



The CSPRA

Wave

Newsletter

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 2

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2011

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

FALL OF THE WILD



SAVE THE DATE MARCH 5-9, 2012
CSPRA TRAINING (PARKS CONFERENCE)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, AGOURA HILLS



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Tufa SNR Castle Crags SP, Providence
Mountains SRA, Governor's Mansion SHP,
William B. Ide Adobe SHP, D. Carle, CSPF

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by Nina Gordon, CSPRA President

*"Even if you're on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit
there."* *Will Rogers*

We need everyone to get involved.

We are facing one of the most critical periods in the history of State Parks. California State Parks faces a very uncertain future. Complacency is not an option. We cannot afford to stand by... park closures are not an acceptable solution. I know that a lot of CSPRA members are already facing individual struggles but we need all of you to do what you can. You can make a difference.

1) Take a stand- Become a legislative advocate (on your own time of course). Write a letter. Make a call. Start by stating you are a constituent. Such letters/calls carry extra weight. It is best to write your own letter rather than sign a petition, even if it is short. Length does not matter as much as making the effort and showing you are a constituent. State your position right up front. Legislative staff often just skim for key points.

Go to your legislator's district office in person. Try to see your legislator if you can (they are usually there on Friday's during session). Or talk to the staff, who have influence. For your legislator and contact info and information on bills, go to www.leginfo.ca.gov/

2) Tell a powerful story in your own words- Be a Town Crier. Tell your story to all who will listen (and

even those who won't) of the importance of state parks, the impact on your life and career and the importance of state parks on the quality of life and the health of all Californians and all those who visit. Encourage your friends, family, neighbors, people you meet in your everyday life- to get involved.

3) Donate time and/or money to an organization helping state parks A number of entities are organized to help state parks. Consider becoming a member, making a donation and/or volunteering your time. If possible, donate \$1 for each park on the closure list.

A few of the efforts you can support are: California State Parks Foundation (www.calparks.org); Save the Redwoods League www.savetheredwoods.org; Non-profit Cooperating Associations affiliated with CA State Parks; \$1 at a time- Support Alden Olmstead <http://www.johnolmsted.net>

4) Help with the CSPRA Training (Conference) in March 2012. Consider conducting training, organizing and/or leading a field trip, helping with conference in general (silent auction, publicity, registration, etc). Here is a chance to share your knowledge, your expertise, and your time to help your fellow state park employees. Many of you have already prepared and conducted very successful training sessions at Asilomar, NAI conferences, and other regional and statewide trainings. Dust off those notes and consider the CSPRA Training as another opportunity to share your knowledge. Whatever you decide, just act now!

Above all, keep the long-term vision in mind...

And with that, I end with a photo of Vince Sereno's sons Alan and Paul.



Fall of the Wild

by *Nina Gordon, CSPRA President*

Thus begins an editorial by Timothy Egan of the New York Times about the possible closure of Jack London State Historic Park. He goes on to say “It belongs to you and me — the ranch, the cottage, the pond, the stone scraps of an old winery — an inheritance that is now being dismantled. California created the state park idea with Yosemite in 1864, before it was a federal reserve; it is destroying it in 2011 with a plan to permanently close one-fourth of its parks.”

However, it is not the Department taking the initiative to close parks- it is the response to a draconian budget cut, which is on the heels of a series of budget reductions over decades-“death by a thousand cuts.” We cannot continue to operate all 278 parks with severe reductions in staff in addition to cuts in other operating costs including materials, supplies, vehicles and other essential components. Even if the gates are left open, with no staff or facilities available, the demise of Department resources is inevitable. This \$22 million budget cut however, is mere “change you find in your sofa” in relation to the entire budget, or or as Mr. Egan pointed out, one-fifth the price of a recent sale of a single private mansion in Los Altos, CA. The situation could get worse, driven by legislators refusing to allow people to vote on tax extensions and not looking for other funding sources.

In a dire California budget crisis, we get the question, “Why bother to keep parks open?” At a June 10 public hearing near Annadel State Park, Assemblymember Jared Huffman, the event’s organizer, stated, “Never before have we had to take this kind of action to close the people’s parks.” He went on to tell more than 200 participants, “These closures come at



^Russian Gulch State Park, by Sara M. Skinner

a time when many families are struggling financially and when visiting state parks is one of the most affordable activities for folks on a limited income.” The impact of California State Parks on the economic engine has not gone unnoticed. John Severini, President of the The California Travel Industry Association, added, “Because the average visitor to a State Park generates \$58 for the local economy surrounding that park.... Communities surrounding state parks live and die on the tourism economy generated by California’s parks.”

