



CACHUMA FLYER

CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER NEWSLETTER

Issue number 4; Fall, 1989

DOCENT ENDEAVORS

Summer Work

An estimated total of 297 hours were worked in the Park by individual Docents between June 15, and September 4. Activities which involved extensive Docent participation were boat tours, visits to the Nature Center, nature hikes, evening slide programs, astronomy programs, and film presentations. The majority of hours were actual contact hours with the public with few hours spent during these months in planning and development of the Nature Center. Approximately fourteen Docents "met the public."

Clean Up

A clean up day at the Nature Center was held October 22. A small group of Docents organized building materials, miscellaneous supplies, the specimen collection, and rearranged furniture and disposed of a small mountain of trash and rummage. Thorough cleaning of cupboards and closets in the Docent work area, rearranging some furniture, filing, detailed organization of supplies and packaging of shirts for sale are still to be done.

Information for the Foundation Board

Several documents have been prepared by committees for the Board of the Foundation. These committees have attempted to summarize the attitudes, values, accomplishments, and goals as expressed over the past two years or so by members of the organization to assist the Board in understanding the Docent Organization better.

Statement of Purpose

A Statement of Purpose indicates that the Docent Organization wishes to assume responsibility for establishing the Nature Center and for conducting interpretive programs. On the other hand, we understand that the Board will establish management and financial policies and generate funds. This paper also summarizes Docent activities for the past two years.

By-Laws

A set of By-Laws which must be approved by the Docent Organization and the Cachuma Foundation Board has been developed for the Docent group which proposes a committee comprised of the elected officers and chairpersons of standing committees as the governing body of the group. Membership of the organization is determined by completion of a training program, recommendation by the Executive Committee, and formal appointment by the Board of the Foundation.

Terms of office are for one year, with an annual meeting to occur in February.

List of Goals

A Prioritized List of Goals was generated by committee for projects to be accomplished by May 30, 1990. The Foundation Board has assumed responsibility for dealing with the primary concern of all: a new roof for the Nature Center.

Several projects which require financing through Foundation funds, but which Docent effort can accomplish are installation of gutters and downspouts, construction of wheelchair ramp and walkway, cutting of a doorway and installation of doors, recruiting and training new docents, painting and repairing a second exhibit room, repairing the patio fence and brickwork, planting a garden of native plants and completion of exhibits in the existing display area. Diverse skills will be needed to complete the above projects. Each member of the Docent organization is urged to volunteer for the jobs they prefer. With the energy displayed during the summer months, much can be accomplished with the team working together.

Additional projects mentioned by members will be prioritized and addressed in succeeding months.

