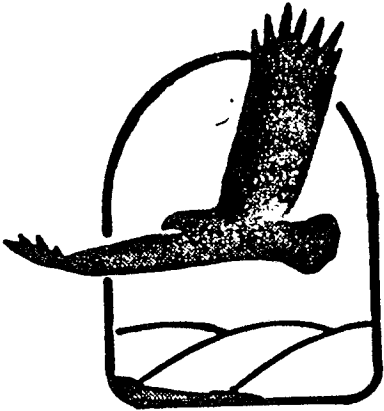


Don Wimpres
P.O. Box 506
Los Olivos, CA. 93441



CACHUMA FLYER

CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 9; JUNE 1992

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

A concerted effort to staff the Nature Center as many hours as possible and to conduct additional visitor programs over Memorial Day weekend was made by a small group of docents and friends. The Center was open from 9:00 until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, 9:00 to 5:00 on Sunday, and 9:00 until 3:00 on Monday. Bird walks and nature hikes were conducted by docents on both Saturday and Sunday. Neal Taylor held Fireside Theatre on Saturday night; Don Wimpres and Neal led an astronomy program on Sunday evening. Karen Osland prepared a basket-making demonstration at the Center on Saturday.

Prior to Memorial Day several new exhibits were completed in the Nature Center.

In addition to these public service programs, docents worked on exhibit completion, maintenance and housekeeping projects, and bookkeeping.

One hundred and seventy-four visitors signed the guest book in the Center over those three days, which emphasized the need to have two docents on duty when the Center is open. The gift shop grossed \$327.15.

Several docents camped at the Center and participated in group potlucks and socializing.

Docents who worked over the weekend were Ralph and Maggie Klages, Karen Osland, Don Wimpres, Janine Whyte, Fran Todd, and Linda Taylor. Betty Wimpres and Kathy Badrak also volunteered many hours over the three days.

Docent Meeting July 11:00 at 9:00 a.m.

ANOTHER WARNING ABOUT LYME DISEASE

Most people who become docents at Lake Cachuma do so because they enjoy spending time out of doors. Walking and hiking in rural areas, particularly in areas of high deer concentrations, increase the chance of contracting Lyme Disease. Although much has been written about this illness during the past seventeen years, many outdoor enthusiasts remain uninformed on the subject.

Some basic facts about this disease are as follows:

- *An individual may not feel the bite of the tick which carries Lyme.
- *A bite from an infected tick forms a doughnut shaped, painless rash around the site of the bite in 60 to 80 percent of cases.
- *Flu-like symptoms--chills, fever, headache, swollen lymph nodes, aching joints and muscles--are also common.
- *The family doctor may not recognize the symptoms as Lyme Disease.
- *Antibiotics are effective if administered soon after the disease is contracted.
- *Much more serious complications may occur, such as heart problems and arthritis, if the condition is not treated immediately.
- *Although it occurs more frequently in northeast and north central states, 323 cases of Lyme disease were reported in California in 1991.*
- *A recently discovered vaccine which kills the bacteria in ticks may be tested on humans later this year. .

The most common carrier tick (*Ixodes pacificus*) which transmits a spiral shaped bacteria (*Borrelia burgdorferi*), is found in the Coastal Range and in western foothills of the Sierra Nevada, usually in shady areas of grass, marsh, or shrubs. Deer, birds, chipmunks, mice, as well as cows, dogs and cats may be host to these ticks.

Wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into socks or boots is advisable when walking in potentially infected areas.

*Lyme Disease, Arthritis Foundation, 1992.
Other sources: Outdoor California, May-June 1990; Santa Barbara Newspress, 6/15/92.

