



The CSPRA

Wave

Volume 21, Number 4 Newsletter of the CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION Autumn 2021
"State Park experts and professionals advocating for State Parks since 1964."

President's Message

by David Carle,
CSPRA President

Much changed as the September date approached for the Annual Rendezvous



at Donner. Stricter COVID restrictions and wildfire impacts (heavy smoke and evacuations affecting Sierra District) forced us to make the difficult decision to postpone the event. Conference co-chairs, **Ann Meneguzzi** and **Mike Lynch** are, instead, planning for a "3rd Time's a Charm" conference next September, again at Donner.

Those who registered this year were mailed the conference "goodie bag," with memorabilia, a book, *Donner Memorial State Park in Vintage Postcards*, by **Mike Lynch** and **Rodi Lee**, discounts for ordering natural history books from UC Press, and lots of other fun materials. Registration refunds were given, but many opted to redirect fees toward the Ranger

Foundation's account to help park employees and families affected by wildfires. Thank you all.

CSPRA's executive officers met remotely several times with Director **Armando Quintero** and staff this year, and the Director's hour-long talk, via Zoom, at our Annual Membership meeting was the highpoint of that meeting. We hope such communication will continue, and look forward to a time when meetings can be in person again.

A number of park issues have been on our radar this summer, some related to decisions not yet finalized regarding a proposed water

pipeline (Anza-Borrego Desert SP), and an aerial tramway (Los Angeles SHP) aimed at penetrating park boundaries. The protective status afforded state park lands keeps being targeted by interests looking to state park "open space" to make money, save construction costs, or sometimes to address worthy societal problems, even if inconsistent with park protection afforded by law. This is a never-ending story, but then that is one reason for CSPRA's very existence.

While we express opposition where needed, CSPRA also applauds the great work by

(Continues on next page)





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Department employees every day. The growing use of videos and photography on social media by the Department is so impressive, and CSPRA's own Facebook account has become a place to share pertinent park stories, including a series of video interviews by Board member Erin Gates titled "Faces of CSPRA." I was pleased to present the President's Award, at the recent Annual Meeting, to Erin for her many contributions to CSPRA this year.



A CSPRA committee has been formed aimed at finally resolving the Department's staffing and budget issues with adequate, stable, dedicated funding. Success will require the broad support of our members and especially support from key legislators and our organizational partners. We have been documenting needs and shortfalls. Innovative solutions will be brainstormed. Would you pay \$1 per wine case (8 cents per bottle), to fully support the State Parks field operation? That could generate \$240M/year, doubling our current operations budget. Just my idea, bravely put forward here for the first time. But even such a gentle tax must be palatable to a broad segment of California's voting population and

politicians. The Department received significant funding for specific new programs in this year's record high budget for DPR. Yet field staff levels need to recover and there is an enormous backlog of maintenance projects still to fund.

The Board is also shaping a draft resolution regarding possibly amending the PRC section that limits use of the "ranger" to peace officers alone. Please see my President's "What's in a name?" thoughts in the Spring issue of the WAVE. It would be ideal if we can partner with the Resource Protection Peace Officer Association on agreed upon language. The State Parks Foundation has also expressed interest in identifying legislator sponsors, if this proposal moves ahead. We shall see.

Thank you all for being CSPRA members and supporters. Please vote for officers and directors in the upcoming election when the electronic ballot reaches you next month.

Director's Talk [Video Link](#)

Firefighting In the Redwood Canopy

*By Erin Gates &
Lathrop Leonard,
North Coast
Redwoods District*

Firefighters have been perfecting their strategies for controlling forest fires for centuries. But that isn't to say that new challenges don't pop up every now and then.

One such challenge arose in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park in late August when a fire broke out in five tall old-growth coast redwoods along the popular Howland Hill Road. What was unique about this fire was where it broke out: Not at the top of the trees. Not at the bottom. But instead, in between, more than 100 feet up.

Canopy fires like this haven't received much attention in the past, because if there is a fire anywhere in a tree, the standard procedure is to cut the tree down. If the fire is on the ground in a forest, firefighters often use handtools and hoses.

When a fire breaks out up in the canopy at the top of the trees, a helicopter can be the best tool. But helicopter drops aren't always effective, especially when the trees are tall and have dense canopies. The overstory can prevent water from reaching deep into the



canopy where fires are often the trickiest to put out.

Firefighters use a technique developed in North Coast Redwoods District specifically to fight fire in old-growth redwoods. This technique allows firefighters to put water directly on fires that are hard to reach by traditional means. Using a line gun, they launch a line of rope over a nearby branch, and winch up a sprinkler system, which is then directed at the fire.

