
(805) 278-9201, webmaster@cspra.com
www.cspra.com

The CSPRA Wave

Janet Carle, Editor
(760) 647-6431, wave@cspra.com

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boardwalk, courtesy of the Mono Lake
Committee

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by *Pam Armas, CSPRA President*

After several years of service on the CSPRA Board, **Natalie Lohi** must resign from her Board position. I have known Natalie for a few years as she was one of eight other women I went through the academy with. Natalie was a stellar cadet, she is a great ranger and overall park employee and is has been a wonderful CSPRA Board member. Natalie has served in several capacities as well as Conference Co-Chair for CSPRA.

Natalie has been a mainstay for this organization and has helped us deal with several difficult issues. As Vice President she represented CSPRA in a meeting with DPR's Executive staff this summer regarding the burdens that the furloughs cause field staff. She is a voice of maturity and reason on the Board. I know you will join me in tipping our collective Stetsons to Natalie for her dedicated service to State Parks and CSPRA. I have asked **Lynn Rhodes** to step in to take Natalie's place as Vice President until the Board elections and new Board placements take place in March. Thank you Natalie and Lynn!

Access Pass Initiative

As most of you know by now, California State Park Rangers Association has officially endorsed and publicly supports the State Parks and

Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010 – commonly referred to as the State Park Access Pass. I would like to share important information regarding a statewide measure that we are hoping gets on the November 2010 ballot.

The following information was taken from a series of publications by the California State Parks Foundation.

How it works:

--The measure calls on Californians to support our state park system and wildlife conservation areas by paying an \$18 annual State Park Access Pass surcharge on their vehicle license fees. This comes out to an investment of only \$1.50 per month of support our state parks and keep them open.

--This surcharge would be assessed on all vehicles registered in California except for large commercial vehicles. It is estimated that 28 million vehicles in California would be subject to the surcharge, which would raise approximately \$500 million annually.

--The surcharge is not optional, the initiative calls on all Californians to make a modest investment in their state parks. Out-of-state vehicles would continue to pay full entrance fees at parks.

--In exchange for paying the surcharge, all cars with California license plates would get into state parks for free, for day-use. (Tour fees, camping fees, and special event fees that are not day-use fees would still apply.)

--People will not physically receive a paper pass or sticker, simply having a California license plate would get them in for free.

What it pays for:

--The funds from the State Parks & Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act will support keeping our state parks open, address the more than \$1 billion deferred maintenance backlog, allow for increased public access to our state parks and fix current problems that are plaguing the systems— closed bath-

See ACCESS PASS, page 3

STATE PARK ACCESS PASS INITIATIVE

ACCESS PASS, from page 2

rooms, unmaintained trails, lack of law enforcement staff, elimination of educational programs, etc.

--The Trust Fund will also provide much-needed support for the network of parks and conservation lands in California. A portion of Trust Fund proceeds will support the management of wildlife refuges, reserves, marine protected areas, and other habitat areas.

How funds would be distributed:

--85% to the California Department of Parks and Recreation to repair, operate, manage, maintain and develop state parks. Out of the department's funding, approximately \$20 million a year (by law, 4% of the Trust Fund) would be used for grants to public agencies for the operation, management and restoration of urban river parkways, with priority on the most under served urban communities.

--7% to the California Fish and Game to manage and operate wildlife refuges, ecological reserves and other

lands it owns or manages.

--4% to the Ocean Protection Council for marine wildlife conservation and the protection of coastal waters.

--2% to state conservancies for park and wildlife habitat.

--2% to the Wildlife Conservation Board for grants to local public agencies for wildlife conservation.

The public can be assured that this funding will be for state parks and wildlife conservation only. The money will be deposited into a Trust Fund, there will be an annual audit by the State Auditor, and there will be a Citizen's Oversight Committee created to oversee the expenditure of these funds.

Next Steps:

The proposed measure has been submitted to the California Attorney General's office for official ballot title and summary. An exploratory committee, Californians for State Parks and Wildlife Conservation, has been created to consider the feasibility of this measure for the November 2010

statewide ballot.

