

EVENTS YOU'LL WANT TO ATTEND

Trout Derby: April 9 and 10. On-site registration beginning at noon on April 8.

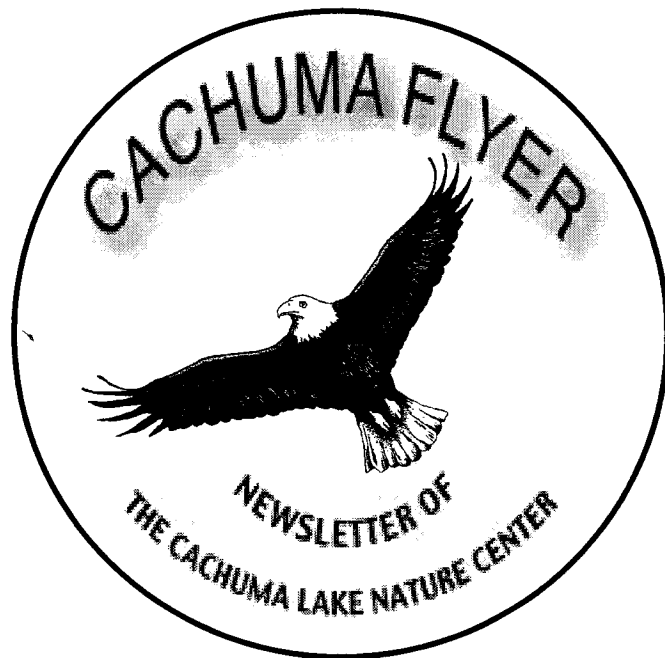
Fees: \$30 before March 28; \$35 after March 28; \$10 for kids 10 yrs. and younger.

\$5,000 in cash prizes. Hot line: 805-693-8381.

Zoo to You: May 21, at 11:00 and 1:30 no charge, except \$6 park entry fee.

Yard Sale: July 2.

Docent meeting: March 12



Bald Eagle Restoration

By Halli Pedersen

On December 8, 2004, Dr. Peter Sharpe gave a lecture at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Peter directs Bald Eagle restoration and monitoring projects for the Institute for Wild Life Studies (IWS) on Catalina and Santa Cruz Islands. During his lecture, Peter gave an overview of the history of Bald Eagles on the Channel Islands, reasons for their decline, and explained IWS efforts to increase the population in Southern California. The following day, Peter joined the Cachuma Lake Park Naturalists for an Eagle Cruise.

Historically, Bald Eagles inhabited all Channel Islands and the Santa Barbara mainland, but completely disappeared from these areas by the early 1960s. Although many human activities may have contributed to the decimation of the Bald Eagle population, the most probable culprit is the use and disposal of the pesticide DDT. From 1947 through 1961, more than 2000 metric tons of DDT are estimated to have been dumped offshore of Palos Verdes and Catalina Island. Although the manufacture and use of DDT has since been banned in the U.S., it continues to persist on the ocean floor. Consumption of DDT-contaminated prey causes the thinning of eggshells. The eggs easily dehydrate and crack under the weight of adult eagles.

The IWS started the restoration project on Catalina in 1980 and under Peter's direction, extended it to Santa Cruz Island in 2002. They began by releasing young

ISSUE #73 JAN / FEB 2005

Bald Eagles from Alaska on Catalina Island. Thirty-three Bald Eagles were released between 1980 and 1986. As the eagles matured, some left the island and others paired up and began nesting. Once again, thin eggshells posed a problem. The solution was Peter's consent to be the "dope on a rope." He is lifted by helicopter up to remote nest sites where he removes the eggs and replaces them with artificial eggs. The eggs are then sent to the San Francisco Zoo where they are safely incubated and hatched. Peter then returns the young to the nest at 1 to 2 weeks old with a healthy start at life in the wild.

