



The CSPRA

Wave

Volume 20, Number 1

Newsletter of the CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2020

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

World Ranger Congress

By Ann Meneguzzi

My trip to the 9th World Ranger Congress (WRC) in Nepal's Chitwan National Park Nov. 11-17, 2019 was my first time in Asia. 550 people from 70 different countries came to the small town of Suaraha for the WRC. North America park professionals from Canada, CSPRA, NPS, and agencies in several states were there as well.

Between conference sessions many stopped at the International Ranger Federation (IRF) memento table where I was the principal attendant. It was an excellent gathering spot. I could chat with folks from many countries as they selected official WRC and IRF pin and patch souvenirs. They also looked through the informal exchange pile of pins and patches that some brought along from their homes.

Chitwan National Park's small town of Suaraha, the WRC site, was thrilled to have so many rangers visiting from all over the world. "Suaraha Welcomes WRC to Chitwan" banners

hung from restaurants, inns, and shops. Since no single large hotel exists in Suaraha, folks stayed in small inns throughout the village and walked past shops and restaurants to reach the WRC site each day. This was good for town businesses and for WRC participants, too.

Many local people speak English fluently as it is taught in all grades of Nepal schools. We got to talk with Suaraha's friendly townies and see shop items everyday. It was fun to watch a patrol elephant on the main street too!

WRC activities included early morning safaris and river trips in a dugout-like boats. Elephants, rhinos, crocodiles, tigers, spotted deer, and other wildlife observations were the rewards for getting up before daylight to reach the meeting spots for the 6am starts. Buffet lunches always included rice, HOT chilis in some dishes, curries, vegetables, and fruit. 550+ people needed to be fed during the daily 90 minute lunch break so several



buffet table areas were set up in the garden courtyards. Finding spots of shade for dining was a goal not always reached.

This trip took me to an unfamiliar country with a culture and customs different from my own. I kept my eyes wide open to note and absorb what was around me. I met compatriots from many places all over the world who like me were thrilled to connect with others who share park protection values. I feel lucky to have been in Nepal for the WRC. This is my third time at a WRC and I hope to attend the 2022 WRC which may take place in Cusco, Peru.

Much more on WRC Begins on page 4

President's Report

By Mike Lynch

It has been a busy three months since my last message and I want to catch everyone up on some of the things I have been involved with on CSPRA's behalf, as follows:

World Ranger Congress (WRC) in Nepal. I and another ten or so other CSPRA people attended the International Ranger Federation (IRF) Congress in Chitwan National Park in Nepal. The WAVE newsletter will have extensive coverage of the event, so I will not go into detail here, except for some of my own activities. I will say that every WRC I have attended has been incredible experience and the Nepal Congress was certainly that and much more.

As for my part, the IRF was proposing to completely change their bylaws with a proposed new Constitution, to incorporate as a non-profit group in Australia. There were many concerns regarding the wholesale changes proposed and I was deeply involved in helping make sure the new constitution was consistent with the overall goals and structure contained in the current IRF Bylaws, which have worked well for over 30 years.

As part of this, I started attending the IRF Board conference call meetings this last year and did a lot of research and work on revising the proposed new

constitution. While in Nepal, prior to the official start of the Congress, I worked with the IRF Executive Committee to extensively revise portions of the proposed Constitution to make it acceptable to all members. The revised Constitution was adopted at the Congress without any major objections. Oh, and I should say that I was also drafted at the Congress and elected international IRF Treasurer, after no one came forward during the regular nomination period.

Ranger Foundation. As President of the Ranger Foundation (RF) I am very happy to report that RF continues to do good things as follows.

