



#58 JULY / AUGUST 2002

FEATURED THIS ISSUE: CODY, BOB AND FRIENDS HAM IT UP!



THE SKY IS FALLING!

NEW DOCENT BOSS, NEW TROOPS

FOUR NEW DIRECTORS



ZOO TO YOU SHOW

Cody the mountain lion, Bob the alligator, Aspen the bald eagle, Crockett the raccoon, and Pockets the possum played to an enthusiastic audience at the Nature Center in May. David Jackson, who along with his wife, Anita, is cofounder and codirector of Zoo to You. They met in Sacramento when they were studying for a degree in animal health technology. Both worked in animal medicine for quite a while. They then studied at Moorpark College American Teaching Zoo in Southern California to receive degrees in exotic animal training and management. This school is unique in that it is the only one in the world, with students from Brazil, Argentina, South Africa and elsewhere. Most of the staff at, for example, Sea World, the Santa Barbara Zoo, or working "hands on" with animals in TV and movie industries are graduates of that program. Anita and David graduated in 1987 and went on to San Diego where

Anita worked at the Wild Animal Park and David trained Dolphins and Sea Lions in retrieval for the U.S. Navy. They were married in 1990 at the Wild Animal Park, riding on the back of an elephant! The Jacksons started Zoo to You in 1990 and moved to Paso Robles to start an animal welfare facility to house, for the rest of their lives, wild and exotic homeless animals who had been abused, displaced or abandoned, including seized illegal pets. The program has developed into calling these animals "Ambassadors For Their Species". Some appearances of the animals have been on TV shows (The Rosie O'Donnell Show for one), but almost all of what the Jacksons do is school programs, mainly in the surrounding communities in California including Fresno, San Jose, Bakersfield, Monterey, Santa Barbara and Ventura. They take about five to seven animals with them while visiting 350 schools each rear. This permits a "close up" experience for school children. Right now there is a fee for their visits, and David hopes eventually they can offer these programs at no cost to the schools. He believes that seeing these wild animals can create a passion in people that can't be done any other way and "with passion comes action" to further the welfare of wild animals species everywhere. The ZOO TO YOU appearance this year at Cachuma Lake was sponsored by Hall Hurley Deutsch, Architects, Santa Maria.



THE METEORS ARE COMING!

By HelenOsenga

This summer's Perseid Meteor Shower will peak on August 12th. With the crescent moon setting early that evening, we will have a nice dark sky for observing. What are meteors and what causes a "shower"? Meteors, commonly called "falling" or "shooting" stars, are pieces of space debris that plow into the earth's atmosphere at very high speeds

and burn up by air friction showing as a white this space debris (meteoroids) is small in size-larger object that survives its descent and falls to earth A meteor that is brighter than any of the stars or planone that explodes at the end of its streak is called a seen between 50 and 75 miles above the ground. night, but at certain times during the year we can usual. This happens when the earth passes near a

sphere at very high speeds streak in the sky. Most of sand grains to pebbles. A is known as a meteorite. ets is called a fireball and bolide. Meteors are usually Meteors can occur on any see more meteors than comet's orbit and through

the debris left behind by that comet. This is then known as a meteor shower. During a meteor shower meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, but they seem to be coming from that part of the sky where the constellation they are named for is found. In the case of the Perseids that would be Perseus, The Hero. Actually they will appear to come from the bit of sky between Perseus and Cassiopeia, The Queen. The best times for us to observe this shower will be predawn on August 12 and the night of August 12/13 after midnight. Hopefully, in a very dark, clear sky we will be able to see at least 60 Perseids per hour.



tt is an honor to serve you as the new editor of the Cachuma Flyer newsletter. Helen, and before her, Evelyn, left some mighty big footprints to fill. I hope to hit the ground running; I have some history as editor of the LPIA newsletter for three years, and I did win a national award for a Kiwanis newsletter. However, there's always new challenges to face, be it misspelling someone's name or getting the date wrong for some important event. To paraphrase Mark Antony in

Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, the messups that an editor has live after him while his successes are interred with his bones. Technology can ease some of the grunt work; given a handwritten letter, I can read its content into a computer program called ViaVoice by IBM. The programs transfers my voice into editable text. I don't want to peeve any Luddites out there who value the purity of raw nature, but If one is a one-finger typist like yours truly, such an aid can be a big help. Also, I am personally amazed that I have a library of 750,000 color clip art images contained on only four DVDs! Technology is what Technology does (did Mr. Gump say that?) and a real eagle in flight will always triumph over ones and zeroes. In any event, I hope to do this job right, No matter what, I needn't fear a pay cut (maybe being roughed up by fellow docents?) Your opinions and suggestions will always be welcome.