We now begin to embark on a very ambitious signature gathering campaign. The California State Park Foundation will be holding organizing meetings soon. To commit to helping put this State Park Access Pass on the ballot, ending our budget woes, you may sign up by going to www.calparks.org. The Foundation will contact you as to training sessions and necessary paperwork. You can also send interested friends emails encouraging them to help gather signatures. A list of scheduled training sessions can be found at http://www.calparks.org/takeaction/spap/training_locations.html.

As President of CSPRA, I will be campaigning heavily and have committed to organize signature gathering in the greater Mother Lode and Tahoe Basin area on my own time, taking a slight leave from my normal work duties in order to assist with this campaign. Please join me in this effort to get this important measure on the ballot.

California Parks Conference, 2010

Bridging People

Through Parks

Save the dates!!

March 15 - 18, 2010

Embassy Suites

South San Francisco

A variety of sessions in all disciplines are being planned, including fun and exciting field trips. Contact co-chair **Don Schmidt** (don@cspira.com) if you can help. Now more than ever we need to get together and support each other.



Sixth World Ranger Congress



by **Steve Bier**
*Ranger, Anza-Borrego Desert SP
CSPRA International Ranger Liason*

This month's World Ranger Report comes to you from the land of the llama, Bolivia, where the 6th World Congress of International Rangers just concluded.

Over 200 Rangers representing 43 countries attended this year's Congress. The Bolivian Ranger Association organized the event and coordinated the various venues and field trips enjoyed by all. Among the work accomplished at this year's Congress was the drafting of a Ranger Climate Change Proclamation to be submitted at the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. And the Santa Cruz Declaration addressing the need for better working and living conditions for Rangers throughout the globe. Both documents can be read and downloaded from the International Ranger Federation website (www.int-ranger.net).

There have been six such Congresses since the inception of the International Ranger Federation. The very first was held in Zakopane, Poland, back in 1995. Held every two to three years, these Congresses help bring together rangers from across the globe to share knowledge and ideas for the protection of the world's wild and his-



by **David Marquart**
Interp Specialist, Mono Lake Tufa SR

Imagine for a moment dense rain forests, 21,000 ft. peaks, glaciers, some of the driest desert in the world, jungle, smoking volcanoes, tremendous diversity of flora and fauna. What country on the planet might come to mind? What if I mentioned llamas and alpaca sweaters? You might think Peru but no, it's Bolivia, considered by many to be the most diverse country in the world.

Santa Cruz, Bolivia, the country's largest city, was the location of the meeting of the VI World Ranger Congress. About 265 people attended the 6-day event representing 43 countries. The International Ranger Federation, a coalition of ranger associations from around the world, (of which CSPRA is one) holds these meetings roughly every three years. These periodic gatherings provide opportunities for



toric places, and to bring to light some of the issues being faced by the rangers and wardens that protect them. Congratulations to **Jeff Ohlfs** on being appointed the North American Representative for the IRF and best of luck to the National Park Service on their bid to hold the International Ranger Conference here in the United States on the Centennial of the National Park Service in 2016.

International Ranger Federation

WORLD CONGRESS, from page 4



rangers to share knowledge and experiences, successes and failures, to discuss improvements in technology and to share management techniques and other ideas. This year's meeting was organized by the IRF and the Bolivian Conservation Agents Association.

Panel discussions dealt with climate change, interpretation and education, wildlife conservation, ranger training, fire management, the importance of partnerships and more.

Some of us in developed countries take for granted our system of national, state, and regional parks and the level of protection they offer as well as the staffing, funding, and degree of services they offer the public. Though funding for California State Parks is about as bad as it has ever been, one gets a different perspective on things when taking a closer look at fledgling parks in developing countries. For example, there are 67 protected areas in Bolivia, 22 of which are national parks and reserves. Though they clearly exist on the map, in reality,

they may lack the staffing and support from their government to prevent activities such as poaching, illegal logging, industrial development, pollution, etc. so the level of protection these parks offer may be compromised. When Bolivia's current (and controversial) president, Evo Morales, was elected in 2005 he eliminated all government funding for national parks. International non-profits and aid organizations came to the rescue but cannot provide enough funding for adequate staff, training, vehicles and equipment to effectively manage a park. Sometimes they lack such basic needs as uniforms for rangers. A tiny staff of rangers trying to manage a huge park with minimal funding can be a daunting and exasperating assignment. As I learned at this conference, this scenario exists in other developing countries as well.

