



The CSPRA

Wave

Newsletter

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 1

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2013

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



PLEASE HELP US SAVE TIME, MONEY & TREES. **PAPER COPIES OF THE WAVE WILL BE PHASED OUT SOON.** SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO ALLISON@CSPRA.COM



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by *Nina Gordon, CSPRA President*

Much Ado About (Almost) Nothing

We have our own version of "Shakespeare in the Park". Instead of two couples being tricked in the realm of romance, the modern version has the public being misled by the media into thinking there is a huge "scandal" of "hidden" funds. We have been barraged over the past few months with media article re-hashing this same theme. This was no more a scandal than the supposed infidelity of Hero in Shakespeare's play.

One reporter did an excellent job of exposing the fallacy in this argument. As Tim Herdt stated in his January 9 editorial in the Ventura County Star, the recently released Attorney General's (AG's) report shows "that if this was a scandal, it was one of cowardice and stupidity." He further quotes the AG's report that concludes "No evidence has been adduced that suggests the disparity in SPRF balance reports was initially conceived"... "as a result of intentional conduct." And Herdt aptly sums up the situation "But no one was enriched, and no public money was diverted for unintended purposes."

We certainly empathize with the grassroots efforts to keep parks open. A myriad of citizens groups worked hard to scrape together the funds to keep the gates open for another year or two. But the "scandal" of the 20 million dollars, supposedly

"discovered" was another example of the media capitalizing on the drama of the contrast between the \$20 million in "hidden" funds and the grassroots fund-raising efforts. The funds were hidden (as Herdt states) "in plain sight" since the monies were accurately reported to the State Controller's Office, where, as the AG's report states, the amount has "always been readily and publicly available".

To the degree that the money may have been hoarded, the report says, it was for no purpose. We had no spending authority to spend the funds, and the AG's report also agrees, stating the money in the State Parks and Recreation Fund was an "essentially useless reserve that could not be spent by the Parks Department,". Herdt highlights the conclusion that there is no evidence of "any surreptitious expenditure of SPRF funds."

Should the money in the State Park and Recreation Fund have been reported to the Department of Finance? Yes. Was this a huge scandal? Definitely NOT. Is California State Parks the only department to look for ways to gain more control over a reserve of funds that would likely be taken? I am sure not.

If these funds were meant for a "rainy day", most would argue that this budget crisis was about as stormy as it gets. But processes are in place to ensure that the two funding reports (to the State Controller's Office and Department of Finance) will be reconciled and this disparity will not be repeated. And we should move on.

State Parks leadership has a critical role in helping us move on. The support of the new Director, **Major General Anthony Jackson**, for staff is encouraging. We also appreciate the Department's financial support of the State Park Training co-sponsored by CSPRA. The challenge right now is to address the fallout – the decline in state park employee morale due to drastic cuts in the budget against the backdrop of the media's tarnish to the

See *PRESIDENT*, page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT, from page 2

Department. The discussion of accountability and transparency should also extend to an inclusive process in the many critical decisions we face with continued budget cuts. It is critical that the district and division staff are included as budget decisions are made including which and how many positions will be "swept" or filled, which programs to reduce or cut and what equipment will be retained. The experts in the operation are those who are directly involved. They should be consulted and included throughout the decision making process.

CSPRA has met with Major General Jackson and will continue to do so. We want to be your voice. Please let us know of issues you would like addressed.

I want to express my sincere THANK YOU to all you loyal

CSPRA members and an extra helping of gratitude to the CSPRA Board and staff. This is an organization with a long and revered history. I encourage all of you to get involved in some manner, whatever works for you. Exciting opportunities are coming up, including the 50th Anniversary of CSPRA in 2014, advocacy, helping with our Facebook site, writing for the newsletter and website, fundraising... the list goes on. Please contact our Executive Manager, **Allison Pedley** (Allison@cspra.com), myself, or any Board member, (names and contacts at www.cspra.com). I hope to continue to serve all of you as board member for another term.