Thanks to the IWS there are currently 5 active nesting sites on Catalina and 24 immature Bald Eagles inhabiting Santa Cruz and the neighboring Channel Islands. Because all the eagles are not expected to stay at their release sites, they are fitted with shoulder tags and telemetry equipment to aid in tracking their movements. The tags are numbered and coded orange for Catalina and blue for Santa Cruz release sites. Cachuma Lake naturalists have been in contact with the IWS since February 2002 when #20, a tagged immature Bald Eagle from Catalina, was spotted soaring over the lake. Since then, two other eagles from Catalina have been seen at Cachuma Lake. Peter is contacted each time and records the Cachuma Lake sightings in his tracking data. The Cachuma Lake naturalists continue to keep an eye out for tagged eagles and look forward to working with Peter and the IWS in the future.

Campground Host for the Nature Center

By Linda Taylor

Since mid-July, the Nature Center has had its own campground host to assist the organization in expanding its hours of public access. This position offers a free full hook-up campsite (water, electricity, sewer) in exchange for twenty hours of work a week. Individuals or couples spend six hours maintaining the interior of the building and fourteen hours as host/hostess. Host assignments are for three months and individuals may renew for an additional three months.

In early September, Alison Hubbard became the hostess and will continue until March 1. Alison actually became a Nature Center Docent in the fall of 2002, and was the chairperson for the first yard sale. At that time she also worked as a host in the Park office. She came to Santa Barbara in 1978 with her son, Anson, and worked at ABC-Clio and at Santa Barbara Research Center as a computer programmer. After acquiring a master's in psychology at UCSB, she worked as a psychotherapist for seven years.

Before she "sold everything" in 2002, she worked as a trade association executive. She retired and began living full time in her 30 foot Winnebago with Sophie, her Jack Russell terrier. Immediately prior to taking the current position here at the Lake she was a host at Carpinteria State Beach. Her son, Anson graduated in January from Humboldt State University and recently made a presentation on local geology to Nature Center Docents.

Daryl and Elaine Pruner were the initial hosts for the Center, beginning in July and continuing through August. They also have been hosts in the Park in the past. Van and Diane Barr will return as hosts on March 15; they are known to Docents, since they worked as Park hosts a year ago. Currently they are living in Quartzite, AZ. Van and Diane are tentatively scheduled to stay until September 15. Filling in for a two-week period March 1, to March 15, will be John Bond, of Santa Barbara, who has expressed interest in short term assignments.

The Nature Center has run ads in three camping-oriented magazines and have a file of 35 applications from people in Florida, Idaho, Arkansas, California, Oregon, Colorado, Washington, Iowa, South Dakota, Arizona, and Indiana who are interested in working as hosts. If scheduling can be coordinated it appears the host position will be easily filled throughout this year.

Introducing Roger Millikan, Our Newest Docent

By Jacque Fondran

We have our current President of the Nature Center Organization to thank for recruiting our newest docent, Roger Millikan. Recruited in July, Roger has quickly become invaluable to our organization with his willingness to jump in when needed with guided nature walks and to provide photographs for exhibits as well as products to sell in the gift shop. He took the publicity photos for the calendars and bumper stickers in the gift shop as well as for the information cards in the Puppet Theater. Check out the new posters in the bird room exhibit.

Prior to joining us, Roger was a docent at Coal Oil Point at the Devereaux Slough and involved in protecting the endangered Snowy Plover. In addition he designed a web page to publicize the program there. As an aside, Roger has combined his passion for birds and photography through the development of a personal website showcasing over 150 species of birds in the area. He said, "volunteering at the Nature Center gives me an outlet for my bird pictures." His web site is well worth the visit. There is a wealth of information coupled with stunning photography, an ideal site for those interested in birding.

When I asked Roger about his hobbies, it was no surprise he said Bird Photography. He also listed web design, hiking, back-packing and wind surfing. Being near the ocean was something he delighted in when he first moved near the Pacific Coast from the East over 30 years ago.

His childhood was spent in Kentucky. As an adult he lived in New York where he worked for General Electric as a chemist. After a move to Santa Barbara in the 1960s, he began teaching chemistry at UCSB and just recently retired after thirty years of teaching. However, Roger is filling in for a colleague and teaching this term. We are, indeed, fortunate to have Roger join us. Next time you see Dick, be sure and thank him!

