(SYRPA) and State Park Volunteers

There are often questions about the different roles of SYRPA Members and the role of State Park Volunteers. Volunteers and non-profit organizations are an integral part of the California State Parks experience. Most State Parks have a Volunteers in Parks Program (VIPP) and also benefit from the support of a Cooperating Association, such as SYRPA. State Park volunteers act under the direction and control of State Park staff.

State Park volunteers support Park staff in administration, interpretation, Park operations and facilities/grounds maintenance. Volunteers who are trained to provide interpretive services are often referred to as Docents. All Docents are volunteers, but not all volunteers are Docents. Docents go through specific training in a particular Park function such as Gold Panning, Barn Tours, Wildflower walk leaders, etc.

From a visitor’s perspective, whether services are delivered by State Park staff, State Park volunteers and Docents or SYRPA members is unimportant. What is important is that services are delivered in a professional manner and enhance the visitor’s experience to our Parks.

We encourage all State Park volunteers to join the South Yuba River Park Association to help further support our mission to promote and enhance our Parks. If you are interested in joining SYRPA, please visit our website: [www.southyubariverstatepark.org](http://www.southyubariverstatepark.org)

As a Member of SYRPA, You:

- Help preserve, protect and enhance both the natural and man-made historical features of the Park.
- Promote the Parks to the surrounding community.
- Support the interpretation of the river canyon’s rich biological diversity, scenic geologic features and historical cultural resources.
- Receive a quarterly newsletter and other notices of park activities.
- Enjoy a 10% discount on purchases at the Bridgeport Visitor Center.

Membership Information:
[www.southyubariverstatepark.org](http://www.southyubariverstatepark.org)

Park Information & Publicity:
[syrpa.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:syrpa.publicity@gmail.com)

SYRPA is a tax-exempt entity that has contracted with California State Parks to serve as the cooperating association supporting South Yuba River State Park and Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.
The Save Our Bridge Campaign Committee is an ad-hoc group made up of SYRPA Board and members, a local City Council member, a Nevada County Supervisor, the Executive Directors and Presidents of non-profits, executives of local Chambers of Commerce, staff of other non-profits, local businesses and a number of concerned citizens. Formed in 2013, the only goal of the group is to repair, restore and reopen to the public the historic, longest single span wood covered bridge left in the world in the South Yuba River State Park.

The Committee has been successful in stabilizing the Bridge, repairing the roof structure and securing State and Federal funding projected to complete the project. The Committee has raised funds through generous donations to the Campaign and has a reserve in order to support unexpected expenditures related to the restoration process. The Committee has established good working relationships with Department of Parks and Recreation employees at all levels as well as elected officials in both State and Federal offices. The Committee is committed to seeing this project through to completion. We ask the public to stay engaged, stay informed and continue to support the project.

The South Yuba River Park Association (SYRPA) believes South Yuba River State Park and Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park uniquely represent California mining and transportation history and merits SYRPA’s support. SYRPA funds interpretive and educational programs and projects that connect people to these parks. We work and advocate for our parks to ensure that they will continue to be inspiring places for future generations.

SYRPA is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt entity that has contracted with California State Parks to serve as the cooperating association supporting South Yuba River State Park and Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.

Over the years, major projects of SYRPA have included:

- Working with California State Parks to restore and preserve the wooden covered bridge
- Restoration of the Shell gas station
- Obtaining expansion of the Historic Area Designation to include the ranch area, the turnpike and the cemetery
- Working with California State Parks to maintain and improve the Independence Trail
- Restoration of a number of the historic wagons housed in the historic Barn

SYRPA is an entirely volunteer-run organization with a Board of Directors that oversees the association’s finances and activities including special fundraising events that provide funds to cover expenses for various interpretive and educational activities in the parks including school tours, wildflower walks, bird walks, geology walks, gold panning demonstrations, and interpretative tours. The expenses funded by SYRPA include purchasing gold for gold panning in the parks and at the Nevada County Fair, purchasing merchandise for the Visitor Center and upgrading the signage in the park.

Other initiatives include:

- Repair and maintenance of the historic Barn
- Maintenance and restoration of portions of the Independence Trail
- Improve Visitor Services, including upgrading the displays in our Visitors Center.

Friends of North Bloomfield & Malakoff Diggins Charter

Friends of North Bloomfield & Malakoff Diggins ("FNB&MD") is a trade name used by SYRPA to focus support of interpretive and educational programs and projects at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. Please visit malakoffdigginsstatepark.org for more information on FNB&MD and its efforts to increase public awareness and visitation of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.