CSPRA is a voice, a means of support and a tangible reflection of the professionalism of all its members, both current and retired employees and other supporters. I hope to see

many of you at the 2013 State Parks Training. This is my last column as President and it has been an honor to serve for the past two years.

Scholarships! Remember one of the many benefits of being a CSPRA member is the ability to put in for scholarships. For more information go to the website at www.cspra.com

The 11th Annual Park Advocacy Day is Tuesday, March 12, 2013 Sacramento. For further information go to <http://www.calparks.org/takeaction/pad/>

CSPRA TURNS 50 IN 2014!

Plans are being made for an appropriate celebration of this milestone next year. If you would like to get involved or have a great idea for the event, please contact Allison Pedley at allison@cspra.com

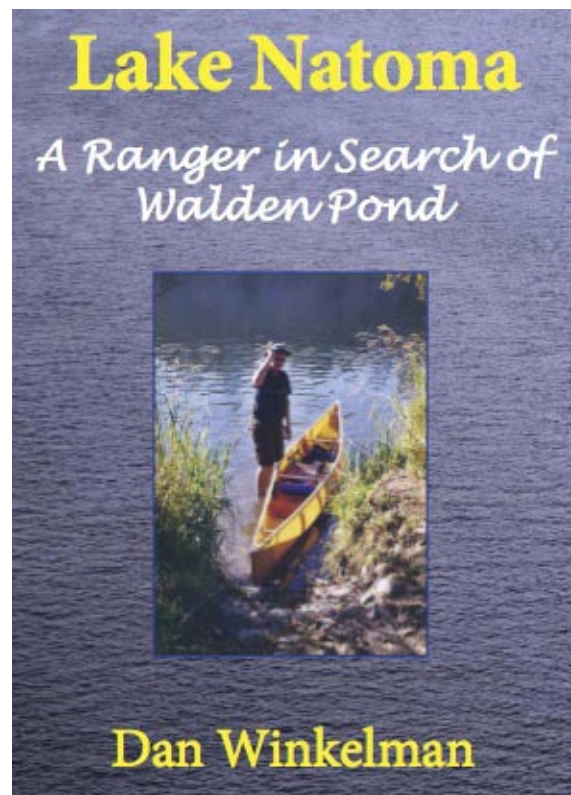
Searching for Walden Pond : Lake Natoma

Lake Natoma is an autobiography of sorts that explores the relationship between author Dan Winkelman's life as a ranger, the American River, and Lake Natoma. "My canoe explores the feeling of being on the lake and immersed in its natural and cultural history. Lake Natoma is a look at transcendentalism in the 21st century, revealing most all the literature that flows through the mind of a ranger while he takes you for a paddle in his canoe."

Enjoy the cultural and natural history of this small lake within Folsom Lake State Recreation Area that survived the Gold Rush and now struggles to fend off encroaching cityscape.

Dan is a retired State Park Ranger who worked for many years on the north coast, but was born and raised in Sacramento. He lives near Lake Natoma, is a docent at the Folsom Powerhouse and serves on the board of the Sacramento County Historical Society.

Lake Natoma is a large coffee table book, 8 1/2 X 11, 80 pages, with lots of color photographs and art work, published by Publishing Syndicate. Write direct to Dan Winkelman for an autographed copy. The book lists for \$16.95 but if Rangers send him a check for \$15 he will personally autograph and mail it to you. Dan Winkelman, 1374 Young Wo Circle, Folsom, CA 95630, winkdan@hotmail.com



Standing on the Shores of our Future

California Parks Training Conference

*February 25-28, 2013, at the Embassy Suites
Seaside, Monterey Bay*

**REGISTRATION PACKET and detailed agenda
at www.cspra.com. SIGN UP NOW!**



Get required training in a beautiful setting and catch up with your park friends from around the state. **EMBASSY SUITES SEASIDE**, a block from the beach, is the host hotel. **CALL BY JAN. 26** to reserve your room, 888-253-1628 or 831-393-1115 \$84 single, \$104 double with breakfast, pool and daily evening reception.

DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR PARKS TRAINING

* **Employees may be reimbursed up to 50 % of the registration and per-diem costs (including travel) for attending classes.** Participants must submit a claim for reimbursement to the Training Center, with proof of class completion. When traveling, employees are encouraged to avoid unnecessary expenses and to pursue carpooling arrangements.

The CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION is also donating generous financial support to the 2013 California Parks Training.



HONORARY RANGER 2013 CLINT EASTWOOD

Actor and director Eastwood has a long history of park advocacy and served as a California State Park & Recreation Commissioner.

Parks Training Sessions



PARK MANAGEMENT TRACK SESSIONS

Tues. Feb. 26 & Wed. Feb. 27

- ALL ABOUT CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act) (Job Required!)
- DEALING WITH LARGE, PREDATORY WILDLIFE
- TIPS FOR GETTING GRANTS
- USE OF GIS(Geographic Information System) in WILDLAND SEARCH and RESCUE
- UNMANNED AIRCRAFT VEHICLES & REMOTE SENSING
- CAREER STRATEGIES FOR INTERVIEW SUCCESS
- WITH ALL DUE RESPECT in the WORKPLACE** (Job Required!)
- SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING for SUPERVISORS (Job Required!)**
- EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL (Job Required!)

RESOURCE TRACK SESSIONS

Tues. Feb. 26 & Wed. Feb. 27

- RESOURCE CRIMES (Job Required!)
- CULTURAL RESOURCE CRIMES
- WATER TREATMENT (Job Required!)
- TEACHING SAFE & EFFECTIVE TOOL USE
- SUDDEN OAK DEATH PUBLIC RELATIONS
- VERNAL POOLS
- SEDIMENT CONTROL (Job Required!)
- REDWOOD FORESTS



INTERPRETATION TRACK SESSIONS

Tues, Feb. 26 & Wed. Feb. 27

- PARK RANGER MODEL at the Monterey Park Aquarium
- NEGOTIATION TOOLS for DIFFICULT COMMUNICATION SITUATIONS
- STRATEGIC PLANNING for SOCIAL MEDIA
- PROJECT WET (Water Education for Teachers)
- STREAM ECOLOGY
- HIGH IMPACT INTERPRETATION

Parks Training Tracks

PUBLIC SAFETY TRACK SESSIONS

Tues. Feb. 26 & Wed. Feb. 27

- OBTAINING VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE
- THE HOMELESS IN PARKS
- PEACE OFFICER & EMPLOYEE ASSOS.
- K-9 DEMO with Mike Glecker and Thor
- CONNECTING with PUBLIC SAFETY STAKEHOLDERS
- LEADING SMALL GROUPS in times of ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE
- WATER QUALITY & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS for FIRST RESPONDERS (off site at Mott Training Center)



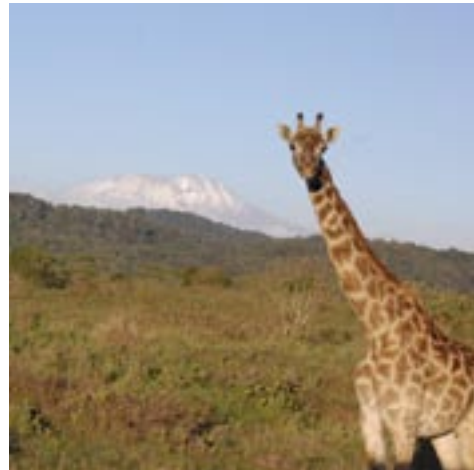
Mon. Feb. 25 & Thurs. Feb. 28

- ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE/ RHINO VEHICLE TRAINING
- TOUR OF HOLLISTER HILLS VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA

INTERNATIONAL TRACK SESSIONS

Wed. Feb. 27

- TRAINING RANGERS IN OMAN
- WORLD CONGRESS TANZANIA , SAFARI PHOTOS!
- AFRICAN PARK MANAGEMENT ISSUES
- BRINGING THE COMPTON POSSE (MRCA) TO AFRICA
- SISTER PARK IN MONGOLIA
- THIN GREEN LINE FILM



