

Leavy Asks CAC for 'CZ' Rezoning

Coastal Commissioner Zad Leavy, who also sits as a member of the Citizen Advisory Committee, asked the committee to recommend implementation of the new "CZ" zoning ordinance to the Board of Supervisors.

The new zoning was adopted as an ordinance by the board in October, but it has not been implemented as an operating law.

Under the new zoning, if implemented, applicants would be required to pay \$25 for a use permit application fee, to comply with chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and there would be no categorical exemptions, as presently exist, for residential, agricultural and existing commercial applications.

A Coastal Permit would still be required.

CAC member John Harlan took issue with Leavy's proposal. He contended that the Citizen Advisory Committee was appointed, and therefore not a representative community organization, that their assignment as citizen advisors was to provide planning input, and that the CAC should not attempt to be a spokesman for the community on controversial political issues outside the scope of their jurisdictions.

Mr. Leavy argued that the committee should write a letter to the supervisors recommending implementation of the new zoning because, eventually, the county plan would have to conform to chapter 3 of the Coastal Act.

When interviewed by the *Gazette* in September, County Zoning Administrator Robert Slimmon said that, because of the present requirement of a Coastal Permit, a use permit would probably be "redundant" up to the completion of the LCP when the county would assume jurisdiction.

The committee will vote on Leavy's proposal at their next meeting, scheduled for Jan. 23, 7 p.m., at the Big Sur Grange Hall.

The public is invited to attend and participate in the discussion.



THE GREENING of Big Sur. Beginning with the winter rains and continuing until mid-summer, Big Sur's "quiet period" is revered by residents. With fewer visitors, and little traffic, residents enjoy the most beautiful season in Big Sur.

INCORPORATION COMMITTEE REACHES GOAL

"The Committee for the Incorporation of Big Sur has gotten in excess of the number of signatures required by LAFCO to bring the matter to the next stage of public hearings," reported committee chairman John Harlan.

However, Mr. Harlan and the committee are not moving the process forward because "many others are still discussing and studying the feasibility report, and we prefer not to progress until at least the majority of the residents feel that local government is the best way to preserve Big Sur and its people."

According to guidelines established by LAFCO, the Local Agency Formation Commission, 25 percent of the registered voters of an area must sign a petition to bring the subject of incorporation to them for evaluation and public hearings.

LAFCO is a commission which functions as an arm of the Board of Supervisors, and is the entity which rules on such matters as annexations and incorporations.

The chairman emphasized that signing the petition was not a vote for or against incorporation, it is a request to bring the matter to public hearings. After a lengthy process, LAFCO then determines whether or not it gets to the ballot for a vote.

Objections

When asked what were the most frequent objections people had expressed about Big Sur becoming a town, Mr. Harlan said that some of the people think new services would be required and others fear a town would change the area or their lifestyle.

"Quite the contrary," responded Mr. Harlan, "no new services would be required at all, and the services we do have could be improved."

Regarding incorporation's effect on the coastal environment or people's lifestyles, Mr. Harlan believes that the Town of Big Sur is the alternative which best protects the coast and its residents.

Arguments in Favor

What are the most frequent reasons people give for supporting incorporation?

Continued on page 2

Highlanders Seek Prescriptive Rights Solutions

By GARY KOEPEL

For the fifth time in as many months, residents of the Carmel Highlands and Coastal Zone turned out in numbers to question the Regional Coastal Commissioners about the origin, scope, and problems created by the controversial prescriptive rights investigations being conducted in the name of the Coastal Commission by the State Attorney General's Office.

Carmel Highlands resident Robert Speer began the session by asking for clarification as to whether or not Yankee Point Beach had been "targeted" for a prescriptive rights investigation.

He presented a letter dated November 6 from Deputy Attorney General Ken Williams to Leo Woods of the Malpasco Property Association which specifically names Yankee Beach for investigation. Carbon copies of the letter had been sent to Deputy Attorney General Charles Getz and Executive Director Ed Brown.

But two weeks later, Mr. Speers pointed out, at the November 20 Commission meeting, Highland residents had been emphatically assured by Mr. Getz, Mr. Brown, and Chairperson Henderson, that Yankee Beach was definitely not under investigation.

After documenting pertinent remarks made at the four previous meetings on the subject, Mr. Speers charged that "the credibility and authority of the Coastal Commission is at stake ... the Attorney General and staff seem to be taking over Commission functions, both openly and covertly."

"Our time and that of the Commissioners is being seriously wasted. Resentment against the Commission grows. Trespass is increasing, titles remain clouded, property values are threatened, and owners are being treated like squatters on their own land," he concluded.

