

2009 California State Parks Special Events

California State Parks feature special events, including living history presentations, for visitors throughout the state throughout the year.

Here's a sample of what's going to happen:

Ongoing

Tuesdays of each month - school tours available by reservation

Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park (3369 St. Helena Highway North. Saint Helena)

The Park is open daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (except major holidays). The mill buildings are open and tours given on Saturdays and Sundays year round. Visitors can experience a working 1850's water-powered grist mill (flour mill). School tour reservations can be made by calling Bothe-Napa Valley State Park at (707) 942-4575. For more information, call (707) 942-4575. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=482

Mondays to Fridays of each month, year round - school tours available by reservation

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec) The park is open daily 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. The fort buildings are open and tours given on Mondays through Fridays year-round. Visitors can experience life at an 1850's frontier army fort. Tours are approximately two to three hours long. School tour reservations can be made by calling Fort Tejon State Historic Park at (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

First Saturday of each month, year round, "Frontier Army Days 1856"

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

Take a step back in time and experience the daily army life of the soldiers and civilians in early California. See California as it was in 1856. At Fort Tejon State Historic Park, visitors can witness life at this U.S. Army post of the Far West. Fort Tejon was a crossroads of California's many cultures and diverse ideas of the 1850s. Visitors are invited to view the living history demonstrations of everyday life of the common soldier and civilian men, women and children at this mountain outpost. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

Every Second Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Interpreting Gold Rush History

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (Coloma, CA)

The park has docents interpreting Gold Rush history, demonstrating rope making, carpentry and blacksmithing. The park phone number is (530) 295-2170 and the park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=484

Observe the cleaning of the Lantern Room and Third Order Fresnel lens from the ground throughout the year

Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary from the ground performs the cleaning every Friday, 8:30 – 10 a.m., weather permitting.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.)

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

First Saturday of every month, rain or shine, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Living History at San Juan Bautista State Historic Park"

San Juan Bautista State Historic Park (2nd and Washington Streets in San Juan Bautista)

Visitors can experience life in an Old West town as costumed docents recreate the late 1800s with miners, mountain men, Civil War soldiers and Victorian women. The program features crafts and cooking demonstrations, as well as old-fashioned sodas and card playing in the saloon. Admission is \$2 adults and aged sixteen and under free. Wagon rides and old-fashioned sodas are additional.

For more information call (831) 623-4881. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=563

January

January and February, Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. "Boat Tours- Annual Return of Eagles at Millerton Lake"

Millerton Lake State Recreation Area (Millerton Court House, Friant)

Join Ranger and Interpretive Staff as we ply the waters of Millerton Lake in search of American Bald Eagles. View eagles close-up while learning about their dramatic recovery, fascinating ecology and Millerton Lake's first Bald Eagle breeding event. \$15 per person, price includes admission to park. Weekend or weekday reservations are required. Mid-week tours are available depending on demand, and the entire boat can be booked mid-week for \$350.

For more information call (559) 822-2332.

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=587

January - October "Yoga in the Park"

California Citrus State Historic Park (Corner of Van Buren Boulevard & Dufferin Avenue, Riverside)

In a state-wide effort to promote health and well-being, the park is offering beginning yoga classes at the Sunkist Center. Experience the health benefits of

yoga through simple stretches, joint movement and relaxation. Improve your body's stability, mobility and balance. Then enjoy a complimentary glass of fresh orange juice at the end of class. The four (8/week) yoga class sessions will be held every Wednesday from 8:30 -10 a.m. in the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall of 2009. Classes are free with paid park \$4 entrance fee. For more information, contact the Park Office at (951) 780-6222. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

January 4, 2 p.m. "Speaker Series – Birding 101"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) - in the Park Visitor Center

Learn new facts and helpful hints that affect our citrus community. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

January 24, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. "Hollywood in Borrego"

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (on the eastern side of San Diego County, with portions extending east into Imperial County and north into Riverside County - it is about a two-hour drive from San Diego, Riverside, and Palm Springs)

Films have been part of our cultural history since 1928 ("Beggars of Life") and this tour explores some of that history. We'll begin at the park visitor center; viewing clips from feature films, then travel to many of the actual locations where scenes from the films were shot. 4WD required. Bring lunch, water and sunscreen. Meet at the park visitor center. Anza-Borrego Institute member fee \$25; non-member fee \$35. For more information call the Anza-Borrego Institute at (760) 767-4063 or visit www.theabf.org

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=638

January 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Gold Discovery Day

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (Coloma, CA)

January 24th marks the anniversary of James Marshall's momentous discovery of gold in the tailrace of Sutter's Mill. The park commemorates the historic event every year with living history, interactive period trade demonstrations, music, and programs featuring the activities of that day and the building of Sutter's Saw Mill. An event highlight is the re-enactment of Marshall's Gold Discovery. The park phone number is (530) 295-2170 and the park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=484

February

February 1, 2 p.m. "Speaker Series – Citrus 101"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) - in the Park Visitor Center

Learn new facts and helpful hints that affect our citrus community. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

February 6 - August 16 "The Call of Trains: Railroad Photographs by Jim Shaughnessy"

California State Railroad Museum (in Old Sacramento)

Jim Shaughnessy is a revered name among railroad photographers. He started out in the late 1940s photographing steam locomotives in his hometown of Troy, New York, and moved on to documenting the dramatic steam-to-diesel transition. His emphasis has always been on the northeastern United States and Canada, where railroad action and often-deep snow are plentiful. Best known for his early night photography and images of railroad workers, shops and roundhouses, Shaughnessy is still taking photographs today. Presented the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society's lifetime achievement award for photography in 1987, his work has recently been in the spotlight because of a new book featuring the same title as this exhibition. A special presentation and book signing event is scheduled at the Museum on Sunday, March 8, as part of this exhibition. The park phone number is (916) 445-2560. The web page is: www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

February 7 beginning at 7 p.m. "Full Moon Snowshoe Tours"

Ed Z'berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

Sugar Pine Point State Park and West Shore Sports welcomes you to join us on our moonlight snowshoe tours. Park Rangers will lead adventurers out into the moonlight around the Ehrman Mansion and along Lake Tahoe's magical West Shore. For those new to the sport of snowshoeing there will be a beginner's clinic at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds from the tours support the Sierra State Parks Foundation. Meet in the day use area parking lot. Wear winter boots and dress accordingly. Reservations required.

\$12 per person. Kids under 12 free (includes snowshoe rentals.) For more information call (530) 525-9920. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

February 7 and 8 "California's Civil War"

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

Come take a step back in time to 1864. Find out how Californians reacted to the great Civil War that was embroiling the rest of the nation. See how Californians lived back in wild and woolly frontier California. Meet the soldiers and civilians that kept California in the United States of America. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

February 8 at 7 p.m. "Full Moon Cross-County Ski Tour"

Ed Z'berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

A memorable ski experience is waiting for you as you are led along the path of Olympic champions with only the moonlight lighting the way. Led by local

Olympic historian Dave Antonucci, the tour will take you through the forests to the 1960 Biathlon event site. Reservations recommended.
\$7 parking fee. No charge for the program. For more information call (530) 525-9920. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

February 14, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. “Migration Festival”

Seacliff State Beach (5.5 miles south of Santa Cruz on Highway 1)

New Brighton State Beach (4 miles south of Santa Cruz on Highway 1)

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (5 miles north of Santa Cruz on Highway 9)

Natural Bridges State Beach (on West Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz)

Santa Cruz State Parks celebrates wildlife that migrates to, through and beyond the Santa Cruz area with hands-on activities, educational booths, speakers, and crafts for kids of all ages. This year’s theme is “State Parks are Making Way for Wildlife” – how parks provide a safe path and essential habitat for animals in migration.

For more information call (831) 423-4609.