Six rangers from Latin-America were sponsored in whole or part to attend the WRC. These were Wualmort Moreno from Venezuela, Teresita Jimenez from Costa Rica, Eddy Ottoniel Palencia from Guatemala, Julio Vergara from Chile, Leonel Delgado Pereira from Costa Rica and Werhner Atoche Montoya from Peru. It was especially gratifying to have sponsored ranger Moreno from Venezuela, where between hyper-inflation and political problems, the rangers there are fighting to protect their parks with little or no support. For these Latin-American rangers, attending the WRD was an experience of a lifetime.

Recently the RF made a grant to the family of

another ranger killed in the line of duty in Peru.

RF was one of the sponsors of the department Pink Bear Breast Cancer Awareness program for National Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. The final accounting is still being done, but several thousands of dollars were raised by the sale of Pink Bear pins and patches and these funds will be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

The RF continues to be the fiscal agent for the department team that competes in the Baker to Vegas Run.

Legal Action CSPRA v. DPR. The legal action taken by CSPRA regarding the theatrical productions in the historic district of Jack London SHP, continues. A court-mandated settlement meeting was held, and the department just recently released a large number of documents pursuant to Public Records Act requests by both CSPRA and our attorney. As with all legal actions, the process moves very slowly and the membership will be updated, as possible, of any significant developments.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to the CSPRA Board members and Committee chairs. A lot of work has been done this past year on behalf of the membership, based on the commitment and work of these CSPRA officers.

California Riding and Hiking Trail History

By Jeff Ohlfs
US Chief Park Ranger (Ret.)

Recently an article was published that suggested the California Riding and Hiking Trail (CRHT) was established to link Native American sites and historic trails from Malibu to the Colorado River. Unfortunately, that was not the case.

Trails have been routes of travel in California since pre-historic times. Post World War II saw recreation in America increase including recreational trails. A visionary idea, the CRHT began in the 1944. The state legislature passed the CRHT Act in 1945 and signed by Governor Earl Warren it became chapter 1460 of Statutes of 1945. A state-wide initiative under the California Department of Parks & Recreation, it created a state 3,000-mile long distance recreational trail system.

The trail was to loop around the state by going up the Sierra, cross below the Oregon border, back down the coast, and loop back above the Mexican border. The current Pacific Crest Trail covers much of what was anticipated to be the Sierra section. The trail was supported by 29 counties of the 38 counties it passed

through. In 1955, the CRHT Act was amended to provide for feeder trails which would connect with the main trail. Joshua Tree National Park was one of the first to be a feeder trail. The JTNP feeder was dedicated by Supt. Elmer Fladmark on May 31, 1958 and cost \$8,000 to build.

The trail began from easements, gifts, purchases, and already existing public lands. Local groups and governments were directed to establish the best route. The trail width was to be 30 inches with a 20-foot right-of-way. Campsites were proposed to be constructed 15 to 20 miles apart. In 1961, 963 miles had been completed. State funds helped finance some of the construction and maintenance.

The 1964 Parks for America report by the National Park Service called for completion of the trail. But sadly, the idea went by the wayside, the CRHT Act was repealed in 1974 and lost to history except to a few of us.

The demise was attributed to the CRHT Act failing to provide for eminent domain for land

acquisition, lack of state-wide public support, and dwindling state park resources. Today, the CRHT still remains a vision for some equestrian and hiking enthusiast but more importantly is a historic piece of our public land history.



You can still find segments using the original name like a portion in the East Bay Regional Park System:

<https://www.ebparks.org/parks/trails/california/default.htm>

and San Diego County

<https://www.sandiesocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/CTMP/Reional.pdf>

9th World Ranger Congress

Chitwan, Nepal 2019

By Sue Neary,
Supervising Ranger

Sauraha is a small and culturally rich village in the Ratnanagar Municipality Chitwan District of Southern Nepal. Nestled in the Chitwan Valley, Sauraha acts as the eastern gateway to the nearby and expansive Chitwan National Park. Listed as a World Heritage Site, this beautiful government-run, national park is one of Nepal's most popular parks, and it is well known for providing habitat for the endangered Royal Bengal Tiger and the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros. Not to mention the hundreds of beautiful plants and other rare animal species that also call this area home. Organized by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) and hosted by Nepal, what better place than Sauraha for the 9th World Ranger Congress (WRC)?

