

CACHUMA LAKE FLYER

Cachuma Lake Nature Center Newsletter

Issue Number 33

Summer, 1999

Ellen Lubic, Editor

Getting to Know Lynda Williams

It is hard to believe that it was almost three years ago that I was asked why I was interested in giving time and my limited talents to support the Cachuma Lake Nature Center and its fund raising activities and how I saw my role in these activities. It has been requested that I again take a look at my dream for the Nature Center. Maybe if I tell you a little about myself you will understand from where I am coming and how I see my role in shaping the future.

I was born in Lompoc; the second daughter of S. Paul and Madeline Reed. The four of us moved to Santa Barbara when I was 6. After graduating from SBHS, I went to UC Davis as a business major. After Al and I had 4 children, I returned to college to become a teacher. I taught for many years at Monroe School in S.B. On retirement it was suggested that I would enjoy working at the Trout Derby which supports the Nature Center. When I came to the orientation meeting I was met by several friends from different areas of interest who made me feel right at home. Since few students came to the NC from the Santa Barbara School Districts, I set that as my goal. I need to do more to help that happen.

Long ago I did not feel that just one person could make a difference. Sometimes it is the combination of people who are able to build a better mousetrap: that old theory that $1 + 1 =$ a sum greater than 2. Sometimes it is a suggestion that triggers imagination and creativity. What ever, I have found it fun to be the facilitator, the teacher, the president, or one of the many who are here to help in what ever way they can. I am amazed at how much the Nature Center has grown in educational offerings and solid appearance through the work and leadership of the Docents and support of the Board. It is a wonderful asset to the Santa Barbara County that I call home.

I am just a small clog in the machine, but I love to hear it hum and to see the growth. You've come a long way, baby! So, what are my wishes and goals for Cachuma Lake Nature Center? First of all, I wish to continue supporting the excellent ideas and work done by the Docents and to continue to raise funds for added displays and to help the docents achieve their dreams. I would like to increase the number of docents to help with the teaching, building of the exhibits, and help at the center. This may include more docent training, or even a program that involves sharing ideas with classroom teachers. I would like to see our school outreach program grow so that more classrooms come and the students' experiences are enriched via small group tour instruction which could mean more docents or informed teachers per class. It would be wonderful to provide the transportation for these field trips.

I would like to see an AV. Center/workshop area built where the students could do hand on activities, eat lunch, have visual presentations, and interact with the docents and teachers. This area could be used by other groups or park visitors for meetings and special programs throughout the year.

News from the Board, April 1999

Dear Cachuma Lake Nature Center Docents:

The Board of Directors and I wish to thank all of you for everything you have done this past year to make the Nature Center the special museum that it has become and for your help in making the Fourth CLNC Trout Derby such an enjoyable success. The weather may have gotten cold, but not the warmth and friendship shown by all who participated in the preparation of and the events of this wonderful April weekend. Your working together and doing more than your part made it the success that it was. I offer a special, "Thank you" to each and everyone of you.

The Board has a new name: Cachuma Lake Nature Center, INC.

The officers for the 1999-2000 are:

President; Lynda Williams;

Vice-president: Helen Logan;

Secretary: Linda Taylor;

Treasurer: Lorraine La Fargue;

Sergeant-at-Arms: Neal Taylor.

Sincerely,

Lynda Williams

MEET A NEW BOARD MEMBER, Paul Roark

After receiving a J. D. (Juris Doctorate) from U.C.L.A. in 1971, Paul worked for the Federal Trade Commission for 25 years. Serving in several capacities in the Los Angeles Regional Office, including Staff Attorney, Assistant Regional Director, and Acting Regional Director, he handled all phases of a wide variety of consumer protection and antitrust matters, including, early in his career, a project on the Navajo Reservation that led to the first major re-write of the BIA regulations covering trading posts in approximately 100 years.

Paul is best known for initiating and leading a major national investigation of the residential real estate brokerage industry. The initial product of the investigation was a published book-length Staff Report, The Residential Real Estate Brokerage Industry (FTC, December 1983) which analyzed the industry from the consumer protection and antitrust perspectives. ▽

In addition to brokerage matters, Paul also handled most of the merger matters in Southern California during the early and mid 1990's. Locally, the Vons/William's Bros. matter that required Vons to sell some of the San Luis Obispo William's Bros. stores is probably best known.

