

The CSPRA



Wave

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 2

Newsletter of the CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

Spring 2019

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

Foundation Grant to Family of Fallen Ranger



On the morning of Thursday, August 17, 2017, in the Zapotalito community, belonging to the municipality of San Pedro Tututepec, Oaxaca, Mexico, unknown persons intercepted a Ranger at Lagunas de Chachahua National Park and shot him repeatedly.

Biologist Gabriel Ramos Olivera lost his life on duty, and driving an official car of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas.



Police cordoned off the scene of the crime, while State Agency of Investigations processed the crime scene. Among the evidence, the researchers found cartridge casings, apparently caliber .38 Special.

The Ranger Foundation in cooperation with the National Commission of Protected Areas recently presented a \$500 grant to the Ranger's family to help support the education of his daughter, Meredith Zóe Ramos González.





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President's Report

By Mike Lynch, President

I have been working on several issues since the last Wave as follows:



I have continued to work on the issue of non-profit operation of state park units, both with department and in a meeting with Bill Craven, Chief Consultant of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. I will again ask the Board to approve a position to amend the Public Resources Code to define co-management so that the department retains responsibility for core functions.

I have spent a lot of time, with John Mott and Ann Meneguzzi on SB8 & AB 1718 (the CSP smoking ban) and testified at both the Senate and Assembly policy committee hearings, asking that the religious exception language be tightened up.

I have also followed up on the Board's approval to join the California League of Park Associations (CALPA). John Mott and I had a good meeting with CALPA President Linsey Fredenburg Humes where we discussed how the two organizations can work together. CALPA would like to have a partnership with CSPRA.

Another meeting I attended

with John Mott was with the Resource Protection Peace Officer Association (RPPOA) to discuss how CSPRA, the Ranger Foundation and RPPOA can work together. Two items seemed fruitful, namely legislation (specifically SB 8) and Ranger Foundation efforts.

I have been active with the International Ranger Federation (IRF) in regard to a proposed to complete overhaul of the IRF constitution and problems with the proposal. The proposal has now been delayed for consideration at the World Ranger Congress in Nepal. I attended the IRF Executive Committee conference-call meeting, which was interesting.

Chuck Grennell and I developed and nominated two state park lifeguards for the PRAC valor award. Chuck and I attended (by conference-call) the Valor Awards Committee where the two lifeguards and three others were approved for awards.

Finally, VP Ann Meneguzzi, Secretary Jeff Price and I attended the California Parks Training Conference in Ventura and among other things, promoted the Ranger Foundation, World Ranger Day and the World Ranger Congress in Nepal in November.

M. G. "Mike" Lynch, President

Delores Lukina

2019 Honorary Ranger

The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) Board of Directors has Selected Delores Lukina as recipient of the CSPRA Honorary Ranger for 2019. The award will be presented at the CSPRA Annual Conference on October 23 at the UC Irvine Research Center in Borrego Springs.

As CSPRA President Mike Lynch has said, "The honor is in recognition of decades of work with the Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park as a Trustee and Vice President of Acquisition. Most remarkable is that during her tenure over 22,000 acres of land was transferred to the Foundation in support and protection of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park!"

Delores' professional experience in business and acquisition was a turning point in ABF's vision regarding acquisition of large parcels of land to protect Anza-Borrego Desert State Park with new strategies that set the stage for acquiring whole projects adjacent to the park in addition to the regular individually-owned parcels (inholdings) that had been Park priorities if for years.

Other major properties that followed the consequential acquisition of Sentenac Canyon included Lucky 5, Mason valley, Tuloch Ranch and Vallecito



Ranch. Additionally, Delores worked closely with the Native American Conservancy to protect sacred lands within ABDSP. Delores is the recipient of the Medallion Award, the highest award the State can issue to a volunteer for meritorious service to State Parks and in 2001 she was named Earth Share Volunteer of the Year and in 2015, a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Anza Borrego Foundation.

I hope you can join us at the October Conference for the recognition and presentation of Delores Lukina as CSPRA's 2019 Honorary Ranger.

***Carl Chavez, Chair
Awards Committee***



Park Advocacy

On Park Advocacy Day, May 7, we use our voices to send a powerful message to policymakers that California's state parks are important places that need to be protected.