Holding a conference such as this in a developing nation can be especially inspiring for those given the responsibility of managing protected areas in those nations. Despite their lack of funding and support of their parks, I enjoyed seeing the enthusiasm and pride the Bolivian rangers showed toward their parks and their profession throughout this conference. I cannot help but think that the park model



^^Bud Getty, a ranger from Easter Island, and Dorene Clement
<<Bud Getty, Dorene Clement, Dave Marquart

the developed countries can offer to the developing world gives hope and encouragement to those rangers.

Following this conference I had the opportunity to travel throughout the southern Altiplano region of Bolivia in the western part of the country. Visiting Sajama National Park along the Chilean border, I was able to meet with the head ranger of the park who had also just attended the World Ranger Congress. Through an interpreter I communicated to him that, though there may not be the support within their country yet for the work they do in protecting Bolivia's parks, many of us around the world greatly appreciate what they do to protect the resources of their country since the world's valuable natural resources really belong to all of the planet's inhabitants. He thanked me for my words and then encouraged us to do whatever we could, in our country, to help prevent the ravaging effects of global warming that are rapidly melting their glaciers in the Andes and impacting the resources of their country. At that point, a ranger from one hemisphere talking to another ranger in the opposite hemisphere, the world seemed like such a small place.

Dave, Bud and Dorene represented CSPRA at the Bolivia Congress.

NAI 2009, Hartford, Connecticut

by Jeff Miller, Guide I, Hearst Castle

This past November I attended the annual National Association for Interpretation (NAI) 2009 Workshop in Hartford, CT along with nearly 700 other U.S. and international attendees.

There were over 110 concurrent educational sessions in 13 different educational tracks offered during the five-day workshop. The sessions covered aspects of frontline interpretation, planning and research, non-personal interpretation, and interpretive management, among other topics.

I attended a variety of sessions to improve my skills, to learn about issues affecting our programs, to learn skills that help add to our visitor experiences, and some sessions to help motivate me to be a better guide. I would see rangers at sessions about zoos, interpreters at sessions about writing, and management staff at sessions on emerging technologies. I even saw Elvis (more on that later).

I was able to gain valuable information to enhance my skills as a Tour Guide and Interpreter at Hearst Castle. The training sessions really do help with the knowledge, skills and abilities that are needed to be a good front-line interpreter. I am always striving to make my interpretive product a better one and the training provided at NAI Workshops does assist with that goal. It also adds to the necessary tools to perform my job duties, and be a better representative of California State Parks. I will be better prepared to enhance the visitor's experience and to hopefully, inspire, inform and educate them, too.

For NAI 2009, I was also chosen to give a 2-hour session on "Creating Themes" for presentations, tours, signage, printed materials, exhibits,

etc. It was a hands-on learning session setting the groundwork for others to take back to their locations and use in future training of other staff members.

I want to share a couple of memorable personal experiences from the week. One was at the Excellence in Interpretation Awards Ceremony. It provided a place for different organizations to present and honor the winners of their respective National Awards. The organizations were NAI, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Park Service. The highest Interpretive Award one can win from the National Park Service is the Freeman Tilden Award. This year the winner was Ranger **Shelton Johnson**. Many of you know of him, and may have been fortunate enough to see his portrayal of Sgt. Eliza Boman, a Buffalo Soldier in Yosemite in the early 1900's. He was also in the recent PBS Series, "The National Parks: America's Best Idea." It was an honor for me to be there when he received this recognition and to have a chance to chat with him. Ranger Johnson has inspired me to be the best front-line interpreter that I can be.

The second story I want to share happened at the Museum of Connecticut History, located in the Supreme Court Building in downtown Hartford. While we were there, there was also a large school tour group. They had been given worksheets from their teachers and were on a scavenger hunt through the museum. We overheard them looking for a typewriter and other things.



