



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 1

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2014

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

# GOLDEN ACORNS



***Continuing Generations  
of the  
State Park Family***



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by **Matt Bellah**, CSPRA President

Recently I was in a California State Parks District all hands meeting where the District Superintendent asked the large crowd of State Park staff, volunteers, and partners, "Who's heard of *Parks Forward*?" Surprisingly and unfortunately, few hands went up. The *Parks Forward* Initiative is an independent commission assessing the financial, operational, and cultural challenges facing California State Parks, with the hope of ensuring long term viability.

The *Parks Forward* Initiative is charged with a very important mission that obviously affects California State Parks, park professionals, and the resources and the public that we serve. I recommend all CSPRA members take the time to check out the *Parks Forward* Website, <http://www.parksforward.com>. You can even watch past *Parks Forward* public meetings and commission meetings online. I also encourage you to visit the comment section of the website and provide written comments on this important initiative.

A current focal point of *Parks Forward* is using partnerships to create efficiencies and make the California State Park System more sustainable. I encourage park professionals who have valuable experience working with many different valued partners to provide comments and feedback to *Parks Forward* regarding partnerships.

CSPRA Board Members and I recently met with the staff from the Parks Forward Initiative. The main points that CSPRA emphasized are:

**The Mission:** CSPRA supports the current Department mission. Recent reports like the California Research Bureau Report, California State Parks: A Budget Overview, have mentioned that if State Parks is truly to become an enterprise agency and generate more revenue that it should consider including revenue generation in its mission statement. While CSPRA supports the Department's efforts to increase revenue and improve efficiencies where appropriate, CSPRA ardently supports the current mission of California State Parks.

**Budget:** State Parks needs stable and consistent funding. California State Parks generate billions of dollars for the California economy and hundreds of millions of dollars of tax revenue annually. Yet, State Parks General Fund support is \$116 Million and accounts for approximately 0.1% of all General Fund spending for California.

**The Generalist Ranger:** CSPRA supports the generalist ranger concept currently utilized by California State Parks. The Generalist Ranger provides quality services at an economical price to our visitors and the citizens of California.

**Park Management:** CSPRA supports improving leadership development training, experience, and promotional opportunities for qualified park professionals in all classifications.

**Training:** CSPRA supports investing in State Park employees. State Parks needs to continue to provide initial and ongoing training for park professionals in core program areas; maintenance, resource protection, interpretation and education, public safety, and recreation. If State Parks needs to improve other functions such as marketing, revenue generation, or partnerships, than professional training to state park professionals should increase on these functions.

See **PRESIDENT**, page 3

## CSPRA 50 BOOK PUBLISHED!

A 52-page keepsake book, **CSPRA 50**, on the history of the California State Park Rangers Association is complete and at the printers. All attendees at the Yosemite Training Conference will receive a complimentary copy. Additional copies will be available for purchase by the membership after the Yosemite event for \$10. Contact Allison, (allison@cspira.com) or check the website, [www.cspira.com](http://www.cspira.com) for details about ordering.

The full-color book includes chapters on CSPRA's history, pictures and text from all of our Presidents, a complete list of Honorary Rangers, photos from many past GEC conferences, a tribute to Huell Howser, a complete list of pioneer women rangers and much much more.

John Mott is preparing a display with a range of historic photos from CSPRA's first five decades.

There will also be a session on CSPRA's 50 years at the Yosemite Training Conference (Wednesday, March 5 from 10:30am to 11:20am).



*Jin Hart & Carl Chavez clamming for a Morro Bay GEC supper in 1973.*



*Jeff & Peggy Price at the Ventura CSPRA conference in 1996.*

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### **PRESIDENT, from page 2**

**Exams:** CSPRA supports improving the system of exams used in State Parks. Exams should be timely and should increase the Department's efforts to recruit, retain, and promote valuable employees.