CSPRA will again be joining with the California State Parks Foundation (hosts of Park Advocacy Day) to demonstrate the political strength of the parks movement and build a strong community of advocates for park policies and legislation. Thanks to John Mott for coordinating CSPRA's involvement.



CSPRA had a productive meeting with Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot. Participants included Lynn Rhodes, Dave Van Cleve, Mike Lynch, Kirk Sturm, Rusty Areias (former Director) and Richard Rojas. Here the Secretary receives a new lapel pin.



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 Jorgenson

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 Elsen, 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



CSPRA
Annual Membership Meeting
 &
State Parks Retirees Rendezvous
Borrego Springs, CA
Oct 21-24, 2019



Name:			
Additional Guest/Spouse Name:			
Address:		City:	State: Zip:
Mobile Phone:		Home or Work Phone:	
E-mail Address:			
Total number of registrations		_____ x \$35 each	= \$ _____
		Total = \$ _____	

Payment

Registration Fee - \$35 per person*

*Includes program, continental breakfasts, hospitality sessions, lunch and BBQ/Dinner on Wed. Oct 23rd

1. _____ **Payment Enclosed** (Check) - Pay to: CSPRA
 2. **PayPal:** paypal2@cspra.com
 3. **Credit Card:** ___ Visa ___ MasterCard - 3-digit code on back of card _____
- Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Billing ZIP _____
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Send form to: CSPRA, PO Box 3212, Bowman, CA 95604-3212 or Email: mike@cspra.com

More Information at: www.cspra.com or from ann@cspra.com

Hotel: Borrego Springs Resort

Group rate reservations by phone only - CALL - (760)767-5700 - Group Name: CSPRA - State Park Rangers Association.
 Rate: \$102 + resort fee and tax = \$124.57 per night total

Dorm Rooms - University of Irvine Research Center - \$15 per person, per night. Description: Rooms with bunk beds and common bathrooms. Dorm reservation through CSPRA by contacting Ann Meneguzzi at ann@cspra.com

Camping:

Free camping will be available at Camp Borrego. Camping reservations must be made through CSPRA by contacting Mike Lynch at mike@cspra.com

PRAC Medal of Valor & Award of Merit

State Park Lifeguards were honored recently at the annual California Parks Conference Valor and Honor Awards Ceremony. Scott Kwon and Joe Stoffers received the Medal of Valor for a rescue at Salt Point State Park.



Mike Lynch (CSPRA President), congratulates Award of Merit honoree (and former Park Aid) Chris Hoffman with Matt Cerkel (PRAC President).

Honorees are drawn from the ranks of park professionals, employed by any California, Nevada, Oregon or Washington municipal, county, state, regional or federal park agency, open space district or special park district. The nominee is not required to be a member of the Park Rangers Association of California or the California State Park Rangers Association.

be presented to any park professional who risks his or her own life to an extraordinary degree in saving or attempting to save the life of another person, or sacrifices him or herself in a heroic manner for the benefit of others.

face of danger. The heroic act does not have to be related to the recipient's official duties nor occur at their official duty station.

Medal of Valor

The Park Rangers Association of California Medal of Valor may

This award recognizes the recipient's demonstration of unusual courage involving a high degree of personal risk in the

Award of Merit

The Award of Merit may be presented by the Association to individuals whose actions are admirable or heroic, but do not rise to the level required for the Medal of Valor.



Matt Cerkel (PRAC President), Mike Lynch (CSPRA President), with Medal of Valor recipient Scott Kwon. Lifeguards Joe Stoffers and Kevin Craig accepted on behalf of honoree Ean Miller

Book Review

Putting California on the Map: von Schmidt's Lines

By David Carle, (Lee Vining, CA: Phalarope Press, 2018); paperback, 208 pages; \$14.95.

Just about every State Park employee will, at some time and place in their lives and travels, cross paths with the work of A. W. von Schmidt. One of the most successful, energetic, and innovative explorers and inventors of the nineteenth century, his name still graces maps and countryside. Like so many of his contemporaries, his renown has faded over time, but his legacy lives on in ways both tangible and subtle, but nonetheless important.