This triennial event was held November 12-16th and hosted rangers representing 50 countries. With approximately 700 rangers (38% women) in attendance, it was not only the largest gathering of rangers on record, but it was the first time it was hosted on an Asian continent.

IRF President, **Sean Willmore**, opened the Congress with a welcome speech that acknowledged



the substantial contributions rangers are making towards the protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat throughout the world despite the myriad of threats they face during the course of their duties. He

नवौं विश्व रेंजर कांग्रेस
चितवन, नेपाल २०१९
सू नेयरी, पर्यवेक्षण राज्य पार्क रेंजर

emphasized that the Congress provided a unique platform for sharing knowledge and experience, equipping rangers with modern tools and training, providing family support, and encouraging a long-lasting partnership of collaboration and global networking.

Sean Wilmore is a former Australian Park Ranger, and is now founder and managing Director of the

Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF). As he welcomed the audience he referred to rangers as warriors that all share one commonality—passion for their work. He said that rangers are often so dedicated to their work that they often sacrifice their family connections and suffer to keep a balance between the two. He elaborated how they are ethically driven to follow their beliefs by pushing the limits of their own safety, even at the emotional sacrifice of their families, to protect the world's wildlife. Declaring that being a park ranger was the most honorable profession in the world, Sean gave an example of a ranger who died at the hands of poachers because he refused their offer of a bribe even though he had a family to support. Though Sean has since retired as IRF President, his personal stories about the dangerous



work he performed as both a ranger and while working with other rangers in the field continues to help bring attention to the perilous work that rangers perform on a daily basis globally.

On average, 150 rangers were killed each year between 2009 and 2018. As of the Congress, at least 158 rangers worldwide had been killed in 2019, and it is believed that there were additional deaths not reported. This is a staggering figure. Although it is unknown exactly how many rangers are working globally, the IRF estimates there are approximately 350,000 - 500,000.

According to Global Conservation, a non-profit group, “Two-thirds of the Rangers die at the hands of Wildlife Poachers, illegal wildlife crime is now estimated to be worth more than \$20 billion per year...ranked only behind drugs, weapons and human trafficking in the criminal value chain.”

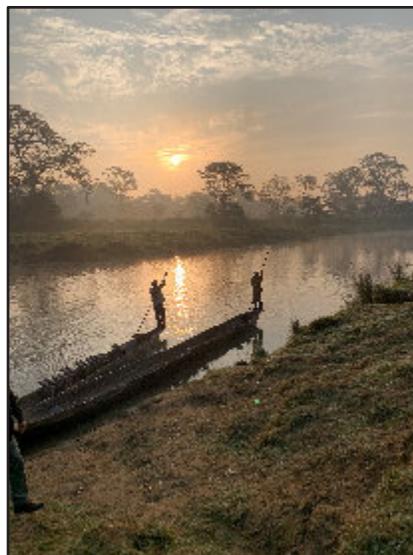
Statistically rangers in Africa and Asia:

- Work on average 76 hours per week
- Earn \$64 USD weekly average

- 60% lack basic equipment
- 40% report inadequate training
- 75% have faced a life-threatening situation
- Every 3-4 days a Ranger is killed
- 100% believe in what they are doing

Through the help of the Nepalese army personnel and forest guards patrolling the entire park, the area is now well managed and helps ensure the safety of the park’s many threatened species. Chitwan National Park is one of the planet’s only national parks which has seen an increase in both rhino and tiger populations, providing a model for intensive conservation.