Paul took an early retirement from the Federal Trade Commission in 1996 in order to move to the Santa Ynez Valley, primarily for the purposes of allowing his two young daughters to attend safe public schools and allowing him to spend more time with family and on his photographic activities. His current legal practice is limited to consulting, expert witness services, speaking and lecturing on topics related to antitrust, real estate brokerage and association issues, and Federal Trade Commission practice.

Paul's real passion is "fine art," black and white, landscape photography. Although active in photography for many years, his first one-man show was in Solvang in 1981. This served primarily as a market research tool, though he had numerous subsequent shows and made corporate decor sales for several years. After retiring from the FTC, his first contest entry was in Solvang's Elverhoe Museum in 1997 show, where he took first and second place in the professional division.

Most of Paul's photography is of the High Sierras, where he has led backpack groups for years. He now also teaches a photographic workshop in conjunction with the Golden Trout Natural History workshop. The newest areas of interest are the Santa Ynez Valley and the California Central Coast. A sampling of Paul's work can be seen at www.silcom.com/~proark/photos.

Our Ever-changing Exhibits

Recent elimination of the children's room is an indication of our ever-changing exhibits in the Nature Center. With the gift of a mounted coyote from Dr. Sey Kinsell of Santa Barbara, the need to increase the size of the case or cases for mounted specimens became critical.

To house animals in a suitable area, a new case is currently under construction which will eventually hold the coyote, wild turkey, and perhaps other of the specimens that are currently at the taxidermist: ringtail, fox, badger, and fawn. Don Wimpres has designed this showcase and various docents are helping to construct it. Peg Coleman, the Santa Barbara artist who painted the original mural, has committed to doing a matching mural in the new case.

At this point in our development, change in even a single exhibit creates a domino effect: another exhibit must move, change, or be eliminated. The fresh plant exhibit and related displays have been relocated in the room previously dedicated to children's exhibits. Nearly all the materials previously in the children's room have been incorporated into sites elsewhere in the Center. The puppet theatre is situated on the front patio; puppets are collected in a large basket and children may take them outside to stage a show for family and friends under the oak tree. Some things have been placed in drawers in the Main Room--replacing items that have been frequently damaged.

These items---Chumash musical instruments, toys, games, etc.--will be placed on a display board out of reach of our younger visitors, which is more appropriate for some rather fragile items. To benefit from the relocation of these items pertaining to Chumash leisure and arts, an exhibit will be created emphasizing this aspect of Chumash life.

So, stay tuned, as the saying goes. We are a dynamic Center, which has been our intention from the beginning. We change, and as we change, we get better.

Grants

Recently the Nature Center, Inc., has received more than \$1200.00 from the Santa Ynez Valley Foundation to purchase a new table saw, which will be assembled as soon as a space is made for it in the garage. (Wednesday workers have been cleaning out the garage for the last two weeks. Don pitches stuff out; Linda brings it back in.)

Proposals have also been submitted to the Santa Barbara Foundation and to the Towbes Foundation for an educational enrichment project which includes funding for audio-visual equipment and for stipends for guest speakers. Decisions on these proposals are pending.



Dr. Sey Kinsell shows off the mounted coyote he donated to the Cachuma Lake Nature Center collector

Coyote given to Cachuma Lake

Nature Center gets support to upgrade trail

The Schlinger Foundation, under the direction of Evert and Marion Schlinger, donated \$3,500 to the Lake Cachuma Nature Center for the construction of the recently finished bridge on the Oak Canyon Nature Trail in the Lake Cachuma Recreation Area.

The Santa Barbara County Park Department contributed matching funds in the form of design and labor to build the bridge.

The goal of the Nature Center is to make the Oak Canyon Nature Trail accessible for people in wheelchairs.

This effort includes grading, addition of the bridge across an intermittent stream, leveling of the trailhead and reduction of the grade in parts of the trail.

Additionally, a trail guide has been written by Don Wimpres of Los Olivos and signs have been provided by the Park Department.

The Schlingers are members of the Nature Center's board, a non-profit foundation devoted to interpretive activities and exhibits on the natural and human history of the lake.