Another Highlands resident, Clare Carey Willard, expressed disapproval of the "duplicity with which my queries have been answered" and because "many of my questions have been answered with lies."

"Behind Back"

She said on November 20 she and other residents had been assured by Chairperson Hendersen, Deputy Atty. Gen. Getz, and Executive Director Brown that "the Attorney General's Office had no interest whatsoever in Yankee Point Beach."

She cited the November 6 letter from Atty. Gen. Williams which specified Yankee Beach as under investigation, carbon copies of which had been sent to Getz and Brown.

Mrs. Willard called the investigation "a violation of private rights under the guise of protection of public rights."

Bob Reordan, president of the Highlands Property Owners Association, requested a definite response from the Commission as to "whether or not Yankee Point Beach is under investigation."

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Spencer of the Highlands wrote a

Continued on page 7

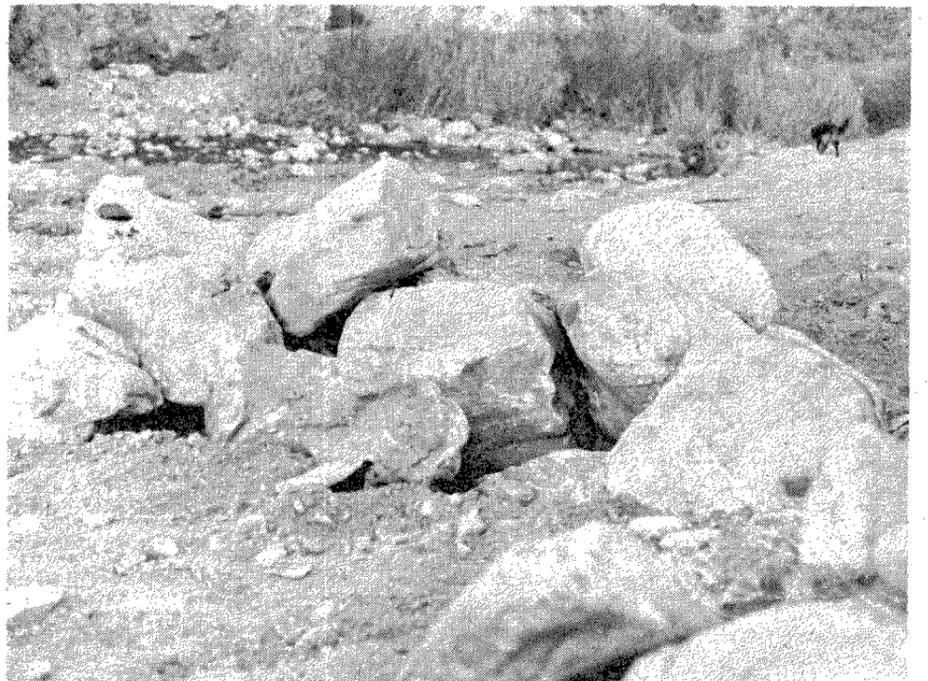
Carter Approves USFS's Rare II

The Carter administration announced last week its plans to assign designations to 62 million acres of United States Forest Service lands.

Some 36 million acres are to be designated "multiple use," another 15 million will be classed as "wilderness areas," and the remaining 11 million acres will be "set aside" for further study and future designation.