One of the highlights of the trip was the wooden dugout canoe ride in the early morning hours of my third day. Following the northern border of the park, our boat man worked the long oar effortlessly through the cool brackish water of the East Rapti River. We scoured the shoreline for a glimpse of a basking gharial, all the while



watching the water in silence, anxiously seeking for a pair of eyes gliding above the surface—a small marker of the patient crocodile lurking underneath. As we passed through the peaceful waters, we finally caught a glimpse of a gharial napping in the reeds—a gharial that was far more interested in catching some sleepy eye than our presence in his home. We spotted several bird species as the sun came into view, and with the help of two avid birders—retired District Superintendent **Bud Getty** and **Doreen Clement**—we were fortunate to put names to many of our sightings.

Reflecting back on my experience at the Congress, I can’t say enough about the amazing rangers that I met, nor the kindness of the Nepalese people. Some of the deepest passion for conservation emanates from some of the poorest and kindest people in this world, and do so with access to few resources to aid in their war. Encouragement came from meeting them and hearing their stories, as well as experiencing a small community that cherished its wildlife and National Park.

Humbled by their wisdom and the strength of their virtues, I knew this was my family; and it further cemented my allegiance and my commitment to fight for the protection of our priceless natural resources, sacred wildlife and fragile earth. It is in this spirit that I am proud to be a ranger.

World Ranger Congress

By Pat Clark-Gray, Regional Interpretive Specialist, Ret.

I attended my third World Ranger Congress in Chitwan National Park in November. We had nine State Park staff and their spouses attend the Congress. **Mike Lynch** had his patch table and he was adding to his large collection of Ranger patches. One of the attendees **Bud Getty** has attended all of the Congresses which is an amazing achievement for an over 80-year-old!

This congress was the first one in an Asian country - Nepal. There were 550 participants from over 60 countries. There were seven themes. The two themes that I was most interested in were: Indigenous Rangers and Women in Ranger Workforce. Because of these



two themes the Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF) funded many of the Indigenous Rangers and female Rangers to attend the Congress. Their presentations were inspirational and now I have many new countries that I would like to visit.

I was also impressed by the dedication of all the Rangers all over the world who protect parks and the wildlife. The Congress allows Rangers and other staff to share their best management practices. After watching the presentations, I realized the California State Park Rangers and staff are well-paid and have excellent training and benefits in comparisons to other countries. But, what I also realized is that the Rangers that do not have these benefits love their parks and wildlife. Because of them the wildlife that I love -

tigers, elephants, rhinos, lions, cheetahs, gorillas and orangutans are protected from poachers and threats.

As part of the Congress we took a safari tour of Chitwan National Park. We mainly saw birds on the tour. At the end of the tour, we were fortunate to see a rhino crossing the river and two crocodiles near the river.

My husband **Tom Mann**, Graphic Artist and I produced a poster "Tips to Developing Effective Interpretive Materials" for the Poster session. It was enjoyable talking to the Rangers from countries all over the world. Most of the Rangers felt they needed better interpretive signs and took photos of our poster. When we were at the airport, we talked to a gentleman who works with the Mongolian Rangers and when he found out that we developed interpretive signage he asked us to help him. I planned to enjoy a relaxing retirement, but our interpretive and graphic skills are needed in Mongolia! The bonus is that I



always wanted to visit Mongolia!

Trip to Bhutan

Before the Congress, my husband Tom and I took an eight-day guided tours of Bhutan. We visited Paro and visited the National Museum of Bhutan and watched a video about Nature and Buddhism. As we visited the temples and parks, we noticed the influence of Buddhism. One of the highlights was witnessing the Jakar Tsechu Festival

where we got to see all the local dressed in their best attire.

Our Guide Lhendup's friend Sangay Tiger came to our hotel and gave us a PowerPoint Presentation about the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environmental Research (UWICER). It was fascinating to learn about the research they are doing in Bhutan.

We were lucky to see a dozen Black-necked Cranes from the spotting scopes in the Visitor Center. We saw a



video of the Director talking about how the young people need to take responsibility for the cranes. They also educate the local farmers about the importance of the habitat of the area for the cranes.