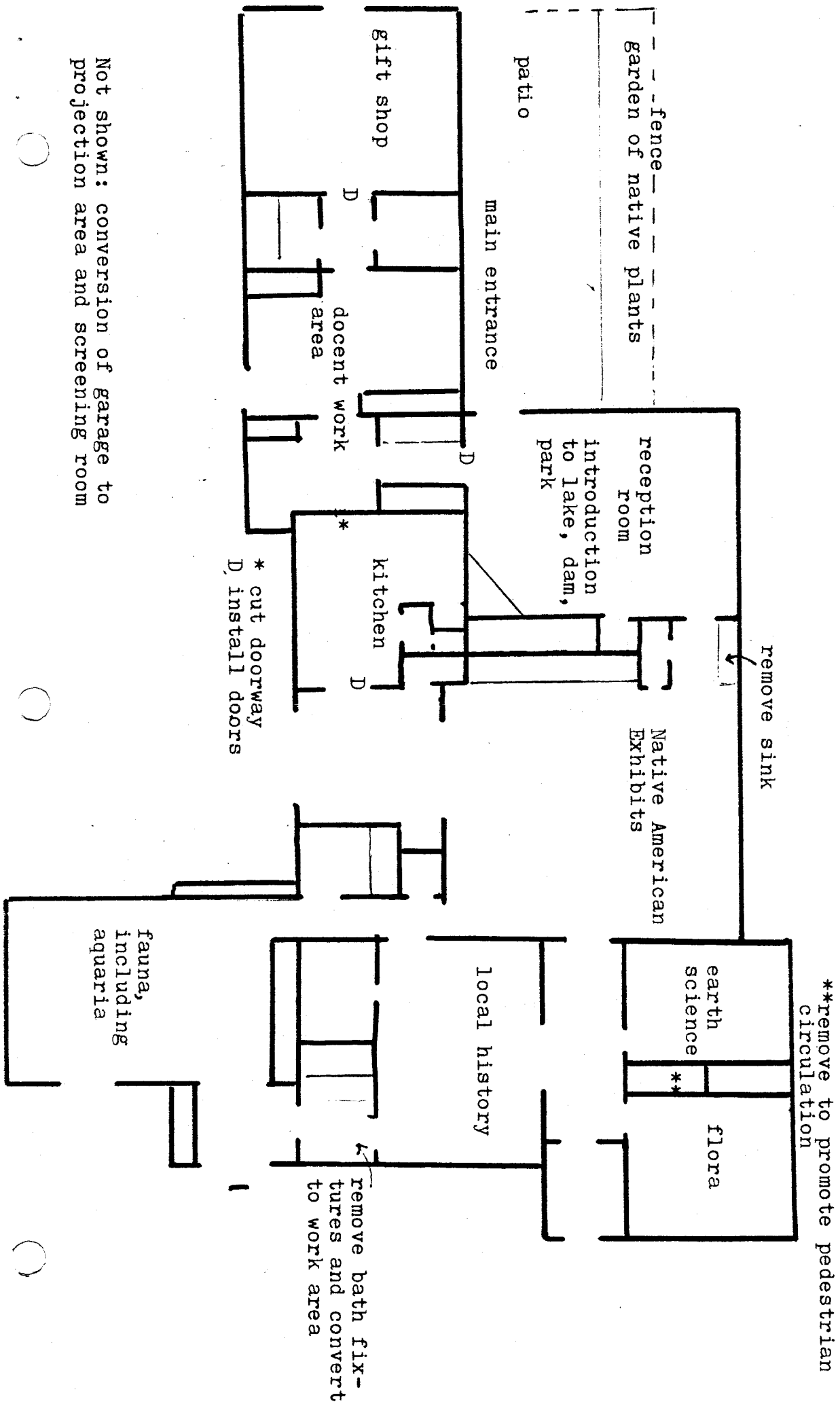
"Ranch House" Proposal

A Proposal for Future Development of a Nature Center includes some detail of building repair, renovation and remodeling. This document discusses uses planned for various rooms and equipment to develop a museum. Obviously, it is a long term plan, but lists several projects which could be begun immediately, which are mentioned above.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Need an inexpensive, unique Christmas gift or two? Tee shirts (\$10.) and sweatshirts (\$20.) with a distinctive, native American-style original design done by Santa Barbara artist, Rebecca Brockway, are still available at the Nature Center. Posters and visors may also be purchased there.

Chumash village



Not shown: conversion of garage to projection area and screening room

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Cachuma Foundation, which is the non-profit, policy-making, parent group of the Docent Organization, has been meeting on a monthly basis since August. Of prime concern has been development of a lease agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and the Foundation for the "ranch house."

Relative to the building itself and upon request from the Docents, the need for a new roof and funding sources have been a major topic of discussion. On October 24, the roofing problem was presented to the County Board of Supervisors, which referred it to the County Public Works Department.

A revised version of Docent by-laws should

be presented for Board approval at their December meeting.

A joint meeting with the Docents was held September 30, at which individuals of each group introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their aspirations for the organizations and their personal backgrounds as those pertain to the purposes of the Foundation and Docent Organization.

Members of the Board are Kim Albright, Maria de Herrera, Robert Fermin, Bobbie Hedge, Judy Johnson, Maggie Klages, Tom Lingham, Suzanne Polansky, Noreen Pond, Mary Prentice, and Peter Robertson. Susan Ham has resigned; Pat McAvoy has been nominated to a seat on the Board and is expected to be elected to membership in November.

CURRENTLY IN THE PARK....

With the expectation of the return of the Cachuma eagle flock on November 1, special eagle-watching boat trips are scheduled from November 4, through March 4, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11:00; Fridays at 11:00 and 3:00; Saturdays at 10:00 and 3:00; and Sundays at 10:00. The two-hour trips are \$8.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children twelve years or under. The November issue of Sunset Magazine contains a two-page article with photographs about these trips.

With the beginning of school and the onset of cooler weather, campsites are readily available. Nature hikes originating at the Nature Center at 1:00 and Fireside Theatre programs beginning at 7:00 p.m. are regularly held on Saturdays.

New plantings and the construction of additional walks and curbing have been financed through Cal Boating and Waterways funding. Native species have been used for this project in an area near the Marina parking lot.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE DOCENTS: CONNIE HOWERTON

Although Connie Howerton was a member of the first Docent graduating class; her work at the Nature Center actually began many months before. While visiting the park in 1986, Connie's R. V. singles camping group (Loners of America) went on one of Neal Taylor's Lake cruises. According to Connie, "We all got hooked on Neal, his enthusiasm, his storytelling, and his hopes to start a nature center." His need for help with the project meshed well with her new found spare time, after a recent retirement. Since that time she has contributed many hours filling a dire need for organizational ability. Connie has done the lion's share of typing, phoning, letter writing, and publicizing all Docent affairs. She has been a reliable worker, even on unglamorous clean-up days, has ordered and transported films for summer evening programs, assisted on many special event days at the Lake, and served to some extent as a volunteer office assistant to Neal.

After having received her private pilot's license in 1940, Connie graduated from college a few months after Pearl Harbor Day, and joined the first women's branch of the air corps within a year. The women's group was first called the WAFS--Women's Air Ferrying Service; the name was later changed to WASPS--Women's Airforce Service Pilots. Although its original purpose was to ferry airplanes from factory to training bases, Connie was sent by the Service to North Carolina and Georgia, to tow targets for anti-aircraft artillery practice, and eventually women were called upon to do other non-combatant flying tasks.

When the war was over, Connie worked in Los Angeles and then Santa Barbara as a social worker for the Department of Social Services. She retired from a position she held for several years as social worker supervisor for Children's Protective Services.

Connie maintains a home in Santa Barbara, where she lives with her daughter and son-in-law; however, one rarely finds her there. She pitches slow-pitch softball on an over-55 team; travels monthly to Guaymas, Mexico, with the Aero Medicos--"flying doctors"--to assist in a medical clinic for Yaqui Indians; and continues active participation with the "Loners," and the International Organization of Women Pilots, the "99's."