February 14, 11 a.m. “Romance in the Redwoods”

Big Basin Redwoods State Park (9 miles outside of Boulder Creek on Highway 236) Visitors are invited to take a Valentine discovery tour of their redwood neighbors in a one-hour walk through the park, learning about the courtship behavior of banana slugs, newts, woodpeckers and redwood trees. Although material presented is scientific in nature, the subject matter may be more appropriate for mature audiences. Visitors are invited to bring a picnic lunch for a Valentine picnic afterwards in the redwoods. Participants should meet at park headquarters at 11 a.m.

For more information call (831) 338-8883. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=540

February 14 and 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Black History Month

Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (20 miles north of Wasco on Highway 43; 15 miles west of Earlimart on County Road J22)

February events focus primarily on providing an educational and fun-time experience for school children. Visitors receive guided tours of the park’s historic buildings with living history demonstrations. Speakers provide lectures on the history of the park and African Americans. The park phone number is (661) 849-3433. The park webpage is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=583

February 14 at 3 p.m. “Snowshoe Through History”

Ed Z’berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

What would it be like to be the only permanent resident of Tahoe’s west shore during the winter of 1904? Join our State Park Interpreter on a journey through the historic zone at Sugar Pine Point exploring our local history and signs of winter wildlife. This is a perfect afternoon activity for the entire family! Meet in the day use parking lot. Bring snowshoes and water.

\$7 parking fee. No charge for the program. For more information call (530) 525-7982. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

February 15, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. “United States Immigration Station Re-opening Event”

Angel Island State Park (in San Francisco Bay)

The even is free. Call the Ranger Office at (415) 435-5390 for more information.

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=468

February 15, 8 a.m. “Bird Walks”

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) – meet at the Park Gazebo

These walks will enlighten your senses to the sights, sounds and variety of birds that call this park home. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

February 20 - September 6 Transcontinental Railroad Photography Exhibit

California State Railroad Museum (in Old Sacramento)

The western half of the Transcontinental Railroad will be a focus for the Museum in spring and summer 2009, during the 140th Anniversary of completion for the world’s first Transcontinental Railroad. (The railroad’s “Last Spike” was driven at Promontory Summit, Utah, on May 10, 1869.) Photographer Shen-Chih Cheng’s stunning black & white photographs of the original Central Pacific route as it looks today will be exhibited, along with artifacts highlighting Chinese workers who were the railroad’s construction crew. The park phone number is (916) 445-2560. The web page is: www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

February 21 – 22 “Archeology Weekend”

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (on the eastern side of San Diego County, with portions extending east into Imperial County and north into Riverside County - it is about a two-hour drive from San Diego, Riverside, and Palm Springs)

Learn about the prehistory and early history of Anza-Borrego through two days of lectures, field trips and special events. Hosted by the Colorado District Archeology Society. For more information call the Anza-Borrego Institute at (760) 767-4063 or visit www.theabf.org

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=638

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March

March, April, May and June - Monday to Tuesday and Thursday to Friday of each week “Student Living History Program”

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

Fort Tejon State Historic Park offers a unique hands-on interpretive living history program for 4th and 5th grade age children. Classes participate in our one-of-a-kind field overnight trips. School children take a field trip back in time to early

California of the 1850s and discover everyday life at this mountain outpost of the U.S. Army. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

March 1, 2 p.m. "Speaker Series – Citrus Sampling"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) - in the Park Visitor Center

Learn new facts and helpful hints that affect our citrus community. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

March 1 (10 a.m. equipment check: tours LEAVE at 10:30 a.m. sharp) "1960 Olympics XC Interpretive Ski Tour and Presentation"

Ed Z'berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

Experience the thrill of reliving the dreams and aspirations of Olympic athletes by joining us for an interpretive 8 km ski tour of the 1960 Winter Olympics XC trails at Sugar Pine Point State Park. Led by Dave Antonucci and Rob Weston of the Olympic Heritage Celebration Committee. Meet at 10:30 a.m. on the campground side of the park and follow the signs to the trailhead. After the ski, there will be a special showing of *Flame in the Snow* while sipping hot chocolate. Bring layered clothing, water, snack, and sunscreen and XC gear. Approximately 2 ½ hours.

Advanced beginner and above skiers only.

\$7 parking fee. No charge for the program. For more information call (530) 525-9920. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

March 7 – May 17 The Way We Worked: Photographs from the National Archives

California State Railroad Museum (in Old Sacramento)

Work and the workplace have gone through enormous changes between the mid-19th century, when 60 percent of Americans made their living as farmers, and the late-20th century, with its shift from an industrial to a knowledge-based economy. Produced by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, *The Way We Worked* reveals the effects of industrialization, urbanization, immigration, labor unrest, wars, and economic depression on ordinary working Americans. Spanning the years 1857-1987, the exhibition's black & white images also reflect a workforce shaped by immigration and ethnicity, slavery and racial segregation, wage labor and technology, gender roles and class, as well as by the American ideals of freedom and equality. The park phone number is (916) 445-2560. The web page is: www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

March 7 beginning at 7 p.m. "Full Moon Snowshoe Tours"

Ed Z'berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

Sugar Pine Point State Park and West Shore Sports welcomes you to join us on our moonlight snowshoe tours. Park Rangers will lead adventurers out into the

moonlight around the Ehrman Mansion and along Lake Tahoe's magical West Shore. For those new to the sport of snowshoeing there will be a beginner's clinic at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds from the tours support the Sierra State Parks Foundation. Meet in the day use area parking lot. Wear winter boots and dress accordingly. Reservations required.

\$12 per person. Kids under 12 free (includes snowshoe rentals.) For more information call (530) 525-9920. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

March 7 – 8 and March 21 - 22, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Centennial Whale Festival
Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) Festival activities include whale watching from the Lighthouse bluffs, children activities, bird watching, and exhibits and demonstrations.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.) During the event donations will be asked for parking.

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

March 15, 8 a.m. "Bird Walks"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) – meet at the Park Gazebo

These walks will enlighten your senses to the sights, sounds and variety of birds that call this park home. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

March 21 – 22 MacKerricher Whale Festival

MacKerricher State Park (three miles north of Fort Bragg on Highway 1) Festival activities will include whale watching, guided whale talks, children activities and stories of whale encounters.

Whale talks begin at 11 a.m. on each day. Children activities will happen on March 21, 12 Noon to 3 p.m. Stories of whale encounters will be at 3:30 p.m. on March 21.

For more information call (707) 937-5804. The park website is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=436

March 27 – 29, "Vallecito Days"

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (east of San Diego via Highways 78 and 79)

This three-day annual event is held in conjunction with San Diego County Parks and Ramona Trails Association. It includes Overland Mail reenactment, ride as a loop out from the County Park stage station and back. The ranch house will be decorated in period artifacts. There will also be living history events.

The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=638

April

April 4 - 5 "Archeology of Anza-Borrego"

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (on the eastern side of San Diego County, with portions extending east into Imperial County and north into Riverside County - it is about a two-hour drive from San Diego, Riverside, and Palm Springs)

Join professional archeologists and learn how prehistoric peoples managed to make a living from the land. Two days of lectures and field classes with Dr. Joan Schneider and Dr. Claude Warren. Advance registration required. For more information call the Anza-Borrego Institute at (760) 767-4063 or visit

www.theabf.org

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=638

April 5, 2 p.m. "Speaker Series – Animal Control"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) - in the Park Visitor Center

Learn new facts and helpful hints that affect our citrus community. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

Saturday, April 11-: Tours begin at 7 p.m. "Twilight Snow Tours"

Ed Z'berg-Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

Join your neighbors and friends for a very special event for the entire family celebrating winter on the west shore! West Shore Sports will be providing the snow shoes (if conditions allow) as Park Rangers guide you on a fun and adventurous tour around the park. Meet in the day use area parking lot. Wear winter boots and dress accordingly. Space is limited. \$10 per person or bring the entire family for \$20 (includes snowshoe rentals). Reservations required at (530) 525-9920. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=510

April 11, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. "Sheep Shearing"

Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park (0.7 miles east of Petaluma on Highway 116)

How does the wool come off of sheep? The famous Adobe sheep will be losing their winter coats under the expert guidance of shearer Judd Redden. Redden will demonstrate past and present methods of cutting wool off sheep.