BANQUET

Wed. Feb. 27

- Traveling the 38th Parallel* with Dave and Janet Carle
- INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION update
- MEDAL OF VALOR AWARDS
- 150TH ANNIVERSARY
- CSPRA HONORARY RANGER
- PRAC HONORARY MEMBER
- RAFFLE

Wed. Feb 27

- 150th Anniversary Lunch Presentation
Mike Lynch



FIELD TRIPS

Mon. Feb. 25

- POINT LOBOS TOUR
- FORD ORD TOUR
- MONTEREY BAY BOAT TOUR



Tues. Feb. 26

- DINNER with the FISH
MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM
Behind the Scenes Tour

International Ranger Federation 7th World Congress

TOUCHED BY TANZANIA

by **Janet Carle and David Marquart**

On Nov. 4, 2012, the Tanzanian flag was raised to open the 7th World Ranger Congress and welcome 264 delegates from 40 different countries to this republic of eastern Africa. The Congress is held every 3 years by the International Ranger Federation, a group dedicated to international communication and support among park professionals throughout the world. CSPRA was well represented with delegates **Bud Getty, Dorene Clement, Dave and Janet Carle, Pat and Ken Gray, Mike Wells and David Marquart**. In fact, Bud Getty is one of only a handful of people that have



^^IRF North American representative **Jeff Ohlfs** of NPS and retired State Parks Supt. **Mike Wells** at the Congress. Below, the California delegation.



attended all seven World Congresses. PRAC also had several delegates attending. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was well-represented and brought along two young people from the Compton Junior Posse (an equestrian program for at-risk youth).

To be among park professionals from all over the world, to hear their stories and shake their hands, was truly a wonderful experience. Much was learned about the overwhelming poaching pressure on elephants

and rhinos because of skyrocketing demand in Asia for their tusks and horns. Speakers on a wide range of topics expanded our knowledge of everything from endangered vultures in South Africa to Maori inter-cultural issues in New Zealand to eco-tourism on an island in Korea. The event was ably managed by the PAMS Foundation, which did a wonderful job of logistics and arranged field trips throughout the region. Some of us found out Obama had been re-elected via a ranger in a tiny outpost on the

lower slopes of Kilimanjaro! Word had just come in on his portable radio. California was well-represented in the talent show with a rousing rendition of "California Girls" anchored by surfer boy **Mike Wells**.

We were happy to see many African rangers and game wardens in attendance. Park people from around the world contributed to a scholarship fund to help cover their travel expenses.

Africa outshone all our expectations. From the Maribou Storks watching us eat breakfast in the morning, to the giraffes neck wrestling in Arusha National Park, the animals and landscape were an on-going delight. We all had a chance to go on safari either before or after the Congress, and will share photos and stories, as well as lessons learned on African conservation issues during the **INTERNATIONAL TRACK**, Wed. Feb. 27 at the Parks Training in Monterey.

The next Congress is in the USA in June, 2016 at Estes Park, near Rocky Mountain National Park. We hope many of you will make plans to attend and welcome park professionals from around the world.

TANZANIA



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN RANGERS from Australia, the United States, Tanzania and Great Britain.

THE THIN GREEN LINE: Australian Ranger **Sean Willmore (L)** creator of *The Thin Green Line* film and foundation, is the newly elected president of the International Ranger Federation. **Jolene McLellan (R)** a ranger from Queensland, raised several thousand dollars at home before the Congress to help wildlife, schools and slain rangers' families in Africa (**CENTER**)



ON SAFARI : Tanzanian Rangers carry rifles on walking tours to protect visitors from the wildlife, mainly Cape Buffalo. Above, a giraffe skull as prop.

Huell was AMA-A-AZING!

by David Carle, retired

"Oh boy. Golly. LOOK at this!"

Overhearing those words, spoken in a familiar Tennessee accent and with incredible enthusiasm, nearby people turned and came toward the speaker, realizing that Huell Howser was with them in the park that day.