One of the things that the *Parks*

*Forward* staff mentioned is that several entities have recommended changes for California State Parks, including the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Little Hoover Commission, and those recommendations have never been enacted. One way to ensure that

*Parks Forward* recommendations will be successfully enacted is receiving input from State Park professionals in all parts of the process. I encourage all CSPRA members to provide input in all phases of the *Parks Forward* Initiative Process.

# ***GOLDEN ACORNS***

In many cases, the acorn doesn't fall far from the tree. This list honors continuing generations of the California State Park family, with parents and their children (and a few grandchildren) that have followed them into seasonal jobs or park careers. We tried our best, but this list is probably incomplete.

## **Parents**

James Avant, Ranger

Becky Brown, Budget Manager  
& Mike Brown, Engineer

Carl Chavez, Regional Director

## **Children**

Renee Avant, Ranger

Shawn Brown, Statewide Technology Support

Abigail Chavez Cushenberry, Ranger



*Abigail Chavez Cushenberry at Mt. Diablo State Park.; daughter of Margaret and Carl Chavez (below)*



Bill Dall, Superintendent- Santa Cruz  
& Sharon Dall, Office Asssistant

Frank Davis, Chief Ranger Cuyamaca Rancho

John Michael Fehling

Liz Fenkell, Park & Rec. Specialist, Grants

Guy Fleming, District 6 Superintendent

Amanda Dall, Guide, Hearst Castle

Robert Davis, PMI, McArthur Burney Falls

Michael John Fehling, OHV

Ben Fenkell, Interpreter I- Angel Island

John Fleming, Ranger III

## ACORNS

### Parents

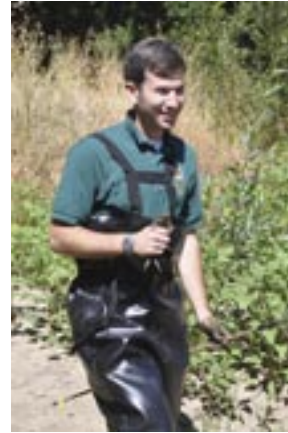
Ken Gray, Ranger/Sr. Park and Rec. Specialist  
& Patricia Clark-Gray, Ranger/Reg. Interp. Spec., Monterey



*Wesley Gray, son of Pat  
Clark-Gray and Ken Gray.*

### Children

Wesley Gray, Envir. Scientist, Hollister SVRA



Bob Grisak, Supervising Ranger

Merry Grisak, Dispatcher-Clerk PI

Ben Hale, Maintenance Chief III

Wendell Hale, Park Maint. Worker I, Russian River

Joseph M. Hardcastle, District Superintendent

John Hardcastle, Ranger – Richardson Grove

Jim H□



*Jim Hart, Retired Ranger (left)  
and son, Jason (right), Maintenance  
Chief at Mt. Diablo SP  
(with his sister Pam)*



Ray Jenkins, District Superintendent

Phil Jenkins, OHV Division Chief

Marty Kania, Regional Adm. Officer, San Diego Coast

Mike Kania, Supt. II – retired  
Christopher Kania Water Treatment Operator  
Gregory Kania, PMS

□

Floyd Lemley Sr., Ranger II

Floyd Lemley Jr., Ranger

## GOLDEN ACORNS

### Parents

Dana Long , Superintendent



Robert Lynch, Ranger

Tom McBride, Ranger

Joseph McCummins, Ranger, La Purisima

William Penn Mott, DPR Director



*William Penn Mott and his son, Ranger John Mott*



### Children

Larry Long , Equipment Manager

Tara Lynch, Senior Staff Counsel, Legal Office

Eldon McBride, Ranger – Lake Oroville

Mike McBride, Skilled Laborer – Sierra

Heather Holm, Regional Interp. Specialist, PORTS

John Mott, Ranger/Cooperating Assn. Mgr.