I heard a few of them saying they were looking for the most powerful item in the museum and that you had to be 18

years old to use it. There was this old mechanical voting machine in the first room. I knew that is what the teacher wanted them to find. It was quite discouraging to see them all congregated around the display of Colt Firearms (Colt is based in Hartford), deciding that a gun was the item they were seeking. It made me realize how important the words I say on my tours may be, and to always choose them carefully.

So eventually the week came to an end. All I can say is "WOW!" The NAI Workshop provides the opportunity to meet and network with the best and brightest in our field. It brings us together from around the globe to share our most current ideas, experiences, and thoughts. We learn, we tell stories, we sometimes play musical instruments, we laugh, we cry, we bond and realize what a special group of people we are. I have been to many conventions, conferences and workshops over the years, but never been to one like this, where every person you meet loves their job and loves what they do. They want to share all they can with you over a few short days. I hated for the week to end, and to say my good-byes until next year's workshop.

I hope some of you will consider attending this outstanding event next November in Las Vegas. The place I saw Elvis was a promotional skit about NAI 2010!

National Association for Interpretation Conference

NAI Conference

by **Bill Lindemann**

Interpretive Specialist, Sierra District

Historic Hartford, Connecticut was the setting for the NAI National Interpreters Workshop, held in November at the Convention Center located on the beautiful Connecticut River. The river's name is the French corruption of the Algonquian word "quinetuck-et" and means long tidal river. At 407 miles in length, the Connecticut is the longest river in New England.

First established as a Dutch trading post in 1637, Hartford has long been a center of government in the region. Within walking distance of the workshop were many historic sites including the Old State House and Museum built in 1797 and the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, which opened in 1844.

I had the unmistakable good fortune to attend the workshop as both a train-

ee and an award recipient. Concurrent sessions, led by peer members, numbered over 120 in many subject area tracks including administration, arts, critical issues, environmental education, natural history, research, technique, technology, tourism and



visual communications. This annual event is the definitive interpretive training opportunity of the year. Off-site sessions offered participants a chance to visit cultural and historical

interpretive venues within the region.

Sam Hamm, Ph.D., University of Idaho, Moscow, Professor of Communication Psychology and **Karolyn Smardz Frost** Ph.D., York University, Toronto, Department of Education, were motivating and inspirational keynote speakers.

The most unforgettable experience of the workshop for me, and one of the most humbling moments of my career, was my acceptance of the NAI 2009 Master Front Line Interpreter award. **Brian Cahill**, Assistant Deputy Director of Park Operations and **Phil Sexton**, Interpreter III, Railroad Sector, submitted the nomination for this award.

<<NAI President **Jim Covell** presented the Master Front Line Interpreter award to Sierra District's **Bill Lindemann**.

Do you know someone who is retiring? CSPRA provides a plaque for members when they retire. Contact Allison at: (530) 550-1268 or allison@CSPRA.com.

RETIREE'S RENDEZVOUS

by **Kirk Wallace**

The 17th Annual "Retirees' Rendezvous" has passed into history, but was enjoyed by all. Posted photos can be found at www.cspra.com.

The Friday night "Strickler Road Kill Grille" was followed by Saturday's Continental Breakfast and cow pasture "Pitch and Putt". **Ray Westberg's** daughter, **Sue**, and son-in-law **Ron Barrow** did in the competition. Several certificates, prepared by **KK Smith**, Director of Golf, were given out.

The future of the "Rendezvous" was discussed in the afternoon. **Craig Mattson** expressed the CSPRA Board's desire to continue the event, and offered an invitation from Sierra District to host the event at Sugar Pine Point State Park in 2010. Other participants suggested holding the event in varied units, but staying in the central part of the state. Unless we were to change the early October date, adverse weather may be a concern in the Sierra. Another idea is making the event a total potluck and not providing the meat, beans, dessert

or Continental Breakfast.

No decisions were made, but the committee would like input on these ideas. RV and tent camping, convenient motels, and easy travel for one day only participants are concerns. Invitations from Superintendents who would like to host the event would be welcome at rendezvous@cspra.com. Thanks to Supt. **Lee Sencenbaugh** and his staff at McConnell SRA, and to **Mike Lynch** for his ranger history program.