YOU BE THE WOMAN, BARBARA!

Barbara Gutmann has been elected to the position of President of the Docent Organization of the Cachuma Lake Nature Center. She has been a docent for five years and has served as secretary and vice president of the organization. Barbara is a Registered Nurse. She teaches part time in the clinical area in the RN and CNA programs at Santa Barbara City College. She also works as a nurse consultant primarily in the field of geriatrics. She has served on the Board of Directors of several nonprofit community agencies and has been listed in Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in American Nursing and Who's Who of America. Currently she is also vice president of Friendship Force of Santa Barbara, a worldwide citizen ambassador program dedicated to world peace.

do-cent (do/sent; Ger. do tsent/), n. By Helen Osenga

Recently four new docents graduated after completing the docent training sessions which began in February of 2002. The course consisted of 10 sessions covering subjects including Cachuma Lake Ecology, Geology, Birds, The Lake, Plants, Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians, Entomology, The Chumash, and Orientation to the Nature Center.

Completing the course and graduating on June 11, 2002 were:

- Julie Daniel of Santa Maria
- Ken Sandwall of Santa Barbara
- Alan Schwartz of Santa Ynez
- Elise Tripp of Santa Ynez.

In addition to the graduates, most of the current docents also attended the training sessions. Everyone was excited and energized from attending these sessions. Plans are being made for the next docent training sessions and dates will be announced soon. Anyone interested should contact Linda Taylor at 693-0691.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Cachuma Lake Nature Center Board of Directors has added four new members since January, increasing the size of the Board to ten.

• Already, Kirby Duncan of Summerland has been elected Vice-President. Kirby was introduced to the Board by Neal Taylor (the two have been friends since their childhood years in Summerland.) Kirby retired as a captain from the Santa Barbara police force after 31 years, in 1989. He was employed for six years by the Chumash Casino. Although Kirby was born in Los Angeles, he has lived off and on in the Summerland-Santa Barbara area since 1936. After graduation from Carpinteria High School, he attended Santa Barbara City College and later took other college and university classes, including a course in Law Enforcement Mangement at Northwestern in Chicago. He and his wife Judy are avid campers and anglers; he also builds fishing rods, does wood carving, and makes jewelry. He has one step-daughter who lives in Belmont.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS, cont'd.

- From Santa Ynez comes Mike Magrill who works in high technology management. He is married and has two children, one of whom lives in the Valley; one, in Ohio. A fifteen year local resident, he hails originally from Austin, Texas. He and his grandson fish in Cachuma frequently, though Mike's first love is ocean fishing. He is also interested in woodworking and does small furniture pieces. Mike was introduced to the Board by Greg Donovan.
- Weldon Hobbs has a long history at Cachuma Lake. He began working part-time as a Lake patrolman in 1960. He worked 31 years for the Park Department, retiring in 1991, after serving as North County District Superintendent since 1980. Of those years, Weldon spent approximately fourteen at Cachuma. He is a native of Santa Barbara, attending local schools and the City College.

For several years Weldon has contributed to the Trout Derby, and comes to the Board through Neal Taylor. He is a hunter and a fisherman, particularly for steelhead on the Umpqua River. He has a daugher in Bremerton, Washington, and a son in the Santa Ynez Valley. He recently brought his only granddaughter to visit the Nature Center. Weldon is now a resident of Los Alamos.

• Dennis Daniel became involved with the Nature Center during the 2002 Trout Derby through his wife Julie, a new docent. Dennis volunteered to help the Amateur Radio Emergency Service group which assists with the Derby. A five-year resident of Santa Maria, Dennis works as the Manager of Plant Operations at Marian Medical Center.

Although he is a Los Angeles native, he has been camping at Cachuma Lake for vacations for twenty-five years. While the family lived in Missouri for a few years, memories of Cachuma "kept them going." Dennis says he is delighted to have the opportunity to give back to a facility that has provided so much happiness to his family. He attended Cal Poly Pomona and UCLA where he received a degree in engineering, after high school in Azusa.

He and Julie have two daughters; one living in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, and one in Victorville. Their son lives in the L. A. Basin and they have six grandchildren.