Admission fee is \$2.00 for adults 17 and older, children 16 and under are free. For more information about these events at the park please call (707)762-4871.

The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=474

April 17 – 19 "Trader's Faire"

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (2701 L Street in Sacramento)

Captain Sutter, along with those immigrant families, carpenters, bakers, spinners, trappers, Mexican soldiers, and others housed in the protective walls of the fort, will bring early California's rich history alive. All characters and historical figures are portrayed by the Sutter's Fort State Historic Park Docents. Re-live the sights, smells and sounds of the past. For further event information or for information on volunteer and education programs call the park at (916) 445-4422. The park web page is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/suttersfort>

April 18, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. 1906 Earthquake Living History Program
California State Capitol Museum (Capitol Mall and 10th Street, Sacramento)
Step back in time as volunteers and staff of the Capitol Museum costumed in the attire of the period re-enacting scenes in response to one of America's greatest disasters – the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. Guided tours run every 15 minutes from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. This glimpse into turn-of-the-20th-century California history is free for everyone. The park phone number is (916) 324-0333. The park web page is: <http://capitolmuseum.ca.gov>

April 18 – 19 Indian Arts & Crafts Market
California State Indian Museum (2618 K Street in Sacramento)
Native artisans come from all over California to participate in this event. Enjoy shopping for artwork, baskets, gourds, jewelry, soapstone and elkhorn carvings, drums and much, much more. Regular admission will apply to museum entry. The park phone number is (916) 324-0971. The park web page is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum>

April 18, Noon "Founding Day"
El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) Visitors can journey into the past and join the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation in celebrating Santa Barbara's 227th birthday with "Founding Day" at the park, the city's 1782 birth place. The Presidio comes to life with Early California music and dance, pottery and brick making, Chumash storytelling, hands-on archeology and a Presidio birthday cake.
For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

April 18 Governor's Mansion State Historic Park Preservation Celebration
Governor's Mansion State Historic Park (1526 H Street in Sacramento)
Kept "under wraps" for a year and a half, the recently revealed Mansion is sporting a fantastic new facelift! Come help us celebrate the completion of the \$1.2 million deferred maintenance project. Exciting discoveries during the repair work on the third floor will mean expanded opportunities for the public to view the incredible craftsmanship from 1877 when the house was first built for the Gallatin family. Get a preview of what is in store and learn how you can help to get the third floor of the mansion open to the public for the first time ever. The park phone number is (916) 323-3047. The park webpage is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/governorsmansion>

April 18, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Glass Beach Clean Up

MacKerricher State Park (three miles north of Fort Bragg on Highway 1)
Volunteers will meet at the corner of Elm St. and Glass Beach Drive in Fort Bragg and will help with the International Earth Day Celebration by cleaning up the environment along the Pacific Coastline. Gloves, and plastic bags will be provided.

For more information call the park at (707) 937-5804. The park web page is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=436

April 18 and May 2 Wildflower Trains

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (Jamestown, CA)

Railtown's Wildflower Trains will feature Interpretive Park Rangers from the nearby New Melones Recreation Resource Center, answering questions and pointing out flower groupings along the way. A scheduled stop along the route will provide passengers with the opportunity to scatter wildflower seeds, too! Prior to boarding the special afternoon train, guests will have the opportunity to learn basic information about the wildflowers of California's Sierra Nevada foothills.

The park phone number is (209) 984-3953. The park web page is:

<http://www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org>

April 19, 8 a.m. "Bird Walks"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) – meet at the Park Gazebo

These walks will enlighten your senses to the sights, sounds and variety of birds that call this park home. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

April 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. "13th Annual Point Mugu to Point Dume Whale Festival"

Leo Carrillo State Park (located between Point Mugu and Dume at 35000 West Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, California 90265)

This event celebrates the annual migration of the California gray whale and its successful return from the brink of extinction. Whale appreciation and environmental awareness are the themes of the day. Live entertainment, environmental conservation information booths, whale-watching stations, arts and crafts for children, activities, music and food are all a part of the day's events. Experienced naturalists will be on hand to help participants spot and identify gray whales and bottlenose dolphin right from the beach! Parking for the public is \$10 or free for schools with pre-arranged reservations. Sponsored by the Santa Monica Mountains Natural History Association

For more information contact: (805) 488-1827 x106 or malibuinterp@gmail.com
or visit the website www.malibuinterp.com.

April 25, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. "Spring Planting Day"

Wilder Ranch State Park (2 miles north of Santa Cruz on Highway 1)

Visitors are invited to help plant the park's heirloom vegetable garden as it would have been planted circa 1900. There will also be composting demonstrations, gardening information and children's gardening crafts. The event is held on the grounds of the Wilder Ranch Cultural Preserve.

For more information call (831) 426-0505. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=549

April 22, "Earth Day"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside)

Meet your community in citrus tree planting, grove clean up and other earth friendly activities. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

April 25 – 26 Heron Festival / Wildflower Brunch

Clear Lake State Park (Near Kelseyville at 5300 Soda Bay Road)

This annual event features boat tours, nature walks, children's activities, special exhibits and speakers.

The park phone number is: (707) 279-2267. The event web page is:

<http://www.heronfestival.org> or (800) 525-3743.

April 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. "Plein Air Earth Day Celebration"

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, (Visitor Center, 917 Kelly Ridge Road just off Highway 162, nine miles east of Highway 70 at Oroville)

Families are invited to witness the Artists of River Town capture the natural beauty of Lake Oroville on canvas. Artists will be scattered around the courtyard, along our trails or even up on our four-story observation tower. Watch their images unfold, like seeing a flower blossom before your eyes! Light refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information, call (530) 538-2219. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=462

May

May 2, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Bug Day"

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (off Highway 9 in Felton)

Kids are invited to make new discoveries about a wide variety of bugs through interactive games, puppet shows, art projects, nature walks and displays, including a chance to earn a degree in "Bugology" in finding out about the diversity of wildlife found in the park.

For more information call (831) 335-7077. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=546

May 2, 12 Noon – 4 p.m. "Bidwell Bar Day"

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, Bidwell Camp Ground (just off Highway 162, nine miles east of Highway 70 at Oroville.

Park visitors are invited to join costumed pioneers, gold miners, trappers, saloon girls and dancers at a free 1850's gold rush celebration at the reconstructed old stone toll house and the first suspension bridge in California. Activities for youngsters include panning for real gold, playing Faro, making homemade candles, corn husk dolls or pine nut necklaces, and watching a rip-roaring old-time melodrama. For more information, call (530) 538-2219. The park website is www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=462

May 2 Mendocino Historic Days – Lens Tour – U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) Visitors will have the rare opportunity to climb the ladder way through the Lens Room to view the working Third Order Fresnel lens from above. Also, there will be a docent walk/talk at 11 a.m.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.)

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

May 2, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. "Coming Home to Pio Pico"

Pio Pico State Historic Park (6003 Pioneer Boulevard, Whittier)

This Cinco de Mayo event celebrates Pio Pico's birthday and the cultural heritage preserved at this park. The fun and free festivities include folklorico dancing, historical re-enactments, adobe and bread making demonstrations, festive music, activities for children and a cake cutting ceremony. Visit www.piopico.org or call the park at (562) 695-1217, x102.

May 2 Wildflower Train

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (Jamestown, CA)

Railtown's Wildflower Trains will feature Interpretive Park Rangers from the nearby New Melones Recreation Resource Center, answering questions and pointing out flower groupings along the way. A scheduled stop along the route will provide passengers with the opportunity to scatter wildflower seeds, too! Prior to boarding the special afternoon train, guests will have the opportunity to learn basic information about the wildflowers of California's Sierra Nevada foothills.