ROGER'S WEBSITE:

<http://roger.chem.ucsb.edu>

**Oliver
Lingham**



**Roger
Millikan
Photos**



**Roger
Millikan**

Kids' Old Fashion Fishing Day

By Linda Taylor

Approximately 195 kids participated in the first Kids' Huck Finn Old Fashioned Fishing Day, November 20, sponsored by the County Park Department with assistance from The Nature Center and its volunteers, and organized by Neal Taylor and Mitch Medeiros. Approximately 1200 trout were planted in the Park swimming pool during the preceding week by the Department of Fish and Game's Fillmore Hatchery and the Calaveras Hatchery. Children between the ages of four and fourteen years were invited to fish, using bamboo poles, bobbers and bait, only.

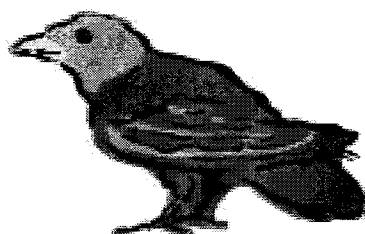
Many men and teenage boys helped boys and girls to bait hooks, land fish, and unhook them. Two women campers from the Park volunteered to demonstrate how to clean fish and cleaned dozens through the course of the morning. Children fished until they landed a fish, then were allowed to go to the end of the line and fish again. Several caught many fish!

Huck Finn style costumes were encouraged; Ryan Mori and Zac Pfeifer of Santa Barbara won prizes sponsored by Cachuma Lake Marina for their costumes. Oliver Lingham, son of marina operator Craig Lingham also was "dressed for the occasion." Holding a second such event next fall is under consideration; according to Mitch there was a substantial increase in day use for the Fishing Day.

Nature Center Tenants

By Don Wimpres

Last year's tenants of the housing units maintained by the Nature Center have moved out for the season. Of our five housing units available, four were occupied for the season. An 80% occupancy rate isn't bad! This is similar to what it has been during the past three or four years. The tenants left their quarters in a rather disheveled condition; there was a lot of Bermuda Grass on the floors of the units, but not much else. Each of the housing units was emptied of trash and cleaned in preparation for the next season. We hope that our Western Bluebirds return again next year.



CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Marion Schlinger
Vice-President	Kirby Duncan
Secretary	Position Vacant
Treasurer	Lynda Williams-Terres
Carol Smagala • Neal Taylor	
Weldon Hobbs • Dennis Daniel	
Danny Ramirez • Patricia Martin	
Sandi Witcher	

DOCENT ORGANIZATION

President	Dick Cofield
Vice-President	Alan Schwartz
Secretary	Jacque Fondren
Treasurer	Annie Ruano
Newsletter Editor	Alan Schwartz
Executive Director	Linda Taylor

CLNC Memberships

From November 2004

Zelda Hughes
Shawn & Antoinette Addison
Barbara & Jim Gutmann
Lynda and Al Williams-Terres
Elaine Gray
Fritz Amacher
Jim and Stephanie Phelps
Maggie Klages
Helen and Jerry Haines
Barbara and Philip Brown
Dick and Lois Cofield
Mike Moropoulos
Paul Roark
Tim & Lani Collins
Weldon Hobbs

Carol Smagala
Susan Ham
Ed & Jonee Grat
Chelsie O'Brian
Barbara Hamm
Tom Sloan
Ev Schlinger
Paul and Virginia Barrett
Helen J. Brown
Nancy Hubbell
Daisy Martin
Jane & Marvin Johnson
Liz Mason
Neal & Linda Taylor

Other Donations

Los Padres Bank
Home Improvement Center
Nielsen's Market
Becky and Ray Deutsch (memorial
bench)
Community West Bank
Brock's Fly-fishing



CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER, INC.
HC 59
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93105



Mitch Medeiros
H.C. #59
Santa Barbara, CA 93105