The PBS series, "California's Gold," has built a vast audience across the state since it debuted in 1991, and many of us who worked as field employees in park units had the special pleasure of hosting a visit and being interviewed by Huell. He filmed in so many of our parks that, in 2002, a special series called "California's Golden Parks" began (including national, county, and regional parks). In 2004, when Huell was chosen as CSPRA's Honorary Ranger, WAVE editor Janet Carle wrote that he, "through the power of television, has perhaps introduced more Californians to their parks than any other person in the state."

Huell Howser died of cancer on January 6. That news came as a shock to his loyal audience and especially to those of us who had experienced, personally, his genuine enthusiasm for the places he visited. Beyond the "California's Gold" series, Huell had broadened his productions to other series, including "California's Communities," "California's Golden Fairs," "Downtown," "California's Water," "California's Green," "California's Golden Coast," "Road Trip," "Visiting," and "California's Missions."

I cannot refer to Huell as "Howser;" he became an instant first-name friend when he first visited Mono Lake in 1992. Janet and I were job-sharing the ranger position at the Reserve and spent several days showing Huell around the lake. In 2008, he came back to do a follow-up show and, even though we had both retired by then, he asked for the same people to be part of that show. So if you watch the "Mono Lake Today" episode (California's Gold #138), you'll first see the old show from '92, and then an abrupt transition to "today," with

my beard suddenly turning white and, he'd admit it, even Huell looked 16 years older. You may not have seen that entire episode, but a YouTube cut-down version has become something of an internet cult classic. Titled "Huell Howser, Lord of the Flies," it focuses on Huell's reaction, during that second visit, to the masses of "flahs," Mono Lake's abundant alkali flies. Poking his hand-held microphone close to pick up the buzzing as the flies retreated, he kept interrupting my attempts to explain the fly's natural history, so important to the lake's food chain and so unusual, as flies go, because they flee at the approach of people, instead of bugging us.

"Wait a minute, wait a minute," Huell said. "I'm having a fly experience here. Listen. Listen. Wow." He turned to nearby tourists, as he loved to do, and pulled them into his "flah" experience, for the camera. "Look at this. Look at this. HA!" Off camera, he said that all that motion and sound made "great television."

Another great moment from the first



episode was when Huell reached into the salty lake during a canoe ride and scooped up water in his palm to catch brine shrimp:

Ranger: "That's a mated pair."

Huell: "They're mating?"

Ranger: "Yes, they are mating."

Huell: "In mah hand? Gosh!"

Huell was such a great cheer leader for all the places he filmed, it is hard to believe he was fully sincere, all the time. I can only judge by my own



experiences, where he came across, both on and off camera, as completely genuine.

"This is SPEC-TAC-ULAR!" he exclaims at the close of the second Mono Lake episode. "I had forgotten how overwhelming it is to stand here and look out at the lake like this."

Off-camera, he told me

that people had said there wouldn't be much to see or film at the lake, but after his visit, he could not believe anyone could ever say such a thing.

And that video, shown again and again ever since 1992, definitely drew thousands and thousands of people to our park. We know because they told us so. "You're *that* ranger!" Yep.

Randy Sederquist worked with Huell at Will Rogers SHP, and wrote, "I know our volunteers and docents comprised a major part of his fan club based on his consistent reporting from locations throughout California."

From **John Kolb**: "Huell visited us at Fort Humboldt and managed to get every single volunteer into a shot. We had the steam donkeys and railroad fired up, the fort buildings open and staffed with volunteers. He must have enjoyed himself because he declared the entire experience "Amaaazing!"

State Parks and the people of California will miss Huell Howser.

Huell Howser's videos were donated to Chapman University. Episodes can be viewed online at <http://blogs.chapman.edu/huell-howser-archives>

Donations are being accepted in Huell's memory to the California's Gold Scholarship Endowment at Chapman University. Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate a positive outlook and are actively pursuing ways to improve society as altruistic change agents.