The park phone number is (209) 984-3953. The park web page is:

<http://www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org>

May 4, 2 p.m. "Speaker Series – Grafting"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) - in the Park Visitor Center

Learn new facts and helpful hints that affect our citrus community. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

May 9 & 10, "Layers of History: Santa Barbara's Asian Community"
El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) Join the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation for a two day celebration of the history and culture of Santa Barbara's Asian community, which will feature demonstrations, art, traditional foods and temporary exhibits. The festival highlights the larger multi-heritage of the surrounding Presidio neighborhood from the 18th century to the present. For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

May 9, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. "Living History Day"
Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park (0.7 miles east of Petaluma on Highway 116)
Visitors will have the opportunity to experience the activity and color of living history volunteers adorned in beautiful authentic clothing demonstrate old crafts an present entertaining skits that reveal the stories of the past.
Admission for adults (age 17 and older) is \$5; children (age 16 and under are free. For more information about these events at the park please call (707)762-4871. The park web page is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=474

May 9, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Old Time Jubilee
Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (20 miles north of Wasco on Highway 43; 15 miles west of Earlimart on County Road J22)
Every year the town of Allensworth had a big bash. This is the time of the year when the carnival came to town. The Friends of Allensworth provide a great family festival atmosphere with entertainment featuring gospel, jazz and drama. There are activities for the young and young at heart. The park phone number is (661) 849-3433. The park webpage is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=583

May 10, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. "Mother's Day Walk: Women of Big Basin"
Big Basin Redwoods State Park (nine miles outside of Boulder Creek on Highway 236) Celebrate Mother's Day in the park by honoring the spirited women who lived, worked and fought for the Basin throughout its history, such as pioneer homemaker Alice Maddock, Josephine McCrackin "the savior of the redwoods," and Harriet "Petey" Weaver, the first female ranger. Stroll through the magnificent redwoods on a half-mile, one-hour guided walk. Meet at park headquarters for either the morning or afternoon tour, which is wheelchair and stroller accessible.
For more information call (831) 338-8883. The park web page is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=540

May 10, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Spring Open House"
Empire Mine State Historic Park (10791 East Empire Street in Grass Valley)
Visitors are invited to stroll through the lovely 13-acre estate garden and enjoy the early bloomers, chat with volunteers in period clothing representing

characters from the mine's past, listen to music at the Bourne Cottage and enjoy arts and crafts on the Clubhouse tennis court.

For more information call (530) 273-8522. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=499

May 16, 11 a.m. "Presidio Pastimes"

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) History comes to life at the Presidio giving visitors the chance to meet the fort's uniformed soldiers, cook delicious tortillas and learn about early California food, help with archeology, mix adobe mud, watch a blacksmith practice his trade and enjoy Early California craft demonstrations.

For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

May 17, 8 a.m. "Bird Walks"

California Citrus State Historic Park (at the corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Dufferin Avenue in Riverside) – meet at the Park Gazebo

These walks will enlighten your senses to the sights, sounds and variety of birds that call this park home. The park phone number is (951) 780-6222. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=649

May 17 Civil War Battle Demonstrations

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

See the troops of the Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery from the Union and Confederate Armies. Battles are at 10:30 a.m., 12Noon and 1:30 p.m. Mock battles are approximately 30 minutes in length. Guided tours are offered of the Union and Confederate camps between the battles. Living history demonstrations are Manual of Arms, Artillery, Civilian Life and Field Hospital demonstrations. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

May 17, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Olompali Heritage Day"

Olompali State Historic Park (from southbound Highway 101, 2.5 miles north of Novato)

Featured Heritage Day activities include tours of the park's historic gardens and grounds, native plant and bird walks, native dancing, and demonstrations of blacksmithing, basketry, flint-knapping and adobe brick-making. A silent auction is held to raise funds for the park, with auction items donated by Marin and Sonoma County merchants and artisans. The event is free. Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch. Contact: Mike Lair, Supervising Ranger, Phone number: (415) 898-4362 x14, e-mail address: mlair@parks.ca.gov.

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=465

June

June 6, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Gathering of Honored Elders

California State Indian Museum (2618 K Street in Sacramento)

Join us as we present our annual Gathering of Honored Elders devoted to honoring the elders who keep the traditions, stories, languages, and cultures of Native California alive for the generations that follow them on the grounds of the California State Indian Museum. Admission to this family event is free. Regular admission will apply to museum entry. As always, children are admitted to the museum free when accompanied by an adult. The park phone number is (916) 324-0971. The park web page is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum>

June 7th to September 6th, 11 a.m. each Sunday docent walks/talks

Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) Docents from the Point Cabrillo Lightkeeper's Association will meet the public at 11 a.m. for a history walk and/or talk.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.)

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

June through August, 7 p.m. Wednesday evenings "Summer Speaker Series"
Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, Visitor Center, 917 Kelly Ridge Road, Oroville.

Visual Presentations explore the natural world around us, our local historic and cultural heritage, and engage the audience with dramatic photography and environmental subjects that impact our lives today. For more information call (530)538-2219. The park web page is

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=462

June 6, 13, 27, 8 a.m. - 12 Noon, "Birding by Ear in the Mono Basin"

Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve (off of Highway 395 near Lee Vining at Mono Lake). Have you ever been frustrated hearing a bird sing but not knowing who or what it is—can't see it but think it sounds familiar? Come and listen to the sounds of the birds and learn to associate those songs to the actual bird. Workshops are geared for beginning and intermediate birders but all levels of birders are welcome. Come prepared to have a good time at a relaxed pace. Beginning near the shore of Mono Lake the group will visit a variety of habitats gradually working its way up to an elevation of about 7,500 ft. \$20.00 per person. Proceeds go to the Sierra State Parks Foundation. For more information call (760) 647-6331.

June 6, beginning at 10 a.m. Coloma Blues Live at **Henningsen-Lotus Park**

Enjoy an all-day blues festival with your family along the shore of the American River in the beautiful Coloma Valley. Headliners to be determined. All proceeds benefit the **Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park** educational programs, the Arts in Education Programs of the El Dorado Arts Council, and the Educational Programs of the Coloma-Louts Chamber of Commerce. Ticket information will coming soon at www.marshallgold.org. and

<http://www.colomablueslive.com>. This Blues Festival is co-sponsored by the above three organizations.

June 6, 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. “Wise, Wicked and Wonderful Women of Old Town”
Old Town San Diego State Historic Park (three miles north of Downtown San Diego, adjacent to the Old Town Transit Center).

Visitors are invited to tour the historic gardens, try their hand at historic crafts and skills, and attempt to refine their gambling techniques with old fashioned games of chance. In addition, there will be the opportunity to see ladies having their hair arranged in old fashioned styles, learn historic dances, and even attend a presentation that emphasizes the dangers of childbirth in the 1800's. There will be live entertainment throughout the day with a demonstration of historic dances from 4 to 5pm by the park's dance group, Los Bailadores. The afternoon will be climaxed by a fashion show of reproduction historic clothing from 5-6pm.

According to the Women's History Museum's motto, a 'Well Behaved Woman Rarely Made History!' So come spend the afternoon with park volunteers and other women's groups who will demonstrate what life was like for the women who helped San Diego become a thriving community.

For more information call (619) 220-5422. The park web page is:

<http://www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego>

June 6, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Centennial Partnership Celebration
Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) California State Parks and the Point Cabrillo Lightkeepers Association will host activities celebrating the construction and history of the Light Station for visitors, dignitaries and media. Tours of the Station's buildings will be available throughout the day. Grounds and trails open for family picnics, reunions and hiking. During the event donations will be asked for parking.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.)

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

June 6, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. “16th Annual Festival at the Cement Ship”
Seacliff State Beach (off Highway 1 in Aptos)

Celebrate the unique history of the WW1 Concrete Ship Palo Alto, the natural wonders of Seacliff's fossil beds and the animals that call the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary their home. The event will feature music, fun, food, arts, crafts, games and stories, including kite flying on the beach and educational booths.