We also got to see the takins at the Takin Preserve. The last king had decided to let the takins loose since he did not feel the zoo was a good home for the takin. But the takin did not want to leave so they remain at the zoo for tourists to see them.

The people all speak English and are friendly. What thing I learned is that India helps Bhutan so the people are allowed into the country without a visa and can travel on their own. The also send Engineers to build roads and bridges and Indian craftsman help build their homes. The homes are colorfully painted.

I would highly recommend a visit to Bhutan and to the parks of Nepal.



Commemorating OHV 50th Anniversary

CSPRA OHV Resolution Presented

On Friday, November 8, 2019, Board Secretary **Jeff Price** attended the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR or OHV) Commission meeting at Spring Hill Suites in Atascadero representing CSPRA.

OHMVR Commissioner **Paul Slavik**, Chairman of the 50th OHV Anniversary Committee, gave a brief report and asked OHV Chief **Brian Robertson** and staffer **Don Schmidt** to give the Commission an update on the Department's planning for the OHV anniversary. Robertson then introduced Price who presented a brief background of CSPRA's involvement, interest and support for the upcoming semicentennial event.

Prior to the meeting, Director **Lisa Mangat**



OHV Chief Brian Robertson (L) receiving CSPRA poster from Secretary Jeff Price



(L to R) OHV Chief Brian Robertson, CSPRA Secretary Jeff Price, staffer Don Schmidt making 50th Anniversary presentation to OHV Commission. Chairman Tom Lemmon in hat.

initially asked Price not to make any presentation at all. After a discussion in the hall with Director Mangat, she agreed Price could be introduced and make a very brief presentation on CSPRA's interest and involvement in the anniversary. She still did not want any portion of the CSPRA resolution read publicly, distributed to the Commission or have the poster presented to Commission Chairman **Tom Lemmon**, as was planned. However, Price was able to distribute copies of the CSPRA resolution to the OHV Commissioners and after his presentation, he presented the photo-op poster version of the resolution to OHV Division Chief **Brian Robertson** outside in the hall.



RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION PROGRAM**

As Adopted by the California State Park Rangers Association

WHEREAS, the California State Parks, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Program was launched in 1971 by legislation put forward by two state legislators, "off-roader" Gene Chappie, and "environmentalist" Ed Zberg; and

WHEREAS, the forward thinking Chappie-Zberg Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Law of 1971, signed on December 22, 1971, established a template for managed OHV recreation and sought to administer an increasingly popular and rapidly growing motorized off-highway recreational use; and

WHEREAS, the Chappie-Zberg Law was founded on the principle that managed OHV use was better for the environment than unmanaged activity; and

WHEREAS, the OHMVR Program required maintenance and oversight to allow for sustainable OHV use, consistent with good environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, the California Legislature created the OHMVR Division, within California State Parks, which administers the OHMVR Program today; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 the California Legislature created an OHMVR Commission to allow public input and provide policy guidelines for the OHMVR Program; and

WHEREAS, nine State Vehicular Recreation Areas have been established as part of the OHMVR Program; and

WHEREAS, the OHMVR Program has provided hundreds of millions of dollars in grants and cooperative agreements to local, state, and federal entities, Native American tribes, educational institutions, and eligible non-profit organizations through the OHMVR Grants Program; and

WHEREAS, 2021 will mark the 50th anniversary of the OHMVR Program;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the California State Park Rangers Association hereby recognizes the year 2021 as the 50th Anniversary of the California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program and encourages all related agencies, groups, associations, and persons to recognize and commemorate the 50th OHMVR Anniversary by any and all efforts to highlight and honor the history, significance, contributions, and achievements that went into the development of the program and its contribution to the people of California and the nation.

As adopted by CSPRA on April 7, 2019



Michael G. Lynch, CSPRA President

California State Park Rangers Association

Annual Parks Rendezvous & Conference

Plan to join us at Donner Memorial SP, Truckee from September 14-17, 2020 for the annual CSPRA Rendezvous.