Egan continues...“our heritage — in the natural world and in preservation of the stories and people who came before us — is being erased.” Our heritage and identity as a country, as a state and as families and individuals is interwoven in the feather baskets, the adobe walls, the landscape paintings, the iron cannons, archeological sites and the other amazingly diverse inventory contained within our state parks system.”

California State Parks serves as the second largest provider of educational programs in the state. However, sta-

tistics do not do justice to the creativity, enthusiasm and resourcefulness of our interpreters and other staff who provide a quality of education that is in another league from that traditionally taught in schools. From the interactive and unique PORTS (Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students) program in the classroom to the full sensory experience of an interpretive walk through a redwood forest or desert canyon, even re-creating the life in a Russian fort, profoundly impact California’s schoolchildren.

Above all, California state parks are the core of an enlightened society, the top of Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs: Self actualization. Our experiences in California State Parks are the root of these visceral memories that have shaped who we are. And as we age and develop the filters based on our experiences, being surrounded by the natural and cultural icons of our parks brings us straight back to the core of what is important in life.

The Ikh Nart Nature Reserve

by Lynn Rhodes, CSPRA Board

Several important projects have taken place since August of 2010, when **Mark Jorgensen, Lynn Rhodes** and **Mike Wells** PhD traveled to the Ikh Nart Nature Reserve in Mongolia:

United Nations Development Program Project

Due in part to the effective support and relationship of the Sister Park efforts and coordination with the Denver Zoo Foundation, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has formally approved and funded a project to strengthen the Protected Area (PA) Network in Mongolia. The Ikh Nart Nature Reserve is one of two protected areas chosen for the project, which will enhance management and sustainable financing of the protected area system in Mongolia as a whole. Due to the expansion of Mongolia's protected areas, many places suffer from inadequate resources to conserve the important species and habitats they are supposed to protect. Sustainable financing at the local PA site level is a key ingredient to a successful outcome of the project. The project will also contribute to better local livelihoods through increased resilience in the ecosystems in PA's that underpin the livelihoods of several households (primarily remote herding families) living nearby.

Last August our small team brought ideas and start-up supplies to assist a new local Women's Collective. We brought tools and supplies for the women from the area's herding families to make hand-made crafts from local materials so they could be sold to tourists and workers in nearby ecotourism camping facilities as well as at Ikh Nart Nature Reserve and research camp. After receiving the supplies, the women returned the following week to our research



Local women display their handicrafts at Ikh Nart , photo by Lynn Rhodes

camp with many hand crafted items for sale. Sales from the items benefit the Nature Reserve as well as the local economy. It is this example, in addition to compatible and appropriate nearby camping facilities, that will help build a model of sustainability for Mongolia's Protected Areas.

Assigned to Joint Working Team

Mark Jorgensen and Lynn Rhodes are two of four Americans assigned by the Governor of the Dornogovi aimag (similar to a county in the US), as part of a joint working team for Ikh Nart Nature Reserve Management. The team includes 7 Mongolians: the Chief Ranger from Ikh Nart Nature Reserve; the Chief of the herder's community from the Ikh Nart area; Governors from the Dalanjargalan and Airag soums and the Director of Nature Conservation Agency of the Dornogovi aimag. Mark and Lynn's assignments include strengthening the Sister Park relationship, legal issues, and carrying capacity.

First Cultural Protection Project

For the most part, work and study conducted at Ikh Nart has been primarily animal and plant studies. Our team became aware of rich cultural resources in the reserve, leading to the first formal cultural protection project conducted last year by State Park Archaeologist **Joan Schneider** Ph.D. along with State Park Volunteer **Roger Riolo**. Dr. Schneider led a full team of volunteers to begin what we hope will be a continuing project to locate, inventory, assess and protect the Ikh Nart Nature Reserve's cultural resources in conjunction with local cultural experts in Mongolia. Dr. Schneider and State Park Volunteer **Chuck Bennett** will return this summer to lead another team for the second phase of this cultural protection work.