For more information call (831) 685-6444. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=543

June 6, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. “Full Moon Madness Astronomy Night”
Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (off Highway 9 in Felton)

Join a moonlight guided tour of the redwoods and moon gaze through telescopes. Activities include music, multi-media presentation about the park's nocturnal critters, crafts for kids, and refreshments.

For more information call (831) 335-7077. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=546

June 10 "Happy 100th Birthday!"

Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) The park's "Relighting the Light" program at sunset will give dignitaries and visitors the opportunity to experience an historical reenactment of the lighting of the 3rd Order Fresnel lens.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.)

For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

June 13 and 14, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., "Camp Reynolds Civil War Days"

Angel Island State Park (in San Francisco Bay)

Bring the family, take a picnic, catch a ferry ride and discover the day in the life of a Civil War soldier at historic Camp Reynolds. Activities include: baking in an historic brick oven, music, historic guided site tours, cannon and musket firings, flag signaling, rope and doll making and much more. From the dock; a shuttle service is available for \$5 from Ayala Cove, or take the short walk to get there and enjoy the beautiful view. The event is free and begins at 11 a.m. with the raising of the flag and ends at 3:30 p.m. with the striking of the colors. The event is free. Questions regarding this event can be emailed to CWD@angelisland.org or call the Ranger Office at (415) 435-5390. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=468

June 13, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Juneteenth

Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (20 miles north of Wasco on Highway 43; 15 miles west of Earlimart on County Road J22)

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. It was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were now free. This was 2 ½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which had become official January 1, 1863. The day is celebrated by African Americans throughout the southwest. The park phone number is (661) 849-3433. The park webpage is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=583

June 19 - 21, "Eighth Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua"

Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve (Lee Vining). A weekend festival of birds, science, art, music, workshops, auditorium presentations, field trips, and great food. Over sixty events led by 30 presenters are offered. Special musical guest,

Ray Bonneville. Registration opens on April 15th. For more information visit: www.birdchautauqua.org or call Dave Marquart at the park office (760) 647-6331

June 20, 11 a.m. "Presidio Pastimes"

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) History comes to life at the Presidio giving visitors the chance to meet the fort's uniformed soldiers, cook delicious tortillas and learn about early California food, help with archeology, mix adobe mud, watch a blacksmith practice his trade and enjoy Early California craft demonstrations.

For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

June 20, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Early Days at San Juan Bautista State Historic Park"
San Juan Bautista State Historic Park (2nd and Washington Streets in San Juan Bautista)

Costumed docents bring the past into the presents as visitors meet the people of early California, including miners, mountain men, Civil War soldiers and Victorian women. There will be craft and cooking demonstrations, rides in horse drawn wagons, and card playing and old-fashioned sodas in the saloon. Admission is \$2 adults and sixteen and under free. Wagon rides and sodas are additional. The event is sponsored by the Plaza History Association and San Juan Bautista State Historic Park.

For more information call (831) 623-4881. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=563

June 20, 7 p.m. – Midnight "Victorian Ball"

San Juan Bautista State Historic Park (2nd and Washington Streets in San Juan Bautista)

Participants in Victorian dress (admired, but not required) can dance to the live music of "Legacy." The event is presented by the Plaza History Associations. For more information call the Plaza Hotel at (831) 623-4881. The park web page: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=563

June 21 Civil War Battle Demonstrations

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

See the troops of the Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery from the Union and Confederate Armies. Battles are at 10:30 a.m., 12Noon and 1:30 p.m. Mock battles are approximately 30 minutes in length. Guided tours are offered of the Union and Confederate camps between the battles. Living history demonstrations are Manual of Arms, Artillery, Civilian Life and Field Hospital demonstrations. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

June 28 – "Burton Creek 10 & 20 Mile Trail Run"

Burton Creek State Park (east of Tahoe State Vehicular Recreation Area)

The Burton Creek Trail Run takes place on a beautiful, fun and challenging trail system within Burton Creek State Park. The course features miles of single track through pine forests and high sierra meadows. Burton Creek drains the runoff from Mt. Watson into Lake Tahoe.

For more information:

<http://www.bigblueadventure.com/pub/main2.asp?daEvent=54&daPageName=INTRO>

July

July 4, "1856 Fourth of July Celebration"

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

The park's 1856 Fourth of July Celebration will offer the visitor a unique opportunity to take a step back in time for a special event at this army outpost of the 1850's. Watch park volunteers in period attire of the U.S. Army and civilians of the era. At Noon, volunteers will fire a 31-gun salute from the post's cannons in honor of the national holiday.

The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

July 4, Noon – 4 p.m. "Living History Day - Cooper-Molera Adobe"

Monterey State Historic Park (20 Custom House Plaza in downtown Monterey)

Step back in time and experience Monterey as it was in the 1840s at the annual July 4th Living History Day at the historic Cooper-Molera Adobe. Join the family-oriented fun following the 4th of July parade in downtown Monterey from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Living History Day activities include children's old-fashioned games; churning butter and cooking tortillas; making rope with a hand-crank machine; learning about blacksmithing; enjoying early California stories; tapping your feet to Mexican-era music and dances in the historic Cooper Barn.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for youth, 6-17 years old. Ages 5 and under are free if accompanied by a paying adult. This special event is sponsored by California State Parks in cooperation with the Old Monterey Preservation Society. For more information, call the Monterey State Historic Park office: (831) 649-7118 or www.parks.ca.gov/mshp.

July 4, 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. "Historic 4th of July Celebration"

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park (three miles north of Downtown San Diego, adjacent to the Old Town Transit Center).

Experience the history of early San Diego on America's birthday with an historic 1800s 4th of July celebration in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park! The celebration will have games galore for the entire family. Sack races, needle in a haystack, pie-eating contest, egg toss and much, much more! Whether you want to relax in the plaza with a picnic or try your hand at one of the historic games, Old Town San Diego State Historic Park's Independence Day celebration is fun for everyone! The activities begin at 11:00 am and continue through 4:00 pm. Entertainment on stage will be provided during the day. There will be a special

12:00 noon flag raising and parade. Re-enactors from San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association will liven up the day with demonstrations of cannon firing. Enjoy lemonade and popcorn available for the old fashioned price of only twenty five cents. Come early to participate in the parade and stay late to relax in the plaza while enjoying patriotic music and activities. This inexpensive family friendly event supports the educational programs in the park.

For more information call (619) 220-5422. The park web page is:

<http://www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego>

July 4, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. “Old-Fashioned Independence Day”

Wilder Ranch State Park (two miles north of Santa Cruz on the coast side of Highway 1)

Visit Wilder Ranch’s historic cultural reserve and take a step back in time 100 years ago as visitors get to participate in a 1909-style Independence Day celebration with a Noon family parade, games, children’s crafts, live big-band music, living history demonstrations, historic speeches and flag-raising. Food and drink available for sale or bring your own picnic lunch.

For more information call (831) 426-0505. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=549

July 11, 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. “Full Moon Madness Astronomy Night”

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (off Highway 9 in Felton)

Join a moonlight guided tour of the redwoods and moon gaze through telescopes. Activities include music, multi-media presentation about the park’s nocturnal critters, crafts for kids, and refreshments.

For more information call (831) 335-7077. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=546

July 18, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. “2009 Coastal Discovery Fair”

Hearst San Simeon State Park (west of Hearst Castle State Historical Monument at Hearst Memorial Beach)

Come celebrate the anniversary of the Coastal Discovery Center at San Simeon Bay with California State Parks and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Make a connection between the land and sea through the interactive fair booths from the many natural history organizations of California’s beautiful central coast. Families can come build an “R.O.V.” underwater robot, cast an animal track, shake fins with a Steelhead fish, or hear our talking tidepool. You might even win a valuable prize during our fundraising raffle held throughout the day. For more information call the Coastal Discovery Center at (805) 927-6575.

