



The CSPRA

Wave

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Newsletter of the CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

Summer 2019

"State Park experts and professionals advocating for State Parks since 1964."

California State Park's Navy

*James G. Davis,
Chief Ranger (retired)
Park Firetruck Historian*

Those who know me or know of me know of my passion for fire trucks. As a Ranger, my interest in boats, barges and the water is nil. As an historian, my interest changes with the belief that the story of the State Park Navy should be told.

To receive Departmental encouragement for such a history. I have written the last three Department Directors about such a history. No reply from any of them. Several years ago I sent a letter to all State Park and OHV Property Clerks discussing plans for location of the State Park's first fire truck and the creation of an illustrated history of the State Park Navy. In addition to these proposals it was my suggestion that Park Maintenance staffs do the same thing for their heavy equipment.

Answers to my suggestions?
None.



Photographs of the Parks and their locales and their flora and fauna are a must and are taken and described again and again. The locale and its flora and fauna likely will be there long after each of us has left this life. Sadly this is only a part of the Park story. It is made up of the locale, the plants, the animals and also the Rangers, the Maintenance staff and the Administrative staff. In addition to people Parks need boats and barges, dozers and dump trucks and fire trucks to provide the total Park experience.

Retired State Park Ranger **Mike Whitehead** and I have been trying to write the history of the State Park Fire

Truck. This has been very difficult as any records of these vehicles are long gone as are the vehicles. This does not speak of many of the Parks' staff who operated them being gone as well.

The State Park Navy exists and likely many records and photos as well. I believe it is time for active and/or retired Parks' staffs to step up to do what is right, create the illustrated history of the State Park Navy.

As a start, I will contribute my pictures of and specifications for the Sea Ranger at Salton Sea SRA.

Jim can be reached at
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Please do not text



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**Deadline for next issue
October 1**

President's Message

Here are some of my activities since the last CSPRA Board meeting held in April.



- Testified at the state legislature on AB1718, the Assembly version of the state park smoking ban (4/9/19).
- Gave a 90-minute interview with San Jose Mercury News reporter **Paul Rogers** resulting in a single quote in his article ("State parks standstill...") The quote used was "The rangers feel horrible about it," said **Mike Lynch**, president of the [California State Park Rangers Association](#). "No decisions are being made. No support is there. They feel they can't do the job that the public deserves. We're at the lowest point in morale I've seen in my 40 years as a ranger and a park superintendent." (4/15/19).
- Held a meeting with the department on a variety of issues, including co-management of units operated by non-profits (5/22/19).
- Chaired the Ranger Foundation Board Meetings (5/22/19).
- Assisting in the grants by the Ranger Foundation to fund four Latin-American rangers to attend the World Ranger Congress.
- Presented a CSPRA retirement plaque to **Bill Deitchman** (5/29/19).
- Wrote an updated letter of support (approved by the Board last year) for the appointment of **Jeff Ohlfs** to the state park and recreation commission (6/5/19).
- Attended the Cadet graduation ceremony and set up displays and presented CSPRA check for Whitehead Award (6/12/19).
- Worked on the continuing planning for the 2019 Conference to be held in October at Anza-Borrego.
- Worked on organization of the 2019 World Ranger Day to be held in Yosemite National Park.
- Updated and agreed with the department to continue the very successful Pink Bear "National Breast Cancer Awareness" program for 2019.
- Chaired the CSPRA Board meeting on June 26, 2019, including the appointment of **Rob Pickett** as a new member of the Board of Directors.
- Attended (by conference call) the International Ranger Federation (IRF) Executive Board meeting, including work on the new constitution for the IRF.

Mike Lynch, President

Nominate Honorary Rangers

The CSPRA Awards Committee is accepting nominations for the 2020 Honorary Ranger. Nominations can be submitted between now and September 1, 2019. The criteria for awards are as follows:

The Award is bestowed on an individual who has provided extraordinary service supporting the goals of the California State Park Rangers Association, California State Parks, and/or the Ranger profession on a regional, statewide or national level. Recipient selection must recognize significant spans of years or include multiple achievements in direct support of CSPRA's mission.

You may submit your nomination with supporting documentation to either **Carl Chavez**, Director at P.O. Box 114, Graeagle, CA 96103 or e-mail at mrc2@psln.com or **David Nelson**, Committee Member at P.O. Box 1272 Graeagle, CA 96103 or denels72@gmail.com



World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on July 31st to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage.



**WE STAND WITH
THE WORLD'S
RANGERS**

**WORLD RANGER DAY
JULY 31ST 2019**



*CSPRA is a sponsor of World
Ranger Day at Yosemite
National Park 2019*

Don't Miss Out – Anza-Borrego

You won't want to miss the 2019 Conference and Rendezvous – October 21 to 24, 2019 at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Register now at CSPRA.com

We will see firsthand the relatively new UC Irvine partnership with Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and the Anza-Borrego Foundation, in the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center. This facility provides a great meeting venue and support facilities.