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...

The CSPRA Chronicles...Karen Barrett

Where do you work, what is your job classification, and how long have you worked for California State Parks?

Diablo Vista District, Regional Interpretive Specialist (RIS), 16 ½ years permanent, 7 as a seasonal (Park Aide and Guide Trainee).

Where did you grow up?

Houston, Texas, Mobile, Alabama, and from 4th grade on in West L.A. and Santa Monica.

Tell us a little about your family.

We love a good laugh, the out-of-doors, dogs and good food! I'm married to a great guy who I met in a college Zoology class – Joe "Saint Joe" Wasilewski, a mechanical engineer/professional project manager, music loving hiker, and fly fisherman.

Do you have any hobbies?

Does working on being a "wine-beer-coffee-chocolate-cheese snob" count? I live in the beautiful Sonoma Valley Wine Country where I can easily practice becoming one. I love to hike up steep trail, scramble up mountains, camp and take my dog on walks.

Do you have any park-related stories from your youth to share?

Once we moved to L.A. we lived in an apartment and never went to parks. It was only because of Girl Scouting that I went on my first backpacking trip in Sequoia National Park, saw my first park ranger and went to my first evening program. I loved being outside, hiking, and seeing the stars! It changed my life!

Your educational background?

I earned an A.A. in Life Science (Santa Monica College), and a B.S. in Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation (Humboldt State University). I continue to seek informal educational opportunities especially through attending professional conferences. CSPRA helped me this year when I was granted a scholarship to attend the California Association of

Museums Conference.

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

I worked in retail, and for the YWCA in Green River, Wyoming where I



was in charge of the teen and community education programs. I was a Park Ranger (Interpretation) in Yosemite and Lassen Volcanic National Parks.

Tell us about your State Park career.

I was a Park Aide (Leo Carrillo SB, Pt. Mugu SB) learning about fee collection, campgrounds and reservation systems, and Guide Trainee (Bidwell Mansion SHP) where I conducted tours, developed living history scenarios and was introduced to museum practices.

I became a permanent employee as a Guide (Sonoma SHP, Benicia Capitol SHP) learning historic site operations, volunteer management, special event coordination, and was the Cooperating Association Liaison (CAL). As Interpreter I (State Capitol Museum) I developed a new Guide training program, was the Volunteer Coordinator and CAL. I promoted to Interpreter II (Interpretation and Education Division) where my work focused on the Department's environmental education and accessibility related projects. I became Mendocino District's first Regional Interpretive Specialist (RIS) and developed and conducted an extensive interpretation training program for rangers, was lead person for seasonal Interpreters and CAL. In 2003, I lateral transferred to my current position becoming Diablo Vista District's first RIS.

What type of things do you do in your current assignment?

I build relationships, I create, I advocate for and develop the interpretive perspective in others, I learn. I work in great parks with really great people. As the Interpretation Program manager I have collaborated and/or been project manager on several projects; like the Jack London Cottage house museum, interpretive panels like the those being developed in conjunction with the California Native Plant Society for the Native Plant Garden at Benicia State Recreation Area, park brochures, cultural landscapes, updating themes, exhibits and lighting at Visitor Centers like a \$220,000 project at Mt. Diablo SP. I write media releases, I develop, coordinate and conduct training; most recently on the updated District volunteer registration process.

What is your definition of "interpretation"?

Interpretation is the purposeful development of a message to reflect values inherent in a natural or cultural resource and to convey the message in way that is relevant to the audience. Interpretation makes it possible for people to connect to the resource and at its best, results in advocacy for parks. The State Parks Mission is the underpinning of this communication process. Interpretation is most successful when we don't work in isolation but collaborate across classifications, with park partners and stakeholders to interpret a resource.

It must be kind of exciting to work on an interpretive project knowing that many thousands of people will enjoy and hopefully become inspired by the fruits of your labor. Do you ever think about that?