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=589

July 19, 11 a.m. “Presidio Pastimes”

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) History comes to life at the Presidio giving visitors the chance to meet the fort’s uniformed soldiers, cook delicious tortillas and learn about early California food, help with archeology, mix adobe mud,

watch a blacksmith practice his trade and enjoy Early California craft demonstrations.

For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

July 24 – 25 “Tales of the Basin” Storytelling Weekend

Big Basin Redwoods State Park (nine miles outside of Boulder Creek on Highway 236) The oral storytelling celebration is celebrated with the ancient redwood forest as a backdrop. Weekend events include Big Basin Nature Tales for children, guided walks that spin a yarn along the trail, and a Storyteller Showcase in the park’s historic Campfire Center. The event is presented in collaboration with the South Bay Storytellers.

For more information call (831) 338-8883. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=540

July 25, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. “25th Annual Pine Lodge Living History Day”

Ed Z’berg Sugar Pine Point State Park (ten miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89) Old Tahoe elegance returns to Sugar Pine Point for our 25th celebration of Living History Day. The public is invited to an open house at the park’s famed Pine Lodge (also known as the Ehrman mansion) for a variety of free family activities, including nature walks through the estate’s 2,000 acres, use of the park’s two miles of beach, live music, Washoe elders story telling, a Children’s Activity Zone, and antique cars and famous wooden boats on display. All events are free. Parking is \$7 per car.

For more information call Ranger Heidi Doyle at (530) 525-9528 or go on-line to:

<http://www.laketahoelivinghistory.com>

PHOTOS AVAILABLE

July 25 Cultural Heritage Day

Fort Ross State Historic Park (12 miles north of Jenner on Highway 1)

For more information call the park at (707) 847-3286. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=449

August

August 8, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. “Full Moon Madness Astronomy Night”

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (off Highway 9 in Felton)

Join a moonlight guided tour of the redwoods and moon gaze through telescopes. Activities include music, multi-media presentation about the park’s nocturnal critters, crafts for kids, and refreshments.

For more information call (831) 335-7077. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=546

August 8 National Lighthouse Day

Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park (two miles north of Mendocino on Point Cabrillo Drive) Visitors can view the working Third Order Fresnel lens up close with a guided tour. There is a fee for this event.

The Lighthouse, Lightkeeper's Museums, Marine Science and other exhibits are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (including Christmas and New Years days.) For more information call (707) 937-6122. The park web page is:

www.pointcabrillo.org

August 15 and 16, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. “A Century of Guarding the Golden Gate”
Angel Island State Park (in San Francisco Bay)

Join volunteers demonstrating how Angel Island defended the Golden Gate from enemy intruders beginning in 1863 through the Cold War. The event is free. Call the Ranger Office at (415) 435-5390 for more information.

The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=468

August 16 Civil War Battle Demonstrations

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

See the troops of the Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery from the Union and Confederate Armies. Battles are at 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon and 1:30 p.m. Mock battles are approximately 30 minutes in length. Guided tours are offered of the Union and Confederate camps between the battles. Living history demonstrations are Manual of Arms, Artillery, Civilian Life and Field Hospital demonstrations. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

August 22, 11:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. “China Camp State Park Heritage Day”

China Camp State Park (four miles east of San Rafael on North San Pedro Road)

California State Parks and the Friends of China Camp sponsor an annual Heritage Day event at China Camp State Park. The restored, nineteenth century fishing village serves as a testament to the immigrants who created a successful shrimping industry. Events begin with the arrival of the replica junk, Grace Quan, and the scow schooner, Alma. Music, Lion and Chinese folk dancing, Tai Chi demonstrations and other entertainment continues throughout the day. Tours of China Camp are conducted by park rangers. A silent auction is conducted to raise funds for Friends of China Camp activities, and Bay Area artists show their work. Activities for children include Chinese calligraphy and block printing. The event is free. For more information call China Camp State Park at (415) 456-0766. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=466

August 29, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. “Miner's Picnic”

Empire Mine State Historic Park (10791 East Empire Street in Grass Valley)

Come relax and enjoy a family picnic and celebration that has over a century-long history. The event commemorates the one day a year the local mines would close down when there would be a picnic for the miners and their families, with proceeds going to support injured miners and widows and orphans of miners. The event will feature food, old-fashioned games like sack races and slipper-kicking contests, and entertainment on a stage on the Clubhouse lawn. State Park volunteers in period dress will present living history throughout the park.

For more information call (530) 273-8522. The park web page is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=499

September

September and October - Monday to Tuesday and Thursday to Friday of each week "Student Living History Program"

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

Fort Tejon State Historic Park offers a unique hands-on interpretive living history program for 4th and 5th grade age children. Classes participate in our one-of-a-kind field overnight trips. School children take a field trip back in time to early California of the 1850s and discover everyday life at this mountain outpost of the U.S. Army. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

September 12 Old Time Bluegrass Festival

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park (between Lower Lake and Clear Lake on Highway 53)

The Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association and the Clearlake Chamber of Commerce present the annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival, a community benefit for education in science, history and performing arts for the children of Lake County. The park phone number is: (707) 279-2267. The event web page is: <http://www.andersonmarsh.org/Bluegrass/AMIA-Bluegrass.htm> or (707) 994-2658.

September 4 - 7 (Labor Day Weekend) Gold Rush Days

California State Railroad Museum (in Old Sacramento)

"Gold Rush Days," an annual commemoration of the California Gold Rush, takes place throughout Old Sacramento, with a lively, entertaining and activity-filled Embarcadero Tent City located on the Railroad Museum's "1849 Scene!" Dirt covers the (usually paved) streets all weekend, and a variety of live entertainment, living history demonstrations, and costumed characters bring Old Sacramento alive with a period flair. Admission to the event is free! (Regular museum admission prices apply.) Tour authentic Gold Rush businesses, learn about the many people and cultures living here from the late 1840s through the 1860s, participate in hands-on demonstrations and period games, and take a ride in a horse-drawn carriage or wagon. Steam-powered excursion train rides available Saturday, Sunday, and Monday only; departing hourly 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (regular ticket prices apply). The park phone number is (916) 445-2560. For additional details about Gold Rush Days, visit www.discovergold.org

September 12, 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. "Fiestas Patrias / Mexican Independence Day in Old Town"

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park (three miles north of Downtown San Diego, adjacent to the Old Town Transit Center).

Fiestas Patrias celebrates Mexican Independence with colorful displays of dancing, storytelling, and music from early San Diego. Enjoy lively activities, including children's games, dancing, and music performances. Learn historic games such as cascarnes, and how early San Diego men's clothing originated from the Charros of the past. Finish the event by joining in a fandango where everyone can dance to early California music. Other activities include branding, corn husk doll making, relay races, and vaquero games.

For more information call (619) 220-5422. The park web page is:

<http://www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego>

September 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Ohlone Day"

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park (off Highway 9 in Felton)

Celebrate the Ohlone People of the past with those of the present at Ohlone Day. Traditional dancers will perform and demonstrators will share songs, stories, language, history, basketry, tools, musical instruments, and soap root brushes. Visitors can throw an atlatl, make a tule craft, play Ohlone games and try their hand at fire making.

For more information call (831) 335-7077. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=546

September 20 - "Emerald Bay Trail Run"

Emerald Bay State Park (22 miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89)

The Emerald Bay Trail Run starts at Eagle Point and then takes you around Emerald Bay and up the Rubicon Trail to D.L. Bliss State Park to finish at Lester Beach.

For more information:

<http://www.bigblueadventure.com/pub/main2.asp?daEvent=56&daPageName=INTRO>

September 20 Civil War Battle Demonstrations

Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Road, Lebec)

See the troops of the Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery from the Union and Confederate Armies. Battles are at 10:30 a.m., 12Noon and 1:30 p.m. Mock battles are approximately 30 minutes in length. Guided tours are offered of the Union and Confederate camps between the battles. Living history demonstrations are Manual of Arms, Artillery, Civilian Life and Field Hospital demonstrations. The park phone numbers are (661) 248-7001 or (661) 248-6692. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585

September 26, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. "Big Basin Founders' Day and Redwood Jubilee"

Big Basin Redwoods State Park (nine miles outside of Boulder Creek on Highway 236)

The visionaries, valued workers and visitors that have shaped the character of Big Basin State Park over the past 107 years will be honored during this special event. Visitors are invited to enjoy the beauty of the majestic old growth

redwoods and celebrate with historic hikes, music, games for kids and a melodrama.