THE CHANGING RATE OF VISITORS TO NATURE CENTER

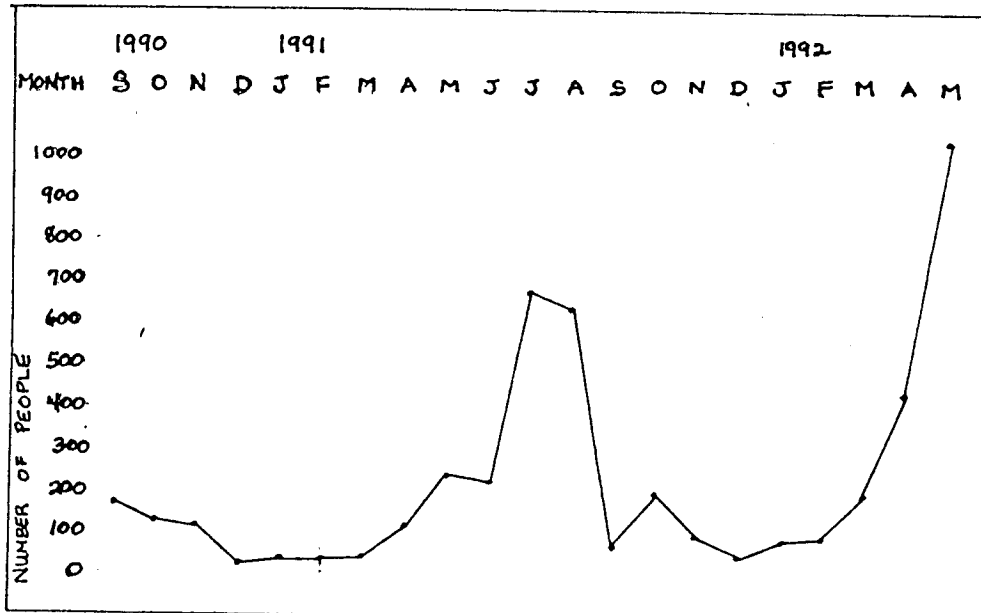
A compilation of 20 months' of guest book signatures reveals a rapidly increasing attendance rate by organized groups as well as individuals to the Nature Center. Based on entries from September, 1990, through May, 1992, 38 groups visited in 1991; 29 groups have attended in the first 5 months of 1992. These include adult groups, day care centers, school classes, children's summer camp groups, scouts, and YMCA programs. The discovery of the Center by local schools and other organizations is reflected in the large percentage increase in Santa Barbara County attendance.

COMPARATIVE ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGES

	'88-'90	'90-'92
Santa Barbara County	24%	55%
Greater Los Angeles	54	26
Ventura/SLO Counties	11	12
Other Ca. Areas	6	4
Out of State	5	1
Out of Country		1
Unknown Residence	na	1

People from the following foreign countries have come to the Center: Canada, Germany, Australia, The Netherlands, Mexico, the Ukraine, Sweden, the Philippines, England, and Denmark. Travelers from the following states were also recorded: Florida, Illinois, Washington, Alaska, Oregon, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Nevada, Arizona, Wyoming, West Virginia, Maryland, Missouri, Utah, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Texas, and Kansas.

NUMBER OF CACHUMA NATURE CENTER VISITORS BY MONTH



After 37 years with United Parcel Service, George retired as an Operations Auditor in 1987, a step which allowed him to move from his long time home in Glendale to Santa Ynez. Although the majority of his working career with UPS was spent in the Greater Los Angeles area, during his last nine years of employment he worked for short periods of time in various areas along the central California coast, becoming acquainted with its towns and cities and falling in love with the Santa Ynez Valley.

Born in Whitewater, Wisconsin, George attended high school in Detroit. He came to Glendale, California, in 1948 to get married. During the war years he was employed by the Naval Bureau of Aeronautics where he inspected the construction of naval airplanes, specifically the Corsair.

George has three daughters, a son, Kevin who attended docent classes during the last training session, two grandsons, and two granddaughters, one less than a month old.

George met his wife, Hilda, through the church in which he is so active. Ordained as a minister by the New Apostolic Church in 1952, and retired from this position at age 65 (a church rule), he continues to participate extensively in church activities: directing and singing in the choir and teaching religion to both adult and children's classes. His affiliation with the church contributed to his move to Santa Ynez, as he was asked to take over the local congregation in 1987.

Other interests are stained glass work, including clocks, candle holders, kaleidoscopes, and windows, and woodworking.

George was a member of the second docent class which graduated in 1989. He has volunteered over 1500 hours since that time. He prefers duties that involve meeting the public.

"To get more people involved," is George's greatest concern with the Docent Organization. He believes that the greatest message that Docents can deliver to the public is awareness and appreciation of our environment and a desire to care for it for future generations.

President's Message....

It doesn't seem possible that in September, four years will have passed since we had our grand opening over Labor Day weekend, 1988. At that time we had exhibits in one room, the Chumash Room. Now, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the docent group, we have four rooms open, a thriving gift shop, and altogether, a very well-liked and well-attended Nature Center. In addition to the Center, docents have participated in boat tours, nature walks, and other activities at the Lake.

We have a lot to be proud of and have established a sound foundation in our plans for the future. Read the remarks in the guest book for verification: "neat," "cool," "excellent," Amen to that and many thanks to all.

Connie Howerton, Docent President