Dr. Sey Kinsell, a well-known, retired Santa Barbara pediatrician, has recently donated to Cachuma Lake Nature Center a mounted coyote to add to the facility's collection which focuses on exhibits of flora and fauna of the lake watershed, in which the coyote thrives.

"Coyotes have received a great deal of attention in the last few years because of their ever-more frequent sightings in suburban areas in California. I am really glad to see this specimen in the Cachuma Center," remarked Neal Taylor, County Naturalist at Cachuma Lake. "Dr. Kinsell has a long history of interest in nature and Santa Barbara history. What a great thing it is for him to take an interest in this Center."

Dr. Kinsell is a bird watcher and an amateur historian of Santa Barbara.

Cachuma Lake Nature Center, Inc. is a non-profit foundation. Thousands of local school children visit the center each year, as well as other groups and campers to Cachuma Lake Recreation Area. The center is particularly suited for children because of its "user-friendly" attitude. Many exhibits invite touching and interaction. The facility is homey, located in an old ranch house on the grounds of the recreation area, with hand made displays and

knowledgeable docents on hand to answer questions.

Teachers or leaders of school groups can call the County Naturalist's office at 688-4515 to arrange a visit. The center is open to the public on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.; Sunday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.; and Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., on an informal basis.

Wednesday visitors are welcome to come to view the center, but they may find docents painting, refurbishing exhibits, collating mailings or performing other tasks related to the operation. Those interested in volunteering in any capacity may contact the center on Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays, or drop by the center on Wednesday, to get a first-hand view of docent work.

Recently Evelyn Putnam, resident of Santa Ynez, was elected President of the Docent Organization. Other Docents are Helen Osenga, Santa Barbara, Vice-President; Carl Gutmann, Santa Barbara, Secretary; and George Smith, San Luis Obispo, Treasurer. The Board of Directors is chaired by John Williams of Santa Barbara, with Logan, Santa Ynez, Vice President; Lorraine La Farre, Ballard, and Treasurer; and Li Taylor, Santa Barbara, Secretary.



COURTESY P

From left, Neal Taylor, Santa Barbara County Park Department naturalist, donors Evert and Marion Schlinger stand on the new bridge.

Thanks to all the wonderful donors to the Trout Derby

Adams Mobile Home Service	Helen and Henry Logan	Rodcrafting, Etc.
Al Hess Office Supply	Hook, Line and Sinker	Ron Wilmot
Anne Plucy	Hutchison Equipment	Santa Barbara County Park Dep
Beachside Bar & Restaurant	IHOP	Santa Barbara Zoological Fdn.
Beverley Mick	Jack Morehart	Santa Ynez Valley Hardware
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Brian and Ilona Lincoln	Jesse's Shoe Repair	Susan Ham
Cachuma Boat Rentals	Jiffy Lube	The Beach House
Cachuma Lake Store	Jim and Stephanie Phelps	The Good Earth Restaurant
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Hall, Hurley, Deutsch, A.I.A.	Rio Vista Chevrolet	
Harbor Tackle	River Course at the Alisal	
Harrison Hardware	RLS Lures	

Trout Derby Results

'99 TROUT DERBY REGISTRATIONS SUMMARY

Pre-registrations 569
 Late Registration 354
 Total 923

Finances

\$18,230.00 in registration fees
 \$ 4,340.00 received in donations

Total registrations:

1998: 765
 1997: 847
 1996: 873

Total Income: \$22570.00

Net Profit: \$11,182.12 as of this date

'99 Trout Derby Catch Results

Trout With Highest Tag No.

Tag No.	Name	Location
0735	Mervin Downey	Ventura Harbor
0447	Allen Ovieda	Goleta
0425	Lance Winegardner	Goleta
0415	James Huggins	Santa Paula
0416	Richard West	Thousand Oaks

Longest Trout

Robert Ayers - Thousand Oaks: 23-3/4"
 Ken Rossman - Santa Ynez: 22-7/8"

Children Under 13 Yrs. Old

Length (In.)	Name	Age (Yrs.)	Location
20-7/8	Warner Watkins	8	Santa Ynez
18-7/8	Claire Scholl	12	Santa Barbara
18-1/2	Garrett Chavira	9	Covina
18-1/16	Adam Mitchell	11	Santa Paula
17-3/4	Sean Hooper	5	Lompoc

Heaviest Stringer of 5

Weight (Lbs)	Name	Location
12.8	Don Arney	Oxnard
11.89	Gwynn Hladyniuk	Santa Barbara
10.25	Scott Berk	Castaic

First Tagged Trout Caught by a Man: Richard West, Tag No. 0406
 No tagged trout was caught by a woman.