For more information call (831) 338-8883. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=540

October

October dates not yet set – “History Fest – Monterey”

Monterey State Historic Park (20 Custom House Plaza in downtown Monterey)
Different time periods of Monterey’s past will come to life during this community-wide event. Activities and programs include living history, storytelling, period costumes, film, art, museum exhibits, music, special lectures, and tours of historic homes and secret gardens. History Fest offers a variety of activities and performances for families and children, as well as thought-provoking presentations for scholars and educators. All the events are free and open to the public unless specified otherwise. For more information, visit Historic Monterey’s Web site at www.historicmonterey.org or call (831) 372-2608.

October 3, 12 Noon – 4 p.m. “Fandango”

Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park (0.7 miles east of Petaluma on Highway 116)

Come out to the park and experience the dances and music of a “Fandango”. Hear the spirit of Mexican California’s rancho era come alive in the joyful music of the past, see the brilliant dance moves of the talented Alta California Dance Company or join in the fun. Children’s games will also be featured.

Admission for adults (age 17 and older) is \$4; 16 years of age and younger are free. For more information about these events at the park please call (707)762-4871. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=474

October 10 and 11, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., “Fleet Weekend – Blue Angels Show”

Angel Island State Park (in San Francisco Bay)

View the U.S. Air Force Blue Angeles from the best place on San Francisco Bay – Angel Island State Park. The event is free. For more information call the Ranger Office at (415) 435-5390. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=468

October 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rededication

Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (20 miles north of Wasco on Highway 43; 15 miles west of Earlimart on County Road J22)

Join us for the last event of 2009 at the annual Rededication. This festive event is presented to renew our commitment to the park and its symbolic representation of self determination for all African Americans in the areas of education and economic development. The park phone number is (661) 849-3433. The park webpage is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=583

October 10, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. “Superstition Saturday”

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, Visitor Center, 917 Kelly Ridge Road, Oroville. Superstition Saturday provides an educational opportunity for visitors to explore their beliefs in the supernatural and learn the history of our many common practices, like “knock on wood!” Take a guided tour through our darkened museum where costumed docents act out and explain historical omens and taboos, and share mystical practices. Five dollar cover charge. Traditional autumn snacks and crafts are offered for sale. For more information call (530) 538-2219. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=462

October 10, 11, & 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Coloma Gold Rush Live

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (Coloma, CA)

Columbus Day weekend, Coloma will appear much as it did in the Gold Rush. A living history tent encampment with groups of miners coming from all over California will interpret gold rush history. Visitors will enjoy gold rush music, historic trade demonstrations, pioneer children’s activities, wagon rides, and a merchants market featuring food and period crafts. Gold panning will be held for all ages. There will be Sawmill building demonstrations and re-enactments. The park phone number is (530) 295-2170 and the park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=484

October 11, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. “Welcome Back Monarchs Day”

Natural Bridges State Beach (at the end of West Cliff Drive at the north end of Santa Cruz)

Visitors are invited to welcome the monarch butterflies back to the park, their over-wintering habitat. Activities will include arts and crafts, games for kids, music, hand-cranked “monarch” ice cream (pumpkin), information and booths – including how-tos for a butterfly garden.

For more information call (831) 423-4609. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=541

October 17 & 18 “Living History”

Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park (3369 St. Helena Highway North. Saint. Helena)

Come enjoy the daily chores and crafts of the pioneer life. Volunteers and park staff interpret the everyday hands on pioneer activities for the visitor to experience. Some of the activities include: Corn husk doll-making, apple pressing, rope-making, threshing, winnowing, milling, old time music, and much more. The weekend is filled with fun for everyone. Admission is \$5 per person. Children five and under free. A chili lunch, with cornbread and apple juice is also available for an additional fee.

For more information, call (707) 942-4575. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=482

October 18, Acorn Day

California State Indian Museum (2618 K Street in Sacramento)

A great way to celebrate the autumn season is visiting the California State Indian Museum. Join us for an educational and fun-filled day for the entire family for Acorn Day, Saturday, October 20th featuring the historic dietary staple of California Indians. Children can participate in Native games, traditional arts & crafts, and hands-on table activities. Artifacts on display in the museum include basketry, beadwork, clothing, and exhibits about the ongoing traditions of various California Indian groups. The park phone number is (916) 324-0971. The park web page is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum>

October 23 -24 Mansion after Dark Tours

Governor's Mansion State Historic Park (1526 H Street in Sacramento)

"Mansion after Dark" tours at the Governor's Mansion SHP give families a fun alternative to the usual haunted house. If gore and fright just isn't for you, join the Mansion docents dressed in traditional Halloween costumes and listen to their tales from the ... past. The park phone number is (916) 323-3047. The park webpage is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/governorsmansion>

October 24, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. "Heritage Harvest Festival"

Wilder Ranch State Park (two miles north of Santa Cruz on the coast side of Highway 1)

Visitors can see tractor, draft horse and living history demonstrations, listen to music, make crafts and participate in harvest-time activities.

For more information call (831) 426-0505. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=549

October 24, 6:30 p.m. registration begins "The Missing Arm of William Waddell:

Big Basin Redwood State Park (nine miles outside of Boulder Creek on Highway 236)

These silly, slightly haunting tours around the redwood loop trails begin at 7 p.m. Visitors can enjoy the redwoods on a fall night with music, storytelling and "Ranger Apples" around the campfire. All participants must register at park headquarters. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.

For more information call (831) 338-8883. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=540

November

November 14 and 15, "Victorian Christmas – Camp Reynolds"

Angel Island State Park (in San Francisco Bay)

Join staff and volunteers in celebrating the Christmas holiday as it once was celebrated in Victorian times on Angel Island. The event is free. For more information call the Ranger Office at (415) 435-5390. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=468

November 14, 6 – 8 p.m. “Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park 137th Anniversary Celebration”

Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park (between San Francisco and Santa Cruz on Highway 1, about 50 miles south of San Francisco)

California State Parks, Pigeon Point Hostel and the U.S. Coast Guard will commemorate the 136th anniversary of the first lighting of Pigeon Point Lighthouse. The annual event includes an open house in the fog signal building from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The highlight of the evening is from 6 to 8 p.m. when the historic lighthouse’s four-ton Fresnel lens with its 1,008 prisms lights up the sky. A new exhibit in the 1899 Fog Signal Building will feature lighthouse history, videos, marine mammals, and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

For more information call (650) 879-2120. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=533

November 21 “The Magic Lantern: Sutter’s Fort After Dark”

Sutter’s Fort State Historic Park (2701 L Street in Sacramento)

Transformed by candlelight all sense of present day evaporates as the Sutter’s Fort State Historic Park Living History volunteers portray people of Sutter’s Fort going about their evening tasks as if it were November 1846. California State Parks, with support from the Sacramento Historic Sites Association, presents the Sutter’s Fort Living History Program. Evening tours begin every 10 minutes from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets are \$15 per person, and non-refundable. Call (916) 375-5966 for reservations beginning mid October. Space is limited. The park web page is: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/suttersfort>

November 22, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. “Vallejo Home – Victorian Christmas/Craft Workshop”

Vallejo Home (West Spain Street and Third Street West in **Sonoma State Historic Park**)

The Victorian workshop offers children a creative and educational hands-on experience. The finished products include handmade tree ornaments, miniature wreaths, trinket tubes, sachets, pot holders and fans as part of the 17 crafts offered. Free admission and refreshments. Crafts cost 25 cents to \$1 per craft station. Children should be accompanied by an adult. For more information please call the park at (707) 938-9559. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=479

November 27 and 28, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. “Holiday Open House”

Empire Mine State Historic Park (10791 East Empire Street in Grass Valley)

Experience the holiday splendor of the historic Bourn Cottage and Clubhouse in their holiday finery. State Park volunteers in period dress provide old-fashioned holiday cheer with music, cider and cookies at the cottage. Children can meet Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Clubhouse and have their pictures taken. The mine yard comes alive with volunteers representing characters from the past as they welcome visitors to explore the buildings.