More information about the Ikh Nart Nature Reserve and Sister Park relationship can be found on the CSPRA website <http://www.cspra.com/pages/IkhNart/Welcome.html> and Ikh Nart Nature Reserve's official site: <http://ikhnart.com/home.html>.

Dave Gould is highlighting a different CSPRA member for each edition of the WAVE. In his many years 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. This issue highlights Cecilia Rejas of China Camp SP.. Enjoy ...

CSPRA Chronicles...Cecilia Rejas

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

I work at China Camp State Park as a State Park Ranger. I've been with CA state Parks for about 6 years now.

Where were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born in San Francisco, then spent the first 3-4 years in Honolulu, Hawaii and then we moved back to San Francisco and I lived in SF until the college days.

Tell us a little about your youth, the "formative" years.

I spent most of my "formative years" in San Francisco. We lived right across the street from Ocean Beach in "the land of ever-present fog." I grew up with two brothers and one sister. My Dad was an avid surfer and while he was doing that, we went boogie boarding in our T-shirts and striped biker shorts seemingly impervious to the cold water and fog drip. I remember spending many hours on my bike with the nice banana style seat as well.

We spent a lot of time outdoors whether it was playing hide and seek or tag on the block in front of our house, or pretending to be seals on the beach. Fortunately, my mom and dad liked to hike and camp as well. We would frequent Mt. Tam and I remember Standish-Hickey SRA and the Eel River being one of our favorite spots.

My grandpa had a sailboat and we would go up every summer for a few weeks spent on the Sacramento River delta. We'd anchor at a spot called "Disappointment Slough." It did not live up to that name though. I remember the wind in my face as we flew through the water in the red zodiac (a small speed boat) to



find different beaches where we could swim, and play "blackberry squish," a game which involved gather as many blackberries as one could hold in 2 hands and then trying to cram them all into your mouth at once. My brothers, sister, and I loved it because the blackberries stained our faces, exasperated Mom (stained swimsuits and stained children), and the berries were so sweet and delicious. After we were appropriately stained we became a tribe and played some of the next hours as Native Americans.

Did you visit any parks while you were growing up? Do you have any park-related stories from your youth you would like to share?

My sister and I got lost on Water District Land. We ended up on a different trail from the rest of the group. I was around 12. We were found about 5 hours later by Search and Rescue volunteers just before it got dark!

What is your educational background?

I graduated from UC Santa Cruz with a BA in Environmental Studies and Economics.

What are your hobbies and what do you like to do when you are off of work?

I enjoy hiking, exploring new areas and places, travelling, reading, kayaking, gardening, kickboxing, sleeping in, and riding my bike. When I'm not

working I'm doing one of the activities above.

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

One of the greatest things I did after college that actually got me started on considering a career as a park ranger, was working for AmeriCorps: National Civilian Conservation Corps (NCCC). It was a 10-month program where I was based out of Charleston, SC and then worked on different environmental and community health projects throughout the southeastern US. One of the projects I liked best was working at Cove Lake State Park in Tennessee. We had the opportunity to work alongside the Rangers and help with school programs in addition to doing trail improvements. This is when I realized that I'd like to work as a Ranger.

In life after AmeriCorps, I participated in the SCA program and worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service at Mare Island in Vallejo. I led school fieldtrips for children to teach them about the tidal salt marsh. I landed my first long-term job in San Francisco working with the Trust for Public Land. I was with the BLM in Palm Springs and then with the Forest Service in Idyllwild. During my time with the Forest Service I applied for CA State Parks to be a Ranger. I actually ended up running into and talking with Gary Watts, then Inland Empire Superintendent, at the top of Mt. San Jacinto soon before I was to take the physical agility test.

Tell us a little about the positions you have held in your SP career.

I did my training out of the academy at Silverwood Lake SRA. The park is busy and beautiful and the staff is terrific. Then I spent about 3 years working in the Mojave Desert at the

See CHRONICLES, page 6

CECILIA REJAS

CHRONICLES, from page 5

Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve, Saddleback Butte State Park, Tomo Kahni State Historic Park, and the Antelope Valley Indian Museum. I absolutely love the desert – from the kangaroo rats, to the burrowing owls, and Joshua trees -it was all amazing. During my free time I would go out on “snake patrol” with my friend “Ton,” who does reptile rescue. We would relocate snakes both venomous and non from the roads to a safer place. And while on duty at the Poppy Reserve, I would do the same on our designated walking trails.

