

# CACHUMA FLYER

CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER NEWSLETTER

## SECOND ANNUAL DOCENT GRADUATION

Approximately twenty people have participated in this year's docent training sessions on a consistent basis. To receive certification as docents, all are expected to give a five minute presentation to the class on April 15, on the topic of their choice related to the Cachuma Lake area. Talks by the members of this second group of Cachuma docents will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Nature Center. (A date will be arranged for make-up talks for persons unable to attend on the fifteenth.) A barbecue for all docents and a guest for each will be held April 22, at 1:00 in a private picnic area overlooking the lake. Access to this area is through the Pawnee Plateau area. Docents are invited to take a guided boat ride with Neal Taylor on that Saturday. Meet him at 9:00 a.m. at the ranch house.

Members of the County Parks administration, park commissioners, and Board of Supervisors will be invited. Training has been provided for eleven weeks by the following speakers:

- Howard Alcott, Head of Operations of the Cachuma Project,  
"History of the Dam and Its Present Status"
- Pat Foxen, Member of the 1988 Docent Class, "Geology"
- Jan Timbrook, Museum of Natural History, "Chumash Ethnography"
- Karen Osland, Anthropologist, "Chumash Crafts and Uses of Local  
Plants"
- Maggie Klages, Member of 1988 Docent Class, "Pre-History of the  
Lake Area"
- Jim Blakely, Santa Barbara County Historian, "History of the  
Lake Area 1542 to the Present Time"
- Jan Collett, Santa Barbara Audubon Society Educational Committee,  
"Birds of the Cachuma Area"
- Dawn Hattenbach, Museum of Natural History, "Mammals of the  
Cachuma Area"
- Charis Bratt, Museum of Natural History, "Insects of Cachuma"
- Ralph Klages, Member of 1988 Docent Class, "Plants of the Local  
Area"
- Barbara Bergreen, Museum of Natural History, "Teaching Techni-  
ques"

## FLIGHT INTO SPRING

More than eighty people visited the Nature Center on April 9, the third annual Flight Into Spring Festival held at the park. Colorful new exhibit boards, additional recreations of Chumash artifacts by Karen Osland, newly mounted maps, and fresh local plant exhibits added markedly to the interest and professional appearance of the Center's displays. Docents explained exhibits and answered questions from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

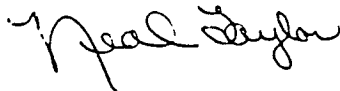
By selling posters, tee shirts, and sweatshirts with an Indian design by Santa Barbara artist, Rebecca Brockway, docents grossed approximately \$1445.00 to support interpretive programs. The County Parks Department assisted docents in this effort by initiating the design of the shirt, investigating sources, and ordering. A final accounting will be available in about two weeks. Approximately \$200.00 was taken in through the sale of popcorn.

Other docents and volunteers led nature walks, did face painting and hosted the champagne boat cruises. Linda Addison, Laura Carstens, Lucille Christie, Dean and Betty Dawson, Connie Howerton, George Hughes, John and Marcine Hughes, Mike Kendall, Ralph and Maggie Klages, Jessica Moody, Karen Osland, Marian Sharp, George Smith, Marilyn White, Don Wimpres, and Cheryl Dunbar all spent the day at Cachuma working on behalf of the docent organization.

### THANKS!

Dear Docents & Other  
Volunteers,

I want to thank each of you who contributed time, energy, and enthusiasm to help make "Flight Into Spring" a big success. Your efforts were noticed and appreciated by all Park staff.



### WANT ADS

An easel to hold posters, pads of paper. Wood or aluminum.

Filing cabinet; 3 drawer preferred.

Chalkboard to use on easel; 2ft. by 3 ft. minimum

### DOCENT NATURE ACTIVITIES

Docents have expressed an eagerness to participate in nature-related activities within the park. Opportunities exist immediately in the following areas for docents to use their own expertise to host or guide programs for park visitors: fireside theatre, astronomy night, nature walks, Indian craft activities, movies, photography walks, boat tour teams, story telling and junior programs.

Pairing or teaming of docents for leading hikes or talks could capitalize on many people's skills without burdening any one individual. People are urged to select areas which appeal to them and their skills. A sign-up board is posted at the Nature Center.

## NEWSLETTER NAMED

New docent, Marcine Hughes suggested the title and designed the new mast-head for the newsletter. Docents discussed several designs and chose this as representative of the eagles whose presence have increased public interest in the Cachuma Lake area.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEEDED

At present a full board of directors for the Cachuma Lake Foundation has not been appointed. A docent committee has suggested to Park Administration that the board begin functioning with a quorum of seven members. All interested parties are urged to submit names to president George Hughes or Frank Laurant, Deputy Park Director, of county residents who might serve on this board which will establish policy and assist in fund raising for the Nature Center and its programs.

## EAGLES REMAIN AT LAKE

A pair of bald eagles have remained in the lake area a month longer than the majority who flew north about the end of March. It is believed that the birds who winter at Cachuma nest in the San Juan Islands near the U.S.-Canada border. If the juvenal female and the mature male birds nest at our lake, it will be the nesting site farthest south in California. This will be the first time eagles have nested in this area since the early 1940's. The population of this bird was severely reduced in the late 1940's and in the 1950's because of the use of DDT.



(Above): Where the Bald Eagle, Turkey Vulture, and Osprey all are found, they can be separated at a great distance by their manner of soaring — the Bald Eagle, with flat wings; the Turkey Vulture, with a dihedral; the Osprey, with a kink or crook in its wings.

(from A Field Guide to Western Birds, by Roger Tory Peterson)