For more information call (530) 273-8522. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=499

December

December 1 - 23 State Capitol Museum Holiday Music
California State Capitol Museum (Capitol Mall and 10th Street, Sacramento) In 1996, California State Parks, the Department of General Services, Joint Rules Committee of the Legislature and the Governor's office worked together to restore historic holiday traditions at the Capitol. As a result, glowing decorations, Victorian-style floral arrangements, live holiday music performances and the traditional holiday tree lighting ceremony help to recapture the spirit of past holiday festivities. Daily holiday concerts at noon in the first floor rotunda. The park phone number is (916) 324-0333. The park web page is:
<http://capitolmuseum.ca.gov>

Friday, December 4, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. "Holiday Open House"
Benicia Capitol State Historic Park (115 West G Street, Benicia, CA 94510)
Enjoy the historic Benicia Capitol and Fischer-Hanlon House decorated for a Victorian Christmas and shop for 'old time' gifts. Refreshments. Free admission. Park phone number: (707)745-3385. The park web page is:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?_id=475

Saturdays, December 5 & 12, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. "Visit St. Nicholas in the Fischer-Hanlon House"
Benicia Capitol State Historic Park (115 West G Street, Benicia, CA 94510)
Refreshments. Free admission. Learn how the city of Benicia prepared for the California state legislature of 1853. Park phone number: (707)745-3385. The park web page is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?_id=475

December 5 and 12 Christmas Memories
Governor's Mansion State Historic Park (1526 H Street in Sacramento)
Decorating the Mansion for the holidays and inviting the public to tour the home was a tradition for several California Governors and their families who lived in the Mansion from 1903 to 1967. During these two special Saturdays visitors can see the house in its holiday attire and hear the stories of Christmases past. Children can have their photographs taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Special live entertainment will keep the open house event filled with music. The park phone number is (916) 323-3047. The park webpage is:
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/governorsmansion>

December 5, 12 Noon – 4 p.m. "Frontier Christmas"
Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, Visitor Center, 917 Kelly Ridge Road, Oroville.
Families are invited to bring all the kids to see Santa in an 1850's gold rush setting hosted by costumed docents, to learn about pioneer arts and crafts, and to make Christmas gifts like wreaths, corn husk dolls or pine nut necklaces, tin

art, candle making, teasel combs, and weaving. Storytelling, a cowboy poet, guitar and fiddle music, and a hilarious night before Christmas skit round out the activities. Admittance is free. For more information call (530) 538-2219. The park website is www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=462

December 10 & 12, 5 – 9 p.m. “Christmas in the Adobes”

Monterey State Historic Park (20 Customs House Plaza in downtown Monterey)

Holiday traditions and Monterey history will merge during “Christmas in the Adobes” on December 11 and 13 from 5 - 9 p.m. This year join us in celebrating our 25th anniversary with extra special decorations and festivities. Nearly 20 of Monterey’s most historic adobes will feature a variety of musical entertainment, refreshments, and period Christmas decorations to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Each historic building will have costumed staff, docents, and volunteers on hand to tell about the unique aspects of the buildings and share stories of their former occupants. This is the only time of the year that many of these nineteenth century buildings are open to the public and open in the evening. Most of the historic buildings are in close proximity to each other so that visitors are able to walk, using a self-guided brochure, to any or all of the historic houses. Christmas in the Adobes is a self-guided walking tour; visitors use a self-guided brochure and map, which allows them to visit all or just a few of the historic houses features in this spectacular holiday event. Christmas in the Adobes is sponsored by California State Parks in association with the Old Monterey Preservation Society. All proceeds go the funding educational programs throughout the year at Monterey State Historic Park. Tickets go on sale October 15. For more information call (831) 649-7118 or www.parks.ca.gov/mshp

December 11 & 12, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. “Holiday in the Park Candlelight Tours”

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park (three miles north of Downtown San Diego, adjacent to the Old Town Transit Center).

Luminaria candles will be out in the Plaza and visitors will be able to enjoy the many historic characters dressed in wonderfully authentic 1800s period attire, as they bring back to life the furnished rooms in the 1830s La Casa de Estudillo and the La Casa de Machado y Silvas. All the State Historic Park stores and restaurants, represented by the Old Town Park Merchants Association, will be open and richly festooned with holiday decorations, treats, and activities these two nights, for extended shopping hours. Historical traditions and the romance of early San Diego will be recreated in this historic seasonal festival. See the beautiful candle dance performed by Los Bailadores. Reservations for the candlelit tours can be made in advance by calling the Park Visitor Center. Tours will be conducted approx. every 20 minutes, followed by refreshments. Nominal fee for tours, with proceeds benefiting park programs.

For more information call (619) 220-5422. The park web page is:

<http://www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego>

December 12 “Christmas at Bale Grist Mill State Park”

Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park (3369 St. Helena Highway North, Saint Helena)

Enjoy Christmas Carols around the wood-burning stove, sip hot mulled apple cider, decorate a gingerbread cookie and make ornaments and decorations that the pioneers enjoyed making. Activities are hosted by volunteers and park staff. Refreshments included in entry fee. Admission is \$5 per person. Children five and under free. For more information, call (707) 942-4575. The park webpage is: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=482

December 12, 6 p.m. "Una Noche de Las Posadas"

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street in downtown Santa Barbara) Las Posadas (The Inns) is the time-honored reenactment of Joseph and Mary's search for shelter in Bethlehem as it was once celebrated in Early California and is still observed throughout Mexico and South America. Join in this rich cultural tradition, experiencing first-hand the way in which Santa Barbara's earliest Spanish and Mexican residents celebrated Christmas with song and food.

For more information call (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.

December 12 & 13, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Christmas in Coloma

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (Coloma, CA)

This day features an old-fashioned, 1850's Christmas, with period crafts, music, strolling musicians, historic trade demonstrations, 19th century Christmas programs and plays, and wreath making. A visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus are a colorful part of the day. Vendors offer hand-made crafts as well as a variety of foods. The historic buildings will be opened for our visitors' enjoyment. For further information on events and activities, please call (530) 295-2170 or (530) 622-3470. the park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=484

December 12, programs at 5 p.m. 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. "Christmas at the Sonoma Mission"

Sonoma State Historic Park (Spain Street on the Plaza in Sonoma)

The Christmas program includes Christmas carols and reading from the scriptures in the Mission Chapel, followed by refreshments. This is a unique opportunity to visit the mission at night by candlelight. Admission is free; tickets are handed out starting November 27 at the front desk of the mission.

4 tickets per person as supplies last.

For more information please call the mission at (707) 938-9560. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=479

December 12 "A Simple Emigrant Christmas"

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (2701 L Street in Sacramento)

Costumed docents will be interpreting and demonstrating the many different Christmas traditions that would have been celebrated by the early immigrants at

Sutter's Fort. Come learn about the tradition of the Christmas tree and help us decorate our own Fort tree. There will be a popcorn and cranberry stringing activity, and making paper cut-out ornaments. Visitors can also participate in dipping candles, and the young at heart can keep one as a remembrance of their visit. For further event information or for information on volunteer and education programs call the park at (916) 445-4422. The park web page is:
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/suttersfort>

December 19, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. "Holidays at the Ranch"

Wilder Ranch State Park (two miles north of Santa Cruz on the coast side of Highway 1)

Celebrate the winter holidays as folks did in California, Victorian and early 20th century Santa Cruz with crafts, games, cookies and more.

For more information call (831) 426-0505. The park web page is:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=549