Carol Nelson, Superintendent  
& Roger Nelson, Ranger

Henry G. Peat, Park Attendant, Big Basin SP

Lynn Rhodes, Division Chief

Ernie Robson, Lands Maint. Tech., Empire Mine

Danita Rodriguez, Superintendent, Marin  
& Jerome Linse, Maintenance Chief, Oceano Dunes SRVA

Al Salzgeber, Manager

Paul Schuessler, Supervising Ranger

Chuck Scimeca, Ranger

Harold Sederquist, Ranger

Corinne Nelson, OT/Guide

James Peat, Dst Supt.; Daughter, Carole Matthews, Rgr.

Rain Greenslate, Maintenance Supervisor

Nikki Robson Combs, Interpreter I

Danielle Gerhart, Interpreter, Columbia SHP

Gar Salzgeber, Supervising Ranger

Amy Schuessler, Southern Region Planner

Jenna Scimeca, Interpreter

Randy Sederquist, Superintendent

## GOLDEN ACORNS

### Parents

Chuck Shook, Supervising Ranger

Jane Singleton-Atkinson, Admin. Chief, Inland Empire Dst.

John Stolz, Maintenance Supervisor

Laura Van Etten- Collins, Ranger

Dave Collins, Ranger

Luke Vaught, Ranger

### Children

Gary Shook, Ranger

Courtney Reichert, Commun. Operator SUR COM

Keenen Sederquist, Maint. Chief III

Leigh Collins, Ranger, Angeles District

Mark Vaught, Ranger

*Ranger Matt Williams with his parents  
Stephen & Katherine*



Kirk Wallace, Manager

Ken Walters, Maint. Supt., Northern Buttes

Jim Whitehead, Regional Director

Stephen Williams, Maint. Worker I, Silverwood Lake SRA  
& Katherine Williams, Groundskeeper

Tim Young, Ranger

Tim Wallace, Ranger

Joe Walters, Ranger, Santa Cruz Sector

Mike Whitehead, Ranger

Matthew Williams, Ranger, Red Rock Canyon SP

Tyson Young, Ranger , Humboldt Redwoods



## SEASONALS

### Parents

Carl Anderson , District Superintendent

David & Janet Carle, Rangers

Chuck Combs, Park & Rec. Spec., Mott Training Center  
Nikki Combs, Interpreter I

Heidi Doyle, Ranger

Bob Grace, Ranger

Bob Grisak, Supervising Ranger

Dave & Heidi Horvitz, Supt.

Angela Howell, Guide Trainee, Sutter's Fort

Sabrina Jackson, MST, Capitol District

John Jennings, Supv. Ranger, Piercy

Marty Kania, RAM, San Diego Coast

Jack Knight, Operations Chief

Bruce Lynn, Supt. - Redwood Coast

*Retired Ranger David Carle with son  
Ryan Carle, on the Resource Crew  
at Santa Cruz a few uears ago and  
currently doing contract bird research  
at Ano Nuevo State Reserve*