Allexey W. (A.W.) von Schmidt was born in 1821 in Courland, Russia (present day Latvia). His family emigrated to the U.S. in 1827. His father, Peter, was an engineer and surveyor, as well as an inventor. A.W. successfully followed in his father's footsteps. A.W. was also influenced by John C. Fremont's exploits in the American West and California, and A.W. would even work as a surveyor on Fremont's Mariposa land grant, near Yosemite.

The von Schmidt family (father Peter and sons Allexey and Julius) were drawn to California, arriving in 1849. Like many other argonauts, they soon turned to other pursuits, includ-

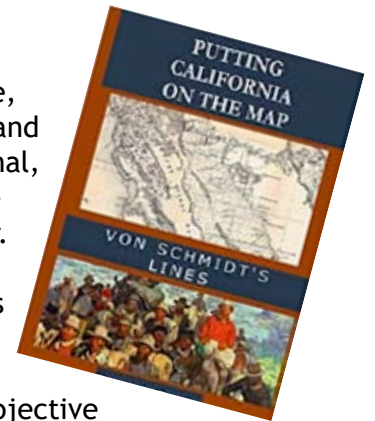
ing developing hydraulic mining equipment and serving as steamboat captains on the San Francisco-Sacramento-Stockton delta. Later, A.W. returned to surveying, not only Las Mariposas but hundreds of miles of grid lines for the Public Land Survey System. He and his crew eventually walked hundreds of miles all across the state, and established not only the Mt. Diablo baseline across the Sierra Nevada but the eastern boundary of the California-Nevada border (that location is marked by CA State Historical Landmark plaque # 859, 14 miles north of Needles). The intellectual, physical, and professional challenges of those undertakings cannot be underestimated, and by today's standards, hardly understood. But they were considerable and remarkable, and deserving of remembrance and recognition.

He also was a visionary, who proposed using Lake Tahoe water for San Francisco's domestic purposes (a proposal that was declined, only later to be inaugurated with the drowning of Hetch Hetchy valley). And, he planned and built the first dry dock on San Francisco Bay, at Hunter's Point, and he engineered the underwater demolition of Blossom Rock in the bay, to allow for the safe passage of ships.

A.W.'s life, personal and professional, wasn't always easy. Carle chronicles these challenges with objective empathy. Allexey Waldemar von Schmidt died on May 26, 1906, a month after experiencing the massive earthquake from his home in Alameda, where he and his grandchildren watched "the City," where he helped to build, burn. He was 85 years old. The calamity, coinciding with his demise, eclipsed notice of his passing.

We have author, explorer, and retired State Park Ranger David Carle to thank for bringing von Schmidt's life story to our attention. A glance at the accompanying bibliography, illustrations, and maps indicate that this was a formidable undertaking in its own right. Carle concludes the book by saying, "A.W. von Schmidt's life work helped put California on the map" (p. 183). And now, David Carle's work has put von Schmidt's story in our hands, on our minds, and on our bookshelves.

Reviewed by Robert C. Pavlik



Spring Board Meeting

The spring meeting of the CSPRA Board is always a highlight of the year. The Alpine Lodge is a delightful setting to discuss the issues and chart a path forward. Thanks to Ann Meneguzzi and Cindi Whitehead for all of the behind-the-scenes work to make this happen so smoothly. Thanks to Tress Putnam and Cindi Whitehead for sharing these pictures.



Board actions take at the meeting:

- That CSPRA work with the department and legislators to seek changes in the Public Resources Code 5080.42 (4) that provide a clear definition of “co-management agreements” and add language stating that, “co-management agreements shall include the department retaining responsibility for environmental reviews, natural and cultural resource management and protection, public safety services, and overseeing of volunteers.”

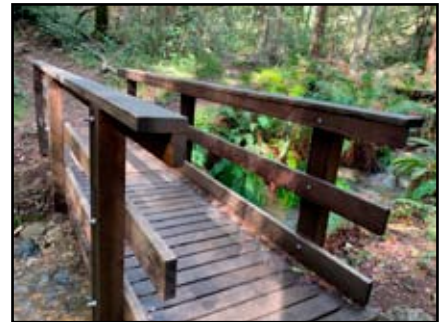
- CSPRA support for SB 54 and AB 1080 to “reduce waste from single-use packaging and prod-

ucts and ensure the remaining items are effectively recycled.”