Huell's California's Gold website is at www.calgold.com and PBS stations will continue to air episodes.

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**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.

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Address: _____

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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*

CSPRA wishes to re-welcome
Ted Jackson as our newest retired
member. Ted just signed on at
CSPRA's reduced rate of just \$36 per
year for retirees. With many, many
retirement notices coming through
the CSPRA office lately, I'd like to
remind recent park retirees to contact
me if you wish to maintain your

memberships at the reduced rate. Of-
ten times our database does not have
members' most recent addresses (es-
pecially if a retirement has occurred),
so keeping us posted on any address
changes is also extremely helpful.

The Ranger Scully memorial sign
fundraising effort reached its goal,
thanks to the help of generous donors.
CSPRA provided matching funds of
\$3,970 and will be sending the full
\$5,170 for the memorial sign this
week. In our next newsletter we
will be offering more background on
Ranger Scully.

In the meantime, I hope to see
many of you at the Parks Training
next month – it promises to be a great
event!

A WAVE Goodbye

JOHN CLEARY

1940- 2012

John was born in
Santa Rosa, Cali-
fornia. He gradu-
ated from high
school in Porter-
ville, California
and attended San Diego State College.
As an anthropology major, he worked
and traveled in Mexico developing a
love of the Mexican culture and arts.
John worked for the Department of
Fish and Game in the early 1970s. He
joined State Parks in 1973, beginning
a long career as a State Park Ranger.
His assignments were the North
Coast Redwoods, Southern California
beaches and, in 1978, Auburn State
Recreation Area. He stayed for 20
years, retiring in 1998. His love of
hunting, camping and fishing never
diminished.



EDUARDO "SIMON" CAVAZOS

Simon passed away in Nov. 2012.
A Vietnam Marine, he had recently
retired after 30 years as a Ranger in
Angeles District to his Texas ranch.
Simon enjoyed writing and photog-
raphy and all aspects of rangership,
from EMS to interpretation.

RICH STALLCUP

1944-2012

Rich passed away
on Dec. 15, appro-
priately a day when
Christmas Bird
Counts were being
held throughout the
United States. Rich,
a legendary naturalist for Pt. Reyes
Conservation Science, a leader of
birding trips throughout the world,
and an inspiration and teacher to
birders everywhere, was a long time
resident of Marin County.



JUDSON VANDEVERE

1924 - 2012

Jud was a summer natu-
ralist at Pt. Lobos State
Reserve and studied sea
otters as a researcher in
residence at Hopkins
Marine Station. He in-
spired generations of school children
in biology and botany and mentored
many older students who went on to
distinguished careers in the sciences.



Upcoming Retirements

Dwight Dutschke
Office of Historic Preservation

Eric Sturm
Monterey District

Pat Bost
Mott Training
Center



Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price
semi-retired



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

Simply logical.

When I think back, it seems like there were many more unbeaten teams at the beginning of the season last year.

Tetanus maybe?

You have him dead to nails on this one.

Self-defining fantasy?

Remember, America is still the best place to find the American Dream.

Achilles' Sole

New results show some front running potential GOP candidates nipping at the president's heel.

District/Program Representatives

District	Name	Email Address
LEES	John Pelonio	jpelonio@parks.ca.gov
Capital	Rick Becton	rbecton@parks.ca.gov
Channel Coast	Tyson Butzke	tbutzke@parks.ca.gov
Colorado Desert	Gail Sevens	gsevr@parks.ca.gov
Diablo Vista	Carl Nielson	cnielson@parks.ca.gov
	Ann Meneguzzi	amene@parks.ca.gov
Grants & Local Services	Ruth Bergener	ruth.bergener@gmail.com
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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
Hollister/Hungry Valley	Jeff Gaffney	jgaffney@parks.ca.gov
HQ	Mark Hada	mhada@parks.ca.gov
COM Centers	Cris Sanguino	cksanguino@parks.ca.gov

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@cspra.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: www.cspra.com

Find Us On Facebook
www.facebook.com/CSPRA

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:

www.parks.ca.gov/events



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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