I never stop thinking about the audience and the resource. I find it endlessly fascinating and challenging



JACK SANDERS

1936-2009

Jack passed away on Dec. 4 at the age of 73. He was a California State Park Ranger for 30 years, spending most of his career at McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park. He also worked at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park and Hatfield State Recreation Area and for the Department of Fish and Game for 5 years. Jack was an all-around ranger, excelling at everything from campfire programs to felling trees to weapons instruction, and was a mentor to many younger rangers. He loved hunting, fishing, water skiing, history and photography. Jack retired in 1988 and lived in Cassel, in the Redding area.

CHRONICLES, from page 8

to connect the two in a relevant, high quality and lasting way - and make it come together on schedule and within budget. I work hard to collaborate with staff, volunteers, stakeholders and vendors so that we feel proud of the fruits of *our* labor, creating park projects.

You are also a member of and quite involved in the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). Tell us a little about that organization.

NAI is an international professional organization that supports interpretation as a profession. I'm proud to be a "face of" California State Parks in such an organization. I've been a Region 9 Board member, on a National Workshop Committee and had a

End of Session in Sacramento

by *Monica Miller, CSPRA Lobbyist*

The Legislature has wrapped up on the budget front for the remainder of this year. A couple of weeks ago, the Legislative Analysts released their report outlining the impending crisis ahead for the 2010 budget year and beyond. They are estimating that the State has a current budget year crisis of \$6.3 billion and a budget year plus one (meaning the 2010-11 budget year) of \$14.4 billion deficit making for a total of just over \$20 billion if they fail to act when they return in January. There really aren't any budget solutions. They will be looking at a variety of fixes yet again, but in order to raise taxes they need a 2/3 vote, which is unlikely under normal circumstances, let alone during an election year for a new Governor.

On a better note, the Legislature has finally passed a water bond to the tune of \$11.2 billion slated for the November 2010 ballot. While the measure was agreed to by both the Republicans and Democrats there are people still a little unhappy about it. Finally, while the bond is slated for the 2010 election, there is some speculation that it will be pushed out to 2012 due to fiscal constraints on the state.

The Legislature is expected to return one more time before the end of the year in a 6th extraordinary session related to education. The Obama Administration has set aside \$4.3 billion to distribute to states that put forth competitive applications for real education reform. California could perhaps secure up to \$700 million in this "Race to the Top" funding for schools. On January 4, regular business resumes in Sacramento.

In other news, the State Assembly has unofficially elected a new Speaker, Assembly Member **John Perez** (D-Los Angeles). He is expected to take over later this year in place of termed out Speaker **Karen Bass**. Keep in mind, this is the second year of the session and we will be faced with bill introduction deadlines once again at the end of February. We will apprise you and your Board of any and all bills of interest to Parks as well as a budget update once the Governor proposes his budget, to be released on January 10, 2010. Brace yourselves; we expect it to be bad for Parks once again, given the on-going budget deficit and the unwillingness to raise taxes.

major role in coordinating this year's regional workshop. NAI has allowed me to network with other people in other agencies, keep updated on the latest trends in communications, media and interpretive planning and bring more resources to the District. The leadership skills I have honed in NAI have contributed to the success of our projects. NAI workshops and members helped to make me a better interpreter and problem solver.

How long have you been a CSPRA member and what inspired you to become a member?

It's been over 10 years. Two things contributed to being a member - one I attended a Parks Conference and found it a great place to mix and

learn. The other was then President **Kim Baker** who welcomed me and made me feel like I belonged. I've been a Board Member and have recruited others to run for the Board. I remain a member because I want to join other state park professionals from all job classifications to support and be political advocates for our state park system.

If you could have one wish come true for Parks, what would it be?

I wish that children will have experiences to inspire them to become the earth's stewards and to grow up to work as our park supporters, partners and professionals.

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 _____

EXECUTIVE MANAGER



by Allison Pedley, Executive Manager

I write this as the snow is falling,
well over a foot on the ground here
in Truckee - a record for mid-Decem-
ber since we've lived in the Sierra
District! Otherwise, things have been
very quiet in the CSPRA office. My
apologies for getting the ballots out
so late, but thank you in advance for
those of you who took the time to vote
and return them.

Wishing everyone a wonderful new
year, hopefully one full of great things
for California State Parks!