Without these techniques, old-growth redwood trees would have to be dropped in order to put the fire out. At the critical part of the fire along Howland Hill Road, there were 6 giant trees on fire. This technique has saved 6 old growth redwood trees on this fire alone. It does take additional resources and time to fight these fires but with only 5% percent of old growth redwoods left in the world it is certainly worth the investment.



Smoke initially tipped park staff to the fire's presence on Aug. 16, but they believe the fire was ignited by dry lightning over one week earlier and took a while to build up. The fire temporarily closed Howland Road.

Foresters from California State Parks with help from the District Burn Team recently used the same technique to put out fires still smoldering in Big Basin Redwoods State Park from last year's CZU Complex fire that burned through more than 90 percent of the park

and destroyed much of the historic park infrastructure. Seeing the proven effectiveness of this technique, the planning for a statewide training program is underway.

If you look at the canopies of enough old-growth redwoods, you see that this type of fire used to happen a lot. Until recently firefighters would cut these trees down without thinking much about it, but now that old-growth redwoods are so rare, society is much more interested in protecting all that we can. Even when the forest is damp on the ground, the treetops are up high in the sun and wind. They dry out much more quickly. This can allow fires to spread from treetop to treetop with little chance for the fire to spread on the ground.

Canopy fires like this can kill big trees, but it often damages them in ways that make all sorts of nooks and crannies that become great habitat for a host of organisms, some of which spend their whole lives in the treetops. And as the tree grows and recovers from the damage, their canopies become more complex, creating more habitat



What happens if there isn't a branch to hang the sprinkler over? The team is ready for that eventuality. North Coast Redwoods District has specially skilled foresters who know how to climb the nearby trees and run the sprinkler manually. They'll stay up there as long as they have to.

To learn more about this unique firefighting technique, and meet some of the team that first helped develop it almost 20 years ago, check out a Facebook Livestream event that was aired on the California State Parks Facebook page. [Link here](#)

World Ranger Day 2021

By Jamie Richards

Each year, rangers around the world come together on July 31 to honor and celebrate World Ranger Day. This day, first established by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) in 2007, was founded as a day to honor the memory of colleagues and friends who have fallen in the line of duty, as well as a day to honor the ranger profession and all of the men and women who have chosen to protect and preserve the world's natural and cultural treasures.

One of the many in-person celebrations hosted around the world this year took place in Lee Vining, Calif. The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) hosted an outdoor celebration at the Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center. This special ceremony brought together local agency representatives



from California State Parks, NPS, BLM, U.S. Forest Service, local elected officials, along with members from Association of National Park Rangers (ANPR), CSPRA, Ranger Foundation and the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC). In this corner of the world, it also was a collective gathering of the Sierra Nevada ranger community to celebrate World Ranger Day and what it means to be a ranger.

Mike Lynch, past president of CSPRA, reminded the audience about the many challenges that rangers outside the United States face on a daily basis. Rangers, particularly those in Latin America, face environmental and governmental challenges that make the job of being a ranger extremely dangerous. Rangers, as a community, are united in our dedication for the job and our mutual

respect for each other, he added.

Indeed, rangers across the globe experience challenges unique to their countries and practically unheard of in the United States. The leading cause of death by rangers outside of the United States is homicide, followed by death by large animal, such as elephants and rhinoceroses. But also alarming is the lack of basic necessities that are often taken for granted here in the United States.



A 2019 survey conducted of 7,000 rangers found that 50 percent of respondents indicated they lack clean drinking water and access to basic first aid. They desperately needed basic communication devices such as radios, and other simple tools to do their jobs effectively. Rangers around



the world face a wide variety of environmental and physical challenges, yet they remain dedicated. It's important for American rangers to have a deeper understanding of these realities.

Rangers go by many titles - including park ranger, game warden, conservation officer, and park guardians. They fill a variety of key roles to protect sacred resources from poachers and other harm while working under these often-challenging conditions. They may speak different languages and may face different challenges, but rangers are united as a community in their passion for the mission of protecting and preserving the world's natural and cultural treasures and helping the general public find a deeper appreciation for these special resources. World Ranger Day gives rangers across the globe a unifying opportunity to recognize this shared mission.

In his worldwide message to rangers on World Ranger Day 2021, IRF president Chris Galliers wrote: This has been a particularly taxing year for rangers who have the unenviable task of

global crises of biodiversity loss and climate change, which poses current and future threats to people, the environment and global heritage.

As if that were not enough, they have also had to do this in the midst of a global pandemic, which has resulted in increased health risks and also threatened their job security. We thank the rangers who have passed, whose lives we will remember and celebrate, as well as the current rangers whose true value as planetary health professionals must be fully recognized.