Conference Lodging

Truckee Donner Lodge
10527 Cold Stream Rd,
Truckee, CA 96161
(right next to
Donner Memorial SP)
truckeedonnerlodge.com
*Great Room Rates pending
Reservation Info
Available Soon*

Cancel by 48 hours in
advance or lose 1st night
fee. Rate is available 5
nights: Sunday 09/13 thru
Thursday 09/17 nights
(depart Friday 09/18)

FREE WIFI INTERNET

FREE PARKING

COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST



Camping:

Free camping will be
available at Donner
Memorial SP

Camping reservations must
be made through CSPRA by
contacting Ann Meneguzzi
at ann@cspra.com

*Program details online
at cspra.com*



Beware the Sneaky, Silent Invaders

Park Threats You Can Control

By Jeff Price

OK, we can all probably agree that the recent out-of-control fires in California are a bad thing. Many park professionals believe that managing wild lands with prescribed fire would prevent the wildfire catastrophes we have seen recently. But there is another deadly threat to our parklands - a silent and sneaky invasion.

Non-native plants are invading our parks and natural areas and crowding out native species. The assault is often difficult to recognize. Although they are not always obvious, there are significant differences between how native species and nonnative exotic species interact with the environment.

For California's native plants and animals, it can mean the difference between life and death. The state has more than 6,300 native plant species. Of these, 2,100 plants occur naturally nowhere else on earth. Many of California's natural landscapes and native species have been damaged by exotic plants, animals, and diseases, and many more are threatened. New invaders of all kinds continue to appear in California, arriving by accident or introduced intentionally as ornamentals.



Tamarisk in full bloom

Over 1,000 types of exotic plants alone have been introduced into California's wildlands. Non-native plants have found their way into our wildlands from agricultural seed and livestock feed, or from plantings used to stabilize the land or to provide windbreaks. Many have escaped from neighboring gardens.

Non-native plants have found their way into our wildlands from agricultural seed and livestock feed, or from plantings used to stabilize the land or to provide windbreaks. Many have escaped from neighboring gardens. Once introduced, exotic plants can spread rapidly through plant fragments and seeds carried by animals, water, or the wind, and as "hitchhikers" on vehicles,

clothing and recreational equipment. Invasive exotic plants often outcompete natives for space to grow and for soil nutrients, literally crowding out native vegetation. Tall plants may shade others from needed sunlight. Some produce substances that inhibit the growth of other plants, and others consume large amounts of water, depleting this precious resource in dry areas.

Many parks hold a widely-advertised volunteer assistance day, sponsored by their agency and helped by support organizations to remove invasive species. When I was working as a Ranger at the 600,000 acre Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, one of our invasive plant issues was the

introduction and spread of Tamarisk (aka salt cedar) -- a fast-growing, deeply-rooted desert tree. Unfortunately, the Tamarisk's root system acts like a sponge and sucks every available drop of water out of the sandy soil.

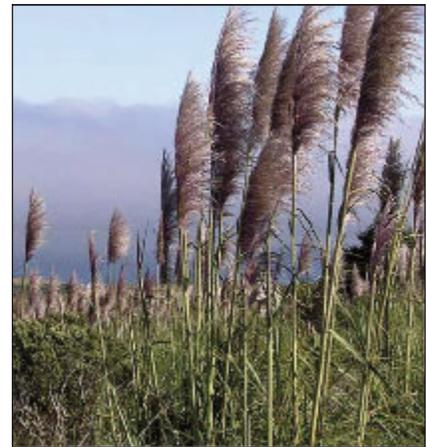
Tamarisk natively grow in the Middle East, Asia, and parts of Africa, but there they are adapted and accustomed to harsh landscapes with little or no rain. The invasive tree was first brought to the USA as an ornamental. The tree was brought into the desert for shade and as a wind break. In the California desert the Tamarisks are extremely invasive in riparian communities, often nearly completely replacing native vegetation with impenetrable thickets because they are aggressive usurpers of water, with one mature tree taking up as much as 100 gallons of water in a day.