OCEAN RESCUE EARNS MEDALS OF VALOR

On June 22,
2009, California
State Park Peace
Officers, Life-
guard **James W.
Nothhelfer** and
Ranger **Timo-
thy B. Fellars**,
responded to a
report of an overturned boat off the
Fitzgerald Marine Reserve near Moss
Beach. This area is well known for
causing boat accidents due to the
hazardous, shallow reef. At approxi-
mately 1:00 p.m., Officer Nothhelfer
arrived on the scene, put his wetsuit
on, and began to paddle out toward
the victims. Facing nine foot choppy
surf that was closely spaced
due to the northwest winds
that day and floating debris
and gasoline caused from
the overturned boat, Officer
Nothhelfer made his way out
through the rocky reef surf
zone approximately 300 yards
offshore. Six family members,
including a six year old boy,
had all been tossed into the 54 degree
water when their boat overturned.
Gathering five of the six family
members together on top of his rescue
paddleboard, Officer Nothhelfer was
able to locate the sixth member who
was clinging to the bow of the boat



<<The Gover-
nor awarded
the medals of
valor in
December

and brought
him back to the
paddleboard
just before the

boat sank. Officer Nothhelfer was able
to hold on to all of the family mem-
bers until Ranger Fellars arrived on
the scene to provide additional help.
Ranger Fellars, a former Lifeguard
with California State Parks, put his
wetsuit on and swam out through
the same dangerous area to assist
Officer Nothhelfer. Despite being
hit repeatedly by the surf, together

they were able to hold on to
the family members until all
were transferred to a waiting
Patrol boat. After transport to
the harbor, five of the family
members were transported
by ground ambulances to
area hospitals and treated for
hypothermia. The six year

old boy was transported by medi-
cal helicopter to an area hospital for
severe hypothermia and near drown-
ing. Although tired from their efforts,
Officer Nothhelfer and Ranger Fellars
were not injured during this strenuous
and dangerous ocean rescue.



humor in unicorn



Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price, retired

Mixed Metaphor definition:
an odd mixture of metaphors
and misquoted clichés that
produce a mildly humorous
or bewildering effect. Feel
free to send along any over-
heard slips of the tongue to
webmaster@cspra.com

Books on cooking?
*Ebbers was convicted in the
WorldCom scandal for cooking
the numbers.*

Seems spacious enough to me.
*That's the proverbial problem
with overcrowding in parks; like
trying to stuff 3 pounds of candy
into a four-pound bag.*

Clockwork strange.
*We are being told they will call
off the search for victims in
one-hour and fifteen minutes,
Eastern time.*

Reptilian dysfunction.
*... and then he stubbed his
finger at the whole thing.*

District Reps

District	Name	Email Address
Angeles	Frank Padilla	fpadilla@parks.ca.gov
LEES	Mark Hada	mhada@parks.ca.gov
Central Valley	Wayne Harrison	wharr@parks.ca.gov
	Greg Martin	gmart@parks.ca.gov
Channel Coast	Tyson Butzke	tyson@cspra.com
Colorado Desert	Gail Sevens	gsevr@parks.ca.gov
Diablo Vista	Carl Nielson	cnielson@parks.ca.gov
	Ann Meneguzzi	amene@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	Dana Jones	djones@parks.ca.gov
Mott Training Center	Sara Skinner	sskinner@parks.ca.gov
North Coast Redwoods	Rick Sermon	sermon@wave.net
	Jenny Donovan	roadkill151@aol.com
North Bay	Karen Broderick	karen@mcn.org
Northern Buttes	Lori Martin	lmartin@parks.ca.gov
San Luis Obispo	Nick Franco	nfranco@hearcstcastle.com
	Robert Latson	rriatson@aol.com
Santa Cruz	Charles Edgemon	charlesedgemon@earthlink.net
	Linda Hitchcock	lhitchcock@parks.ca.gov
Sierra	Susan Grove	susan@gbis.com
Tehachapi	Sean Malis	sean.malis@us.army.mil
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.

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topics, and message the board
members. Check it out!

GrayBears



Attention retired members!
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California State Park Rangers Association
P.O. Box 10606
Truckee, CA 96162
www.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