You work at a couple of State Parks that are rich in the fascinating history of California. Tell us what it is like to work at China Camp SP and Olompali SHP?

I love working at China Camp and Olompali! China Camp SP has so much to share with park visitors. It has Coast Miwok history, Chinese Immigrant history, the bay and tidal

salt marsh ecosystems, and lovely areas of madrone, oak, bay, and redwood forest. Olompali SHP is another treasure. Whenever I walk the trails I feel at peace and can imagine what it might have been like as the summer home for the Native Americans. I am fortunate to work with many excellent volunteers and as these parks don't have extremely high crime rates, I have the opportunity to give tours and share both the natural wonders and history of these places with park visitors and visiting schoolchildren.

You have been out of the formal “Ranger Training” academy and in the field now for a few years. What advice do you have for the newest Rangers that just graduated from BVST.

Hang in there! What you do as a Ranger is worthwhile and your insights, enthusiasm, and ideas are needed in order for our CA State Parks Department to survive and succeed. You can make a difference – remember that. Also remember to

breathe and take time for yourself. We can love our jobs so much that it's hard to get away from work. I think now, more than ever, it's good to have time away from the job.

Tell us about your dreams for your State Park career.

I had hoped to work in all of the Marin District parks. I'll have to see how the future of these parks is within the next year or so.

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

If I could have one wish come true for CA State Parks it would be that all of our State Park Units would be kept open with secure funding not subject to politics – that the park units would be kept open and available for the people and by the people of California.

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

Thanks for all that you do for CA State Parks!

LOOKING FOR LEADERS

2012 CSPRA TRAINING (CONFERENCE)

Are you a Leader? Presenter? Organizer?

Want some terrific experience for your resume? Please consider helping with or presenting at the March 5-9, 2012 CSPRA Training/Conference in Agoura Hills. What we need:

--Overall (S. California based)

On-Site Conference Organizer

--Track Chairs and/or Assistants in: Interpretation, Park Operations, Public Safety, Cultural/Natural Resources (working with Chris Corey), and the Retiree Track

--Assistance with Field Trips

(Lynette Brody is taking the lead)

--a Silent Auction Chair

--Presenters: Do you have a great idea for a presentation in any of the above Tracks? Want to share a presentation/skill that has been success-

ful? **Please contact Mark Hada at Mark@cspira.com or Nina Gordon at Nina@cspira.com**

Here is a way to gain valuable training, connect with old friends and meet new ones and get an insight into the varied park sites and operations in the area. We can all anticipate that State Park training opportunities will be reduced. We have discounted rooms at the lovely Renaissance Hotel in Agoura Hills.

This gathering is an excellent way to add to your training and career development. We hope to have a number of the public safety session POST certified. The training sessions will also satisfy the required Interpretive Training (8 hours for peace officers and 24 hours for interpreters). We will also offer hands-on training in grant writing and seeking funding, use of social media and technology

and the latest in cultural and natural resource management among a myriad of other timely topics. We will be conducting the conference in conjunction with PRAC (Park Rangers Association of California).

For recently or not-so-recently retired state park family members, here is a chance to share your wisdom, meet friends and have fun learning about topics of interest.

Agoura Hills is a terrific staging area for a myriad of exciting field trips from the coastline at Malibu to the beautiful Santa Monica Mountains and the culturally rich urban setting of Los Angeles. March is a beautiful time of year to explore this area.

So Mark Your Calendars and Join Us! And please consider being a presenter, field trip leader or organizer for the training.

OUT AND EQUAL

by **Jenny Donovan**

Public Safety Supt., Russian River Dst

State Parks formed a Women and Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender (LGBT) taskforce in April 2010 which works directly with the Human Rights Office. The Taskforce has 5 members: **Wendy Martin** – Sacramento ADA Team, **April Malone** – RAO Tehachapi District, **John Garlock** – Communications Division in Sacramento, **Lexi Heemstra** – Lifeguard at Russian River District and myself, **Jenny Donovan**. We encourage you to visit our webpage on the DPR intranet and contact any of us with questions http://isearch.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1058

On October, 2010 I attended the Out and Equal workplace summit held in Los Angeles. The opportunity to attend any training was a long shot but thanks to support from CSPRA it turned into a reality. I flew in on Monday night and found a scary “state rate” hotel a few blocks from the convention center. On Tuesday I attended an 8 hour Diversity Leadership Course to become a certified instructor for the Out and Equal Workplace model of diversity training. To my amazement I was in a room full of top business professionals from all over the United States and England. It was very empowering to see that the idea of LGBT diversity in the workplace has gone global with over 3,000 participants attending this event.