Dense stands of these trees gravely depress biodiversity where they flourish. The trees even dry up needed

summer water sources and springs which then affects the health of native desert animals, such as the Big Horn sheep.

So, back to the volunteer idea! When Tamarisk trees are young, they have yet to develop a deep root system, and invaders can be pulled very easily by hand or with a weed-wrench. Volunteers walked along in a line along the park's many sandy washes and completely remove the trees every fall. This effort began to halt the invasion and gave local citizens some ownership of their park.

I would encourage you to frequently patrol your park's boundaries and be alert to exotic plant invasions. Consider involving volunteers. If your park borders a highway, watch for incursions by plants used as erosion control or landscaping and "weeds" such as scotch broom, pampas grass, *Arundo donax* (giant cane), cape ivy, sea fig, eucalyptus, tamarisk, and star thistle.



Invasive Pampas grass

A glimmer of hope — it pays to know the science. I was talking to former Anza-Borrego Park Supt, **Mark Jorgensen**, and he tells me that USDA has been experimenting in southern Utah for a few years with introducing a beetle that devours only Tamarisk foliage. This biological control has yet to be approved for use in California, but Mark says in just a few years the beetle has worked its way down the Colorado River and is having a positive effect in controlling the exotic invasive.



Arundo cane



Exotic Cape ivy

Pat Clark-Gray Receives National Recognition

Pat Clark-Gray, recently retired District Interpretive Specialist for the Monterey District, (and former CSPRA Board Member) has been selected to receive a prestigious national honor. She was selected this year as Master Front-Line Interpreter. The award is presented annually by the National Association for Interpretation.

“Pat has been intimately and intensely involved in dozens of exhibit, visitor center and museum projects. She has developed educational materials for countless school programs including outreach efforts to disadvantaged youth. She has trained, coached, mentored and recognized many thousands of volunteers and seasonal



staff” according to **Donna Pozzi**, Interpretation and Education Division, Chief (retired).

“Pat has a wide variety of experience, and has worked in several locations and job duties. One thing that has been consistent is her gracious way with people, her ability to get projects done, and her constant striving for excellence in everything she does” says **Janet and Dave Carle**, Retired State

Park Rangers, “Pat is a treasure. She has the professional skills to organize big events, and the skills to involve many people as help”.

The Master Front-Line Interpreter is presented to an NAI member who has worked for five or more years in the profession and does not supervise the work of others. Recipients demonstrate a mastery of interpretive techniques, program development, and design of creative projects.

The award was presented at the NAI National Conference held in Denver, CO. NAI is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the profession of heritage interpretation, with over 7,000 members in the United States, Canada, and over thirty other nations.



Wave Goodbye

Jake Zaiger

Janet Carle shares this remembrance of Jake: “How lucky that Jake Zaiger was the ranger at Patrick’s Point! When I expressed interest in campfire programs, Jake encouraged me to lead the singing. When I wanted to try a nature walk, Jake let me and didn’t laugh when I got lost leading the group in a 425 acre park.

Far from home, Jake and his family made me feel welcome and that made all the difference. I was able to thrive and gain valuable experience in parks.

Several years later, I was hired as a Ranger Trainee and assigned to Folsom Lake. How thrilled I was to find Jake there as a Supervising Ranger. The dynamic was different in a bigger place, but Jake was the same – that slow smile, that cracked joke and that heart always wishing the best for everyone. As I learned the ropes of being a Peace Officer, a big stretch for me, Jake was an island of familiarity and support.” 1929-2019



Kirk Wallace

Kirk Wallace was the last surviving member of the founding CSPRA Board, serving as our VP 1968-70. He founded the Retirees Rendezvous 28 years ago.