EL RANCHO

MARKET, INC.

4 March 1999

Cachuma Lake Nature Center, Inc.—Trout Derby
Cachuma Lake
HC 58
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

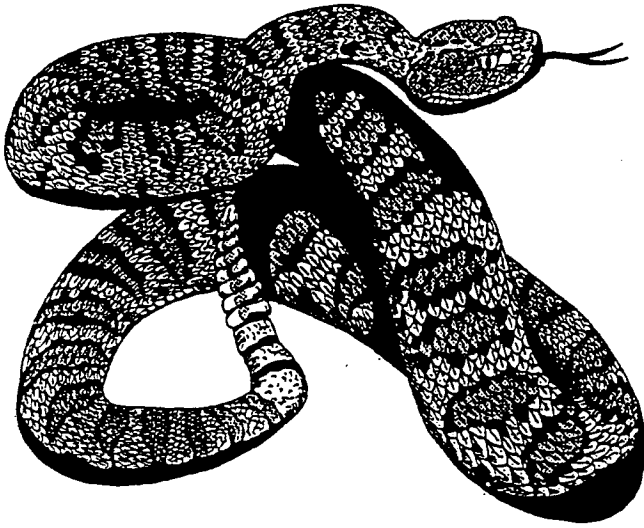
Dear Carol,

Enclosed please find El Rancho Market's donation for this year's Trout Derby. In addition to the \$30.00 gift certificate, we would like to place your organization on our Caring and Sharing List. This program generates thousands of dollars a month for a wide range of charitable groups. It works in this way: as a customer checks out they can look at our list and may choose an organization in which to donate one percent of their total purchase. This amount is paid by the store, not the customer. A customer can choose different numbers each time they make a purchase; they are not locked in to one choice. We have assigned #134 as your charitable donation number and will post this information downstairs. If you do not wish to be on the list, please contact us at 688-4300 ext. 202. We hope you will spread the word about this program and promote your organization's number to your patrons. If you have any questions please feel free to call me. We wish you a successful event.

Sincerely,

El Rancho Market, Inc.
nrs

1 Enclosure



WHAT TO DO (and what NOT to do) in RATTLESNAKE COUNTRY!

As many as 45,000 poisonous snake bites occur each year in the United States, most of these from rattlesnakes. While only 15 to 20 of these are fatal (more people die annually of bee stings, being struck by lightning or being struck by golf balls!), the rest suffer painful, often dangerous and debilitating recovery time. Snakes do not bite people out of an aggressive desire to kill, but because they react to what their instincts interpret as an attack. Probably 90% of all snakebites could be prevented by following one simple rule:

"ALWAYS WATCH WHERE YOU PUT YOUR HANDS AND FEET."

In essence, the practice of this rule is quite simple: You should be able to **SEE** your feet and hands at all times when in areas inhabited by venomous reptiles.

Watch where you put your feet: Watch the trail ahead of you. This will not only prevent your coming up unexpectedly on a resting rattler, but will help prevent falls over equally unexpected rocks and sticks! **DON'T** step over a log or rock if you can't see what might be below it on the other side. **DO** step up on top of such an object, then way out and over it. **DO** wear good, high boots with loose jeans outside them when hiking through brushy country that may be inhabited by rattlers.

Watch where you put your hands: **DON'T** climb a ledge or rocky hillside by reaching up beyond sight for your next handhold; who knows what may be sunning itself on that next ledge? **DON'T** reach under a rock or log that you don't know what's under. **DON'T** put your hands into a hole you can't see into.

Most importantly, **DON'T** play around with rattlesnakes! At least one third of all snakebites occur to people who, for one reason or another, are trying to do something to the snake — kill it, tease it, catch it. An act of bravado can be expensive; a momentary lapse of attention can be dangerous.

If a rattlesnake is in an inhabited area, it should be captured and relocated by an experienced herpetologist if possible; it should be destroyed only as a last resort.