I had to choose from over 125 different workshops over the next 3 days. Some workshops were geared towards a specific type of employee group such as Boeing or Met Life. The most obvious missing component was anything related to government employees with only 2 workshops mentioning Government employees. Despite the lack of representation, I took the opportunity to learn anything and everything from these global organizations to bring back to State Parks. Two things really stood out in this training for me; the breakdown of what diversity stands for and the

struggles of the transgender community.

Diversity; a word we all hear about, a word you will need to know in order to take any promotional exam. But what does it really mean? Do you really embrace the idea of diversity? Does the department?

Diversity seems to be a buzz word that people associate with hiring guidelines more than anything. In today’s ever-changing world diversity is embracing the differences that we all bring to the workplace. It is the commitment to each employee to be fully inclusive so that their contributions are acknowledged and valued. Diversity is striving for a workplace that is inviting and accepting of everyone, treating its employees well and encouraging the best recruitment practices, allowing everyone to be who we are and to be treated equally.

The most moving workshop I attended was entitled “Transgender 101”. The speaker spoke of her struggles working in a huge corporation as a very successful salesperson. The decision to undergo surgery is not one that is taken lightly with years of planning going into making it happen. The transgender community is often misunderstood. Imagine the enormity of what it entails to have the strength to actually make this change, and the impact it will have on family, friends, and the workplace. The reality is they carefully take all of that into consideration. Think of the courage it takes to overcome all of society’s pressure to live the life that makes them feel whole. In all respects transgender people are not truly themselves until they are able to live in the body they were meant to. Then comes the cost involved with undergoing the transformation, costs that are not covered by insurance plans. I have increased respect for anyone who is willing to stand up in this day and age to overcome all the obstacles for something they believe in so strongly.

The most important thing we can strive for is a healthy work environ-

A WAVE Goodbye

KIRBY MORGAN

1929- 2011



Kirby was a veteran of the Korean War. He began his long State Park career in 1958 at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, worked at Millerton Lake, South Valley and Gold Mines Districts, and retired in 1987, living in the Central Valley. Kirby also taught Law Enforcement classes at Sacramento State University and was very active in Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War during his retirement. Kirby was a fixture at the Retirees’ Rendezvous and will be missed.



DEBORAH SHANE COLES

1952- 2011

Shane began her State Park career in 1978 in the Marin Area. She worked in Dyerville and Sonoma Areas as a PI Ranger, then became a full-time Ranger at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, also working at Russian River/Mendocino District. Shane retired in 2004, but returned to Cuyamaca as a Park Aide.

She was the park’s history and flower expert.

ment for each and every one of us. We all can make a difference by simply being kind to one another and realizing we all offer something different and special. That’s what makes our department a family.

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New Rangers and Lifeguards Graduate

by *Sara M. Skinner, Trng Specialist*

The journey for the twenty-two men and five women began on an overcast day in Pacific Grove, CA on October 3rd, 2010. On this day the average age was 32.5, half of them had significant others, four had two year degrees, eighteen had four year degrees, and twenty five of them were California born. These new State Park Ranger and Lifeguard Cadets were on their way to a POST academy at the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium which would be followed by six weeks of Department specific

firearms, EMT, and Park Operations training. The eight months of academy life brought tears, joy, heartache, loss, injury, and achievement. The group lost a few classmates to injury and attitude, new children were added to the beginning count of seventeen, and lives would be changed by the State Parks family. The graduation ceremony was a tribute to their journey.

The Ranger and Lifeguard Cadets graduated on May 20th, 2011. VIPs in attendance included Natural Resources Agency Secretary **John Laird**, California State Parks Director **Ruth Coleman**, Deputy Director of Park Operations **Tony Perez**, Deputy Director of OHMVR Division **Daphne Greene**, Northern Division Chief **Scott Wassmund**, and Assistant Deputy Director of Administration David Saxby. The Master of Ceremonies, Department Training Officer Tina Williams, welcomed the audience and spoke about the Academy experience. Guest speakers Natural Resources Agency Secretary John Laird, Director Ruth Coleman, class



Salutatorian Ranger **Kim Sawyer**, and Valedictorian Lifeguard **Shane Scoggins** addressed the audience of over 300 people, providing inspiring, emotional insights about meeting the challenges, past and future, that characterize the Ranger/Lifeguard position.