This message was directed to all rangers - from those in the Australian outback to the grasslands of Zimbabwe, to individual rangers and ranger associations located on all seven continents. It

was a chance to unite, and also honor the 120 rangers who were killed in the line of duty in 2020 and 2021. These individuals are listed on the 2021 Roll of Honor (<https://www.internationalrangers.org/meet-our-rangers/#roll-of-honour>). In addition to the Roll of Honor, rangers who lost their lives due to COVID-19 also were remembered. In 2021, at least 500 rangers across the globe are known to have died from COVID-19.

To learn more about World Ranger Day 2021, visit the [IRF Website](#)

Event video [here](#)

Jamie Richards is with the Association of National Park Rangers (a CSPRA affiliate) and a ranger at Rocky Mountain NP.



Book Review

Roseanne S. McHenry
Trip Tales: From Family Camping to Life as a Ranger, Paperback \$17.95, 300 pages, Auburn CA, 2021

What's the wildest thing that ever happened to you during an outdoor adventure? Did you accidentally set your boots on fire? Get attacked by hungry raccoons or investigated by a curious bear?

What's it like to be a park ranger? What happens when you get bucked off a horse, dangled from a cliff, bitten by bloodthirsty horseflies, or fall smack-flat onto your butt while leading a group of scouts down a trail?

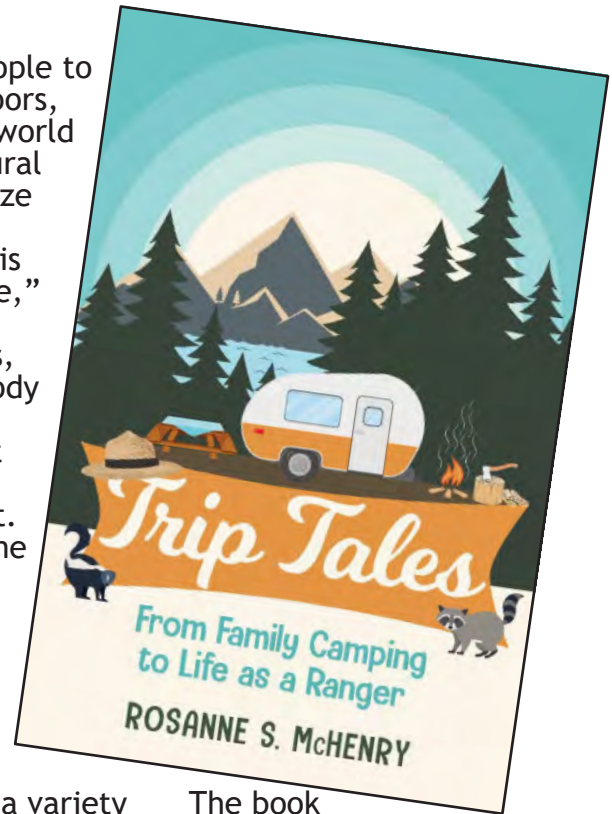
Rosanne S. McHenry shares family camping trips from her childhood and adventures as a national park ranger in her book "Trip Tales: From Family Camping to Life as a Ranger." The book was released Aug. 1.

These hilarious and eye-popping adventures will capture your imagination and carry you right into the experience of visiting our beautiful parklands; for all to enjoy! A fun beach read, or great stories for families to share.

"I wrote this book because I want people to embrace the outdoors, to go out into the world and enjoy our natural world, and to realize that this beautiful planet, our earth, is our shared heritage," McHenry said. "It belongs to all of us, and I want everybody to realize the importance of that heritage and to go out and embrace it. I also want everyone to understand that we each play an important role in not only enjoying our world but in protecting it."

The book features a variety of hilarious stories, including the time McHenry's father forgot to set up the support leg on their trailer and it came crashing down in the middle of the night, a tale about a 'stolen' picnic table that causes park patrons to race madly for a place at it, mishaps when roasting marshmallows that nearly start a wildfire, falling down in front of a group of Boy Scouts during a hike at Mount Rainier National Park, and having a mother cub and bears walk through her campfire program, sending all the attendees screaming for cover. These are just a few of the many stories in this extremely entertaining book that will make you laugh and cry at the same time

"These are all true stories about things that happened to me", she said.



The book also includes maps to show where the adventures took place and photos from family trips as a child and her days as a national park ranger.

McHenry hopes the book will be the first in a three-part series; the second book will focus on camping trips with her husband and children and her days as a California State Park Ranger, and the third will share her return to working in national parks as a naturalist ranger in Death Valley National Park. McHenry said her goal is to finish the second book in a couple of years.

"Trip Tales: From Family Camping to Life as a Ranger" is available as a Kindle e-book or in paperback on Amazon. It is also available through Ingram for booksellers.