There will be tours of the Stout Paleontology Lab and the Begole Archeological Research Center, led by retired District Superintendent **Dave Van Cleve**. You can also join a hike up Borrego Palm Canyon led by retired Superintendent **Mark Jorgensen**. Enjoy a couple of nice driving tours to Font's Point and the spectacular Split Mountain Gorge. Borrego Springs is a designated "Dark Sky" community so plan to enjoy a stunning nighttime skyscape and special presentation.

You will find program details and registration information at CSPRA.com.





Photos by Mark Jorgensen



California State Park Rangers Association Conference - Borrego Springs – Oct. 21-24, 2019 Tentative Program

Sunday Oct 20: Very Early Arrivals

Monday Oct 21: Early Arrivals Tour

9am-3pm - Split Mountain 4x4 Tour – Mike Wells, Coordinator

5pm Informal Hospitality Session – location TBA

Dinner on your own



Tuesday Oct 22: Field Trips

8-11am – Borrego Palm Canyon Hike – Mark Jorgensen, Coordinator

8am-12pm – Pictograph Hike – Kathy Dice. Coordinator

Lunch on Your Own

1-4pm – Fonts Point 4x4 tour – Mark Jorgensen & Frank Padilla, Coordinators

1-4pm – Archeology & Paleontology Lab tour – Dave Van Cleve, Coordinator

4:30pm – Tour of Visitor Center

5:30pm-7pm - Hospitality & light meal at Visitor Center hosted by the Anza-Borrego Foundation

7pm - Dark Sky presentation

Wednesday Oct 23: All sessions at the UCI Research Center located at 401 Tilting T. Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.

8:30-9:00 am - Continental breakfast

9:00-12pm Sessions

- *Natural History of Anza-Borrego*, a new book by Mike Wells
- Ocotillo Wells - OHMVR Operations
- Big Horns, Pictographs, geology, and archeology of Anza-Borrego Desert - Mark Jorgensen

12:00-2:00 pm – Lunch Anza-Borrego Foundation presentation. Honorary Ranger Presentation & other awards

2-4pm - CSPRA Membership Annual Meeting

5-7pm – Hospitality and BBQ/Dinner

7pm – Keynote speakers - Anza-Borrego archaeologists Robin Connors Anza and Hayley Elsken, give a presentation on Cultural Resources in Anza Borrego Desert SP as well as references ABDSP Sister Park in Mongolia.



Thursday Oct 24: at UCI Research Center

8:30-9:30am - Continental breakfast

9:30am-12pm CSPRA Board

Park Navy Through the Years

The Department has operated a wide variety of watercraft through the years. Who can help us out with the photo below - where is this? Photos supplied by **Mike Whitehead**, Retired Ranger R36.



Angel Island State Park personnel boat with DPR dignitaries in San Francisco.



The "Clam" Landing Craft at Angel Island



Huntington Beach "Surf Watch"



Folsom Lake SRA

Stetson Donations Sought

*by Jeff Price,
CSPRA Board Secretary*

Do you have a California State Park uniform felt Stetson that's extra or unwanted?

Here's an idea on how to share that no longer needed item for the sake of professional posterity. Maybe you would consider donating it to CSPRA?



Honorary California State Park Ranger plaque and hat rack award.

Every year CSPRA makes a selection for Honorary California State Park Ranger and presents the recipient with a wall-mounted, oak and brass hat rack, a felt Stetson and poppy and bear hatband. It takes many months to get a uniform hat and band ordered and delivered, and it is becoming very costly.

Here's how this sharing idea came about. When GrayBears member **Gary Howard** posted a message in June 2019 that he wanted to pass along his uniform Stetson and hat band, I contacted him and made the suggestion of a donation to help CSPRA underwrite the Honorary Ranger award program. He jumped at the chance and immediately shipped it to me. CSPRA reimbursed him for the shipping costs.



State Park Supervising Ranger Scott Cramolini proudly wearing his Stetson.

I shared this new idea with CSPRA Treasurer **Tom Bernardo** and told him I was going to send an "all hands" message seeking similar potential donations from other retirees on GrayBears. Tom thought there may be a wider audience and suggested writing an article in the CSPRA Newsletter. Great idea!

So, if you have an extra or unwanted uniform felt Stetson and/or hatband, please contact me <jeff@cspra.com> regarding such a donation and shipping it to CSPRA. Much appreciated!



Presentation of Stetson to 2016 Honorary Ranger Dr. Jerry Jackman by CSPRA Board Secretary Jeff Price (L) and Channel Coast District Superintendent Rich Rozzelle (R).

Wave Goodbye

Gerald Waggoner

Jerry decided at age 12 that he wanted to be a Park Ranger. Following graduation from Humboldt



State University, He worked as a Maintenance Aide at Jack London and Sonoma State Historic Parks. Upon being selected as a Ranger Trainee he was assigned to the San Diego area. When he completed his peace officer training he was sent to Hearst Castle to provide night security following the bombing of one of the guesthouses. After several months Jerry was notified that he was to be transferred to the Santa Cruz area and would be assigned to Nisene Marks State Park. Here he found his ranger home and the dream job he never wanted to leave.