Kirk started working for the Department of Beaches and Parks as a seasonal at Big Basin in 1956, later working full time there as a Park Attendant. Kirk was promoted to State Park Ranger and was transferred to Anza Borrego Desert SP, and Cuyamaca Rancho SP.

Then came Franks Track SRA in the Delta; then to Brannan Island SRA. He was promoted to Supervising State Park Ranger and moved to D.L. Bliss and Emerald Bay State Parks at Tahoe. Several years later he transferred to Pismo State Beach. After nine months of sand, he promoted to Chief Ranger of Montane Area, overseeing

Cuyamaca Rancho and Palomar State Parks. Kirk’s next move was to Headquarters. His job was to move personnel around the state, something he understood all too well.

He later served at Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area, Point Mugu and Leo Carrillo State Parks.

His last assignment was Southern Region in San Diego, as Deputy Regional Director. In 1991, Kirk retired after serving for 32.5 years. He returned as a retired annuitant background Investigator for another ten years. 1937-2019



Fred Meyer

Fred was born in Oakland, and eventually found his way to State Parks. He and his wife Linda loved to ski – you would hear of his adventures during staff meetings and trainings in the Cascade District back in the late 1980s. Steve Moore recalls “I first met Fred at Historic Preservation training at Asilomar in 1974; he was at Weaverville Joss House then, and stayed

there up to his retirement. I arrived at Cascades for Burney/Ahjumawi, and connected with him during staff meetings and DT/Firearms trainings. He once gave my wife and me a personal tour of the Joss House at about closing time one day.”

Fred retired to Bend, Oregon and enjoyed many good years before health issues caught up with him. 1935 - 2019

Mixed Metaphors & Malaprops

by Jeff Price, Retired

Mixed Metaphor: A combination of thoughts that when strung together produce a ridiculously funny effect of melded clichés. Send along any overheard slips of the tongue malaprops@cspira.com



A kangaroo republic, maybe?

The whole trial was run like a banana court.

A rare double malaprop! Geography and mathematics can be infectious.

He should have taken geometry to know something about the contagious countries around Afghanistan.

Another age factor

Senators are chosen as committee chairmen on the basis of senility.

The grind of politics?

These dubious actions mark a millstone in the history of the Presidency.

Reversed compliment?

I will waste no time in reading your new book.

Hypothetical movement?

Sir, I refuse to answer your suppository questions.

Some people are way too impatient!

Their marriage was consummated last week at the altar.

By washing his mouth out with soap?

The Attorney General must deal seriously with this offense as a detergent to others in the future.

Pliocene couch potato?

Too many Americans lead a lazy and sedimentary life.

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.



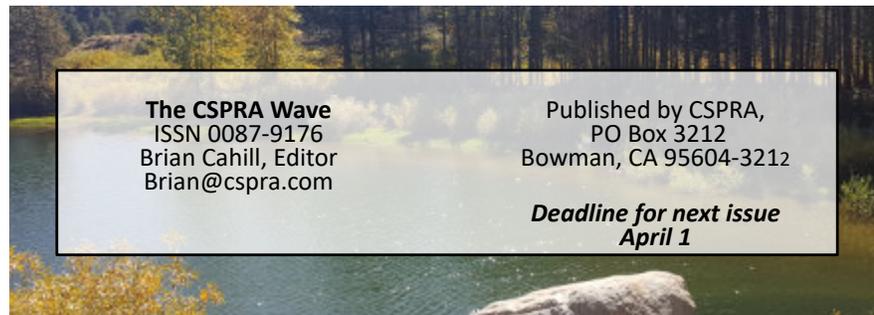
The International Ranger Federation is a non-profit organization established to raise awareness of and support the critical work that the world's park rangers do in conserving our natural and cultural heritage.



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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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



Photo by Sue Neary

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