Wave Goodbye

Peter Schulz

Peter Douglas Schulz quietly passed away while playing cards at the age of 76 years and seven months.



Peter spent the summer of 1965 in Chico at a UCLA-sponsored archaeological field class where he became interested in majoring in Anthropology with an emphasis in Archaeology. One summer Peter took a job with State Parks in Sacramento and discovered there were over 250 state parks with every kind of geography, historic structures, historic cultural diversity in a depth of time. He joined the State Parks Cultural Resources Division while continuing to complete his doctorate, which he did in 1981. He became a full-time Parks employee and served over 40 years, retiring in 2008.

Highlights include Old Town San Diego adobe buildings and trash deposits; Old Town Monterey adobes and trash deposits; China Camp State Park ethnic structures and foodways including the bay fishing and shrimp industry; Samuel P. Taylor CCC campground features; prehistoric coastal middens; prehistoric sites at San Luis Reservoir; Fort Ross State Historic Park buildings; Woodland Opera House restoration excavations; and Old Sacramento State Historic Park.

In 2002 Peter wrote manuals on CEQA and Public Resources Code 5024 to guide State Parks in the preservation of cultural resources. Peter maintained an academic connection as well, publishing over 50 articles in professional journals, and doing research projects at the UC Berkeley Anthropology Department and the Hearst Museum of Anthropology.

Peter advises all his friends and colleagues to wear Hawaiian shirts and laugh a lot.

Manfred Knaak

Legendary Anza-Borrego Desert State Park ranger **Manfred Knaak** recently passed away due to complications from diabetes and heart surgery at age 79. In addition to being a ranger and supervising ranger, Manfred had a passion for local archaeology. He taught classes in archaeology, and wrote an award-winning book on the rock art of the desert park - *The Forgotten Artist*.



Manfred came to the United States in 1963 from Germany. His parents had settled in Immenstaad on Lake Constance, after fleeing Danzig at the end of World War II. He began to travel in Baja California and the Southwest, studying native cultures and realizing his childhood dream of learning about American Indians and the West. He taught himself English, and earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Anthropology from San Diego State University. In 1972 Manfred was hired by Anza-Borrego Desert State Park to document Native American sites. In 1975 he became a State Park Ranger and spent most of his career at Anza-Borrego studying the parks Native American cultures. He met and married his wife Betsy when he was a supervising state park ranger. They moved into the park residence at Tamarisk Grove soon after they were married in 1982.

"We had no telephone, only the park radio," **Betsy Knaak** said. "We trucked in drinking water. Sometimes Manfred would have to drive to the top of Yaqui Pass to call on the radio. We lived there for 10 years."

Manfred Knaak retired from the state park in 1997 and taught anthropology at Imperial Valley College.

Mixed Metaphors & Malaprops

by Jeff Price,
Seriously Retired

Malaprop is the name for a word or phrase, derived from French, meaning something out of place. A mixed metaphor is a combination of two or more incompatible metaphors, which produces a ridiculous effect. Remember this: Keep an eye on your metaphors and an ear to the ground so that you don't end up with your foot in your mouth.

It's sedimentary, my dear Watson . . .

The toxic spill into the Colorado River is worse than thought, with so much sentiment flowing downstream.

Step on up.

That may be a good idea but it's certainly not at the top of my rung.

Wins by a nose . . .

It's as plain as the hair on your face.

Thinking small?

I think you must put all of this in a grain salt.



This anxiety acronym is off by a few letters.

He is uncontrollably obsessive over small things; he must have COPD.

Another gun safety issue . . .

He really knows how to trigger their bells and somehow hits the gasket every time.

A wetter consistency maybe?

Speaker Ryan has been very incontinent in his support of the president.

A better view maybe?

The coach had a better advantage point and threw the red flag.

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

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



The International Ranger Federation supporting the critical work that the world's park rangers do in conserving our natural and cultural heritage.



Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Resources.



Association of National Park Rangers communicating for, about and with National Park Service employees of all disciplines and providing a forum for professional enrichment



California Park Hospitality Association representing companies and individuals who provide hospitality services under contract with the California State Parks.



California League of Park Associations supporting the Non-profits that are partners with State Parks.



Don't forget the Ranger Foundation — Rangers Helping Rangers. Our 501(c)3 charitable organization helps rangers worldwide. Recent grants were awarded in Central and South America (5 grants at \$500 each). More information about how you can help [HERE](#).





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Member List Server

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

Just send your email address (no State emails please) to webmaster@cspra.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@cspra.com.



Already Retired?

Want to keep in touch after you leave DPR? Join Gray-Bears 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 # _____ (req'd for payroll education)

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*

* 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:

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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