### Children

Bob Anderson – Park Aide

Nick Carle, Maintenance, Bodie  
Ryan Carle, Resource Crew, Santa Cruz

Allison Combs, Park Aide, Monterey

Ben, Corey & Sarah Doyle- Seasonal Employees

Jessica, Park Aide – Mt. Tamalpais

Zach Grisak, Park Aide

Jack Horvitz, Park Aide – Salt Point/Fort Ross

Veronica Howell, Park Aide, State Indian Museum

Shameka Jackson-Dahlberg, Park Aide, Sutter's Fort

Emily Jennings Ryan & Scott Jennings – Park Aides

Grandkids: Bryan -Maintenance Aide, Carrie – Park Aide

John Knight, Park Aide

Bryce Lynn, Park Aide – DL Bliss SP

Brenda Lynn Arbsland, Park Aide – Empire Mine SHP



## SEASONALS

### Parents

Nedra Martinez, Superintendent II  
& Joe Martinez, Maint. Chief I

John Michel, Interpretive Chief

David Nelson, District Supt

Jeff Price, Chief Ranger

Kirk Wallace, Deputy Regional Director

John Walstrom, Reg. Tech. Service Mgr.  
Palomar

Larry Warren, PI Ranger

Theodore Wilson, District Superintendent

Bill Wisehart, Ranger

John Wohl

### Children

Karla Martinez, Park Aide - Big Basin/Ocotillo Wells

Don Michel & Mary Michel- Park Aides – McGrath

Klytia, Jessica, and Katlin – Park Aides

Jerod Price, Seasonal Student Intern - Channel Coast

Richard Wallace, Park Aide

Mary Walstrom-Long, Park Aide, San Diego, Santa Cruz,

Roxanne Warren, Park Aide - Bliss

Shelby Warren Erikson, Park Aide, Sugar Pine Point

Kathy Wilson, Park Aide

Laura Wisehart – Park Aide

Shayna Wohl, Park Aide



*Sabrina Jackson, Capitol  
District, and Shameka  
Jackson-Dahlberg, Park  
Aide, Sutter's Fort*



**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.cspira.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 \_\_\_\_\_

## A WAVE Goodbye

### LORIN FORSYTH

Lorin, age 92, passed away in November from a stroke. After growing up in Southern California, Lorin joined the Navy in 1942, serving in the Philippines during WWII. He began his State Park career in San Clemente and worked as a Ranger at Palomar, Anza-Borrego Desert, Mt. San Jacinto, Stinson Beach, Colusa and Chico. He was supervisor of the Sonoma Area State Parks in the 1980s. He retired after 30 years as Area Manager of Lake Perris State Recreation Area. In his later years, Lorin enjoyed traveling in his RV and managing campgrounds in northern parks. He is survived by his sons Don and James and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and even one great-great grandchild.



## Upcoming Retirements



**JOE VON HERRMANN**

Interpretation & Education  
Division



**MARGO COWAN**

Interpretation & Education  
Division

## EXECUTIVE MANAGER



*by Allison Pedley*

Congratulations to **Ron Krueper** who retired from State Parks recently after 33 years of service, and big thanks to Ron who also recently renewed his CSPRA membership at the reduced retiree rate.

Speaking of which, I'm sure numerous CSPRA members have recently retired and are eligible for

reduced membership as well as a beautiful retirement plaque. I just need to know who you are! Please don't forget to notify me if you, a CSPRA friend and/or co-worker is retiring so we can make sure they receive full honors for their service from CSPRA.



## Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price  
semi-retired



Mixed Metaphor: A combination of thoughts that when strung together produce a ridiculously funny effect of melded clichés. Send us along any overheard slips of the tongue - [malaprops@cspra.com](mailto:malaprops@cspra.com)

### Carelessly tossed ambition?

*And House leader Boehner claims the liberal media cast aspirations on his organization ability.*

### ... wide awake and alert proposed motto!

*"CSPPA: Conscious of California State Parks for 50 Years"*

### A sure thing.

*I did have a credit problem once when I forgot to pay a gym membership and they guaranteed my wages.*

### Sounds like our department re-organization plan!

*... speaking of the proposed development, the details still need to be flushed out.*

### Accentuated empathy maybe?

*We can emphasize with NPS after the recent 16-day government shutdown.*



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	Ann Meneguzzi	<a href="mailto:amene@parks.ca.gov">amene@parks.ca.gov</a>
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COM Centers	Cris Sanguino	<a href="mailto:cksanguino@parks.ca.gov">cksanguino@parks.ca.gov</a>

## 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](mailto:graybears@cspra.com)

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

## GET CONNECTED CSPPA Online

Catch up on CSPPA activities, contact your District Reps, Board or Officers, read the WAVE: [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

Find Us On Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/CSPPA](http://www.facebook.com/CSPPA)

## 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](http://www.parks.ca.gov/events)



California State Park Rangers Association  
P.O. Box 10606  
Truckee, CA 96162  
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ROBLES, CA

## **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*