Special recognition awards went to Lifeguard **Eric Palmer** for Firearms, Ranger **David Hermitte** for Defensive Tactics, Ranger **Anthoney**

Alegre for Physical Fitness, Ranger **Anthony Boiano** for Academics, and Ranger **Darin Conner** for Park Operations.

To express their thanks to CTO's **Matt Cardinet** and **Dan Kraft**, the members of BVST 35 purchased engraved knives and Ranger IPA ball caps to thank the CTO's for showing them the way.

Whitehead Award Winner

*CSPRA Board Member and Training Specialist **Sara M. Skinner** presented **Tibor Laky** the Whitehead Award in recognition of outstanding achievement and dedication to park service. Tibor was raised in Texas and southern California, studied at Cal Poly Pomona, and was a Park Aide at Doheny.*



EXECUTIVE MANAGER



by **Allison Pedley**, Executive Manager

CSPRA has 15 new members from the Department's latest cadet class: **Anthony Alegre, Jacqui Burke, Darin Conner, Brooke Fellers, Scott Griffith, Chris Heinrich, Tibor Lakey, Ryan Randar, Hannah Richman, Shane Scoggins, and Danielle Westberg.** Welcome new rangers and lifeguards! And, as CSPRA winds up its fiscal year, I will be sending out dues reminders to GrayBears who pay annually, and also would like to issue one final reminder to those of you who have retired and not yet renewed your membership at the significantly lower rate of \$35/year to do so soon. There's so much going on with State Parks these days, I'm sure you all would like to stay in touch, and we'd love to stay in touch with you, too! Thanks everyone!

Calling All Campers! **September 30, October 1 - 2, 2011** McConnell SRA

Even though the 19th Annual California State Park **Retiree's Rendezvous** is an opportunity for retirees to get together, we are encouraging any interested State Park employee to attend. The event will be held Sept. 30th, October 1st and 2nd, 2011 at McConnell State Recreation Area. The campground can accommodate RVs or tent camping. For those who don't want to camp, there are motels in Turlock.

This year we are combining past traditions and some new activities. On Friday evening there will be the traditional **Clyde Strickler** Road-Kill Grille. For breakfast, we will have bagels and crème cheese, pastries, fruit, juice and coffee. On Saturday, we will be having fajitas and salads.

The main purpose of this event is to get together and socialize. But, for those who like to be active, we will have volleyball, badminton, and some other fun activities. One of the traditions is the annual raffle. We hope you will bring some homemade or

purchased raffle items. Any income, over and above the cost of the Rendezvous and from the raffle, will go to the CSPRA Jim Whitehead Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Pat is working with Wildways Illustrated Graphic Company to design a new logo for the newly retired or soon-to-be retired that will feature the Silver Bears. We will also have a newly refurbished GrayBears Retired DPR logo. We are planning to have these logos on t-shirts, hats, and other items that can be ordered in advance from CafePress. Look for details on the CSPRA website in the coming months.

The reservation form will be available soon on the CSPRA website so we hope to see you at this fun event for all State Park retired employees and current employees. If you have any questions or ideas for the event, please contact **Pat Clark-Gray** at graywolf50@comcast.net or (831) 384-5119.

Seeking Honorary Ranger Nominations

by **Mark Hada**, CSPRA Board

What do **Ansel Adams, Walt Disney, William Penn Mott, Jr., and Huell Howser** all have in common? Those amongst you with detective skills, lovers of mysteries, or subject to brilliant flashes of insight (or read the title of the article) have probably guessed the answer. They were all Honorary State Park Rangers. Now is the time to begin the selection process for the next Honorary Ranger. CSPRA needs your nominations for this year. If you know someone who has done great service for State Parks and deserves recognition, now is the time send us your choice for Honorary Ranger, 2012.

Selection information must include the following information:

The name of the nominee

1. What is their current and past occupation and key interests

2. What are the specific things they have done that warrant statewide recognition. This award program is designed to bring attention to people who, through extraordinary effort, have worked to benefit California State Parks.