Early on he became interested in the science and use of prescribed fire. He earned the title Certified Prescribed Burner. Jerry is credited with preparing a map of Big Basin State Park for wildfire protection using fuel breaks, roads, trails and prescribed burning. The goal was to protect the central old growth area of Big Basin.

Larry Reid

Larry graduated from Humboldt State with a Bachelor of Science degree in natural resources. He quickly went to work for the California State Parks, starting as a park aide and working his way up to chief ranger. Dressed as Smokey the Bear, playing his guitar, or telling stories, he created the best campfire programs.

Larry was SPRII then later Chief Ranger at Clear Lake District. He went out on a disability retirement due to an injury he sustained doing DT's. He helped design and develop the park's visitor center and was the lead ranger in establishing Anderson Marsh State Historical Park.

Larry was also quite social and loved to tell stories of how many young ladies pursued him back in the day. Ultimately, the one that claimed his heart was a rancher's daughter named Sandra Rainey. They met at a party while Larry was a student at Humboldt State.

He graduated to Heaven on April 12, 2019, not because he was willing to stop fighting, but rather his body could not contain his formidable will any longer.



Wayne Harrison

Richard Wayne Harrison died at home after a brief illness with loved ones by his side.



Wayne served as CSPRA President 1992 to 1994. Many people know of Wayne through his work as an Environmental Scientist at Calaveras Big Trees State Park, where he worked for over 35 years. He was one of the founders of the State Park's prescribed burn program, and was instrumental in creating a robust fire program at Calaveras Big Trees State Park. He was passionate about using fire in the landscape to bring health to the forest and protect the Big Trees. His leadership and mentoring have guided many to careers in this profession.

Friends and family have been touched by Wayne's inquiring mind, unpretentious nature and generosity of spirit. He was a thoughtful and kind mentor, teacher, and friend. His endless curiosity and interests led him to explore history, food, music and geology through time spent with friends and traveling. He was a caring father, son and husband.

Mixed Metaphors & Malaprops

by Jeff Price, Retired

Mixed Metaphor: a figure of speech combining incongruous metaphors.

Malaprop: the mistaken use of a word in place of a similar-sounding one.



Cranial cottontail!

He really pulled a rabbit out of his head that time!

Explosives on the side, please.

These letter bombs are bad no matter which end of the aisle you sit.

Literal literary.

We have to all get on the same book.

Hear me roar.

If this happened in your neighborhood there would be an uprage.

I'll drink to that!

At this point we can only read between the tea leaves.

Ovine linens?

He was as white as a sheep...

Blinds for a bureau?

... and I hear he is already measuring the drapes for his new desk.



According to firetruck historian **Jim Davis**, "I met our first fire truck on Angel Island about the time State Parks took over the Island as a State Park. Last saw the truck "in the flesh" and drove it in the mid - 1960s. Like all State Park fire apparatus, information on the First Fire Truck was extremely difficult to obtain.

CSPRA is affiliated with other non-profit organizations that share our goals.

The Park Rangers Association of California is a professional organization for park Rangers and other uniformed park employees of municipal, county, special district, state and federal agencies.



The International Ranger Federation is a non-profit organization established to raise awareness of and support the critical work that the world's park rangers do in conserving our natural and cultural heritage.



Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs was established in 1932 for Mutual Service and for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources.



Association of National Park Rangers is an organization created to communicate for, about and with National Park Service employees of all disciplines and to provide a forum for professional enrichment.



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Sign-up for timely CSPRA news right in your inbox.

Just send your email address (no State emails please) to webmaster@cspira.com with the subject line "add me to CSPRAnet"



Retiring Soon?

If you or a co-worker will be retiring soon, please contact Membership Services Coordinator Betsy Anderson at (707) 884-3949.

betsy@cspira.com.



Already Retired?

Want to keep in touch after you leave DPR? Join Gray-Bears email ListServ - FREE and EASY

graybears@cspira.com

Join CSPRA Or join us online at cspira.com

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Social Security # _____ (req'd for payroll deduction)

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Membership Type (Check one)

- ☐ Active \$10/month
- ☐ Active Retired \$60/year (\$5/mo.)
- ☐ Supporting \$36/year*
- ☐ Organization \$50/year*
- ☐ Benefactor \$1,000/life*

** Please include check for 1 year's dues for these membership levels.*

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 canceled 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 _____

Membership by Mail:

CSPRA — Betsy Anderson
PO Box 618 Gualala, CA 95445



California State Park Rangers Association



CSPRA is an organization of State Park professionals dedicated to advancement of the highest principles of public service, established to support and preserve California State Parks for present and future generations

Founded 1964