If the rattler is in the wild, let it go its own way. It will get away from you as fast as it can, and rattlesnakes are an important part of the natural world and the balance of nature.

RATTLESNAKE FACTS

Rattlesnakes are the **only dangerously venomous snakes in California**. We have no Coral Snakes, Copperheads or Water Moccasins, which are the only other dangerous snakes in the United States.

A **DEAD** rattlesnake should be avoided. Many people have been bitten by the reflex action of dead snakes, even badly mangled ones. Rattlesnakes killed in inhabited areas should have the head cut off and buried; otherwise, rattlers should not be killed at all.

You cannot tell a rattler's age by counting the rattles. A new segment is gained each time the snake sheds its skin, which may be two to five times a year. Additionally, the longer rattles of older snakes frequently break off.

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Animal Damage
Control



MANAGING RACCOON PROBLEMS

Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) are common throughout California. They are medium sized animals 12 - 35+ lbs. and 20 - 40 inches long, including a bushy tail with 4 to 7 black rings. The fur has a salt and pepper appearance with the black mask marking on a whitish face characteristic of the species. The tracks of the raccoon are very distinctive. The hind foot is long, narrow, and rests flat on the ground like those of a bear. The front paw is hand-like, with toes that are long and well separated. This permits the use of the front paws with almost the facility of a monkey's hands.

Biology

Raccoons breed mainly in February and March, but matings may occur from December through June. The gestation period is about 63 days. Most litters are born in April or May, but some late-breeding females may not give birth until June, July, or August. Raccoons produce one litter per year. The average litter size is 3 to 5 young. The offspring are weaned between 2 and 4 months of age and usually stay with the female until the following spring. Yearling females do not always breed but adult females normally breed every year, especially if food is plentiful.

The diet of the raccoon is extremely diverse. They will eat fruit, berries, grain, eggs, poultry, vegetables, nuts, mollusks, fish, insects, rodents, carrion, pet food and garbage. Individual animals may learn to use specialized foods such as poultry, fruit crops, small livestock, or garbage by watching other raccoons. Contrary to popular myth, raccoons do not always wash their food before eating, although they frequently play with their food in water.

Raccoons are nocturnal or night-time active animals. Urban raccoon populations are frequently underestimated because people seldom see them traveling during the daytime. They are also territorial, particularly the males. Adult males may occupy areas of 3 to 20 sq. mi.; females have a much smaller territory of 1 to 6 sq. mi. Raccoons den up in hollow trees, drain pipes, homes and buildings, under decks and storage buildings, brush piles and abandoned burrows.

Damage

Raccoons can cause substantial damage. In urban areas, raccoons damage buildings (particularly attics and roofs), gardens, fruit trees, lawns, garbage cans and trash containers. They are also attracted to pet food left outdoors and will attack pets. Occasionally, one or more raccoons will establish a communal toilet area resulting in time to the deposition of a large number of scats. In rural areas, raccoons may feed on farm crops or raid poultry houses. A raccoon typically attacks birds by biting the head or upper neck area. The heads of adult birds are usually bitten off and left some distance from the body. The crop and breast may be torn and chewed and the entrails eaten. Raccoons have been known to mutilate poultry in cages by pulling heads or legs off. Several kills may be made during a single night raid with part of one or more carcasses fed upon. Dead fowl may be at the kill site or dragged several yards away. Raccoons are also serious predators of wild bird populations. Reports indicate that raccoons have been responsible for eliminating local populations of some nesting waterfowl.

Disease

Since free roaming wildlife does not receive veterinary care, all wildlife species can carry diseases and parasites. Raccoons are known carriers of rabies, canine distemper, encephalitis, histoplasmosis, trypanosomiasis, coccidiosis, toxoplasmosis, tularemia, tuberculosis, listeriosis, leptospirosis, roundworms, and mange. They are also infested with fleas, ticks, lice and mites which are known transmitters of disease. Children and pets are particularly at risk.

Problem Prevention

Raccoons are attracted to urban areas by the easy accessibility of food, water, and shelter. Reducing or eliminating the availability of all of these factors will encourage raccoons to leave. Tight fitting lids should be kept on garbage

Cachuma Lake Nature Center
HC-58
Santa Barbara, CA 93105



Gene O. Petersen
644 Patterson Road
Santa Maria CA 93455

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RETURN TO SENDER

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