3. Their demonstrated actions should be linked clearly to CSPRA's mission and iconic State Park ideals.

Nominations should also include:

1. CSPRA Member(s) nominating this nominee
2. Member(s) phone and email address

Once completed, submit this information to the CSPRA Executive Manager, Allison Pedley at allison@cspra.com

As a special incentive to nominate your candidate and watch him or her accept the award, the 2012 California Parks Conference will be held in the Malibu area (Agoura Hills). Join us in this late winter migration to the south.

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 _____

Lobbyist's Report

by **Monica Miller, CSPRA Lobbyist**

When we last reported, the legislature was dealing with the special session on budget but was unsuccessful at completing the entire budget deal. With the June 15th deadline looming at press time, the pressure is on to get a deal done on time.

The legislature has just passed a major deadline called the house of origin deadline, meaning any bill introduced in one house must now be in the second house in order to continue to move forward this year. Many bills were made two-year bills, so they will be dealt with next January.

Some positive news for parks in the midst of the 70 park closures are two bills that offer potential alternatives to keeping parks open and ensure that the land will always be used for its intended purpose. Two park supporters, Senator **Lois Wolk** (D-Yolo) and Assembly Member **Jared Huffman** (D-San Rafael) have introduced SB 580 and AB 42, respectively.

AB 42 will allow for creative opportunities for public/private partnerships to minimize the impacts to state parks and, where possible, maintain public access to park resources. Public/private partnerships are one tool to keep a few of the parks open that would otherwise be subject to closure. Currently, there are 86 non-profit cooperating associations providing varying levels of support for individual state park units. Cooperating associations are non-profit charitable 501 (c) 3 organizations dedicated to enhancing educational and interpretive programs. If AB 42 is enacted it would allow some qualified non-profit organizations to potentially provide greater assistance to DPR with the operation of a state park unit. Such agreements could potentially enable DPR to keep open a park that would otherwise be subject to closure. The non-profit must work with DPR and the park superintendent to ensure that they are properly maintaining the park. All funds realized from this relationship must stay with that park.

CSPRA is supporting AB 42 and the bill was heard on June 14 in the Senate Natural Resources Committee, where it passed with unanimous, bi-partisan support.

CSPRA is also supporting SB 580 which furthers the mission of The Public Park Preservation Act, commencing with Section 5400 of the Public Resources Code (PRC) prohibiting a public entity from acquiring any park for non-park purposes unless there is sufficient compensation or replacement parkland given in exchange.

Compensation must be based on the cost of acquiring and developing substitute park land of comparable size and characteristics. Replacement parkland must also be of comparable characteristics and size and the location must also allow for use by the same persons who frequented the original park.

Senator Wolk is working closely with the Parks Foundation in an effort to further protect the valuable parks of California even as we weather this storm of a budget crisis. This measure will be taken up in Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee later this month. Unfortunately, to date the bill has not received any Republican support.

CSPRA is thankful to both authors for working towards protecting state park lands, their mission and the people they serve. We will keep you updated on their status as they continue to move through the process.

The CSPRA Board voted on June 4 to support SB 580 and AB 42 after careful consideration.

Your email address will save money and paper and help us stay in touch. Please send to Allison@CSPRA.com. We recommend using personal emails. We are sending this note as a courtesy to our members. We will not remove you from the email list if you choose not to provide your personal email.

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@cspira.com

Naval correction

Now you know the facts so it time to ship shape up.

Beyond Lifetime Appointments

The Supreme Court decision is not a conflict, judges have been doing this type of broad interpretation for time immortal.

Casa grande de la mierda?

Will you be hiring the new police chief in house or out house?

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Representatives are needed for: Angeles, Central Valley, Gold Fields, North Coast Redwoods & San Diego Coast Districts, Historic Preservation, Northern Service Ctr., Southern Service Ctr., Interpretation /Ed. Div., AHM Div., Natural Resources Div., Planning Div., and Facilities Mgt. 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.

GET CONNECTED CSPRA Online

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

<http://www.cspira.com>

Are you traveling soon?

Want to find out what's going on in the State Parks around you? Visit the events page on the California State Parks website to find out what's happening in parks around the state:
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/events/>



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Save The Date - March 5-9, 2012 CSPRA Training (Parks Conference)

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