- Approved qualifying Ranger Foundation donor Robert Foster as a lifetime CSPRA Benefactor.

- Approved \$250 to support the 2019 Pink Bear Breast Cancer Awareness Program.

- Approved a 2019/20 CSPRA budget.



Pictured (Back, L to R) Jeff Price, Mike Lynch, Joanne Kerbavaz, Frank Padilla, Jr., John Mott (Middle) Cindi Whitehead, Steve Moore, Miles Standish. (Kneeling) Ann Meneguzzi, Tom Bernardo

A Wave Goodbye

Jim Burke

James George Burke passed away at home in Grass Valley, in January at 70 years old. Jim received his B.S. in Wild-life Management from



Humboldt State University in 1971. He proudly served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany, where he and Susan Ellmore met at the Oktoberfest while she was studying in Heidelberg. They raised two daughters, Allison and Molly.

Jim loved the outdoors, and spent 30 years as a California State Park Ranger, serving in numerous State Parks, including Hearst San Simeon, Big Sur, Calaveras Big Trees, Humboldt Redwoods, Angel Island, Cuyamaca Rancho, and Empire Mine State Park, where he was Chief Ranger from 1987 to 1993.

Jim will be remembered for his quick wit, easygoing and happy nature, and his intelligence and thoughtfulness. He was looked up to as a mentor by many and was a very funny and friendly man who hummed his way through life. Jim was a much-loved husband, father, son, brother, uncle, cousin, son-in-law and brother-in-law.

Javier Morales

Javier (Xavier) Morales's died in January due to heart failure. Javier was born in 1960 to Maria and Felix Morales in San Francisco. He was the seventh out of eight siblings. His adventurous spirit stuck out to his family, and soon he was riding motorcycles in the hills of SF. He was a rocker and enjoyed his young life seeing some legendary bands like Pink Floyd, Metallica, and AC/DC.

Throughout his years, he moved up and down the golden coast of California. Eventually he settled down in McKinleyville with his wife, Kendra. They raised two daughters, Maria and Virginia, here behind the redwood curtain. He was in love with nature, and a majority of his life he worked for national and state parks. His thirst for helping others and working daring jobs started first as he worked for Calfire, then ultimately becoming a peace officer park ranger. His main career was at Patrick's Point State Park, until he had a stroke in June of 2012.

He aspired to go back to college and get his law degree. He had big plans for the future, and using a wheelchair wasn't going to stop him.



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.



Are you Moving?
Please let us know.
Betsy@CSPRA.com

Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

By Jeff Price, Retired

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

A stately court Dance with whales and aircraft?

A USCG helicopter arrived on scene to hover above the whale pod for a few minuets.



By a neck?

Deadlines are coming up and I've got all the powers that be breathing down my throat.

Painful conversation to follow . . .

I will be tied up with appointments today until around 2 pm, so maybe

we could discuss later via telephone since e-mails don't include any inflictions.

Is that a uniform malfunction?

I heard a State Park Scientist is being honored by the California Invasive Pant Council.

Sharp comment!

It is obvious the Arizona Governor is not the smartest tack in the box.

Some of these I never figure out!

OHV Program to Turn 50

CSPRA is getting ready to celebrate the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Off Highway Vehicle program in 2021. The recently adopted resolution reads in part:

“California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) does hereby recognize the year 2021 as the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the California State Parks, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Program and encourage 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 achieve-

ments that went into the development of the program and its contribution to the people of California and the nation.”

Adopted by the CSPRA Board of Directors on April 7, 2019



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Retiring Soon?

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



Already Retired?

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

graybears@cspra.com

Join CSPRA Or join us online at cspra.com

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Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Job Classification: _____

District / Park: _____

Social Security # _____ (required for payroll deduction)

Phone(W) _____ Phone (H) _____

Email: _____

Membership Type (Check one)

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



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 _____

Membership by Mail:

CSPRA — Betsy Anderson
PO Box 618 Gualala, CA 95445

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



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