The administration's recommendations, which were issued by the

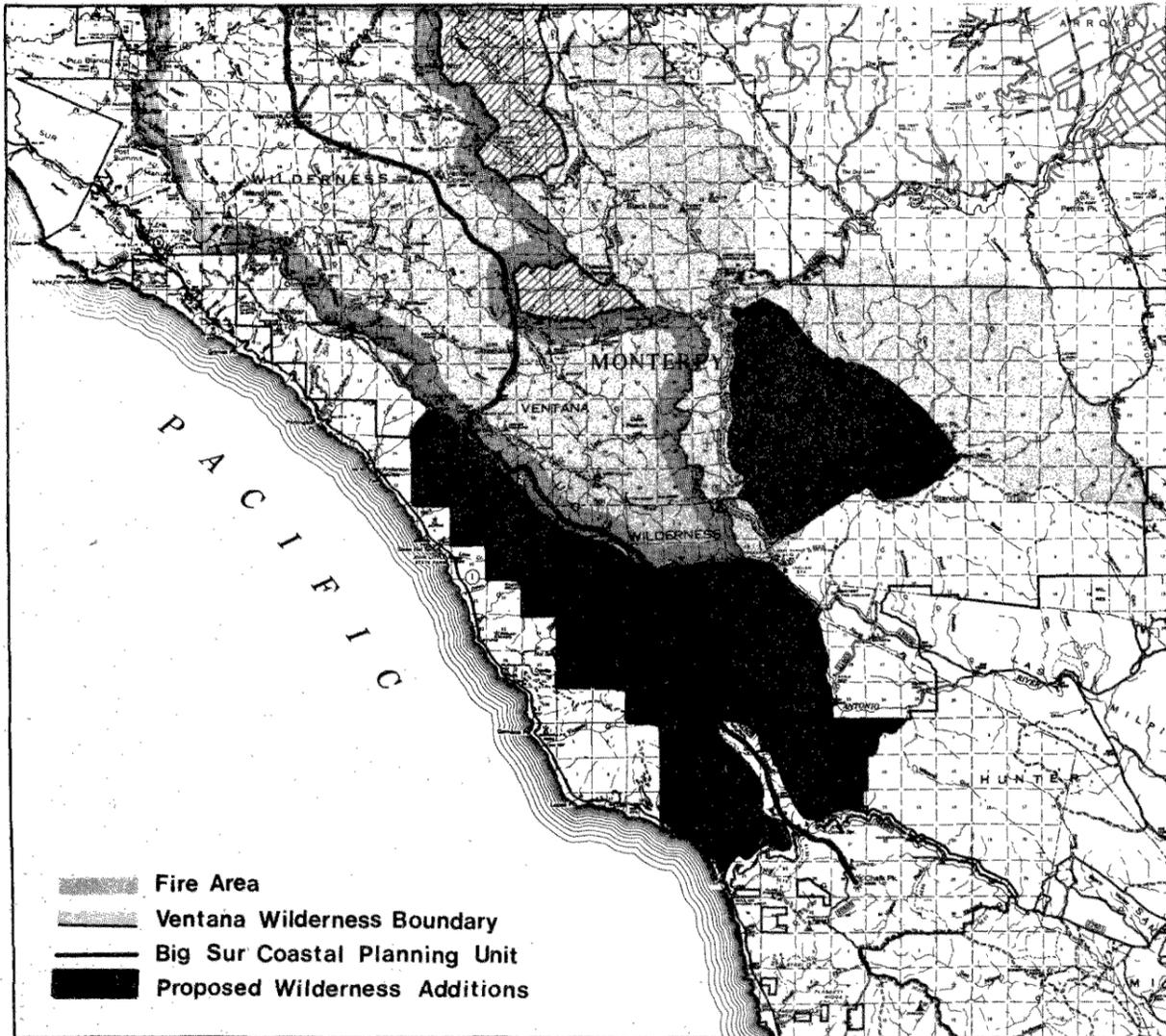
Continued on page 2



SOUTH COAST RESIDENTS made news by blocking the USFS from removing 675 boulders (such as the ones pictured) from Willow Creek Beach. See story on page 4.

This Issue:

- Pacific Adventure
Centerfold
- Gorda Residents
Page 4
- Fire Brigade
Page 5
- Editorial
Pages 6, 7
- Bears in Big Sur
Page 8
- Hawk's Perch
Page 13
- Christmas Sing
Page 18



USFS MAP shows newly designated wilderness areas south of Monterey in Big Sur country. The new areas adjoin the existing Ventana Wilderness. See stories below and on page 15.

TOWN COMMITTEE REACHES GOAL

Continued from page 1

The three most frequent arguments in support of incorporation, he summarized, are self-determination, economic feasibility, and protection from government encroachment.

"The type of person who gravitates to and is able to survive in Big Sur is a self-regulating person who, by moving and living here, in the past had achieved a desirable state of isolated self-determination. A change is imminent, and many people realize that a town is the best way to maintain self-determination," said Mr. Harlan.

He further explained that the Zion report established the economic feasibility of the town, and that sufficient operating funds were presently being generated, but that "we're now exporting those dollars to Salinas and Sacramento."

As to the argument that incorporation provides protection from government agency encroachments, Mr. Harlan said that, with all of the government agencies and their various planning efforts, that the time had come for people to get together to protect themselves from "Big Brotherism."

Next Steps

Mr. Harlan contends that many persons who were negative to incorporation from the outset have changed their minds and are now lending support because they now understand the lack of realistic alternatives.

When does he expect the Incorporation Committee to submit their required petitions to LAFCO?

"Under LAFCO's requirements, we have up to six months from November, which is when we initiated the petition drive. We're in no rush. It's far more important for the community to take their time on such an important matter, and for the majority of the people to want a town rather than to rush it just because the required number of signatures have been obtained," he concluded.

Rare II Approved

Continued from page 1

Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bob Bergland, will be presented to the 96th Congress sometime in April.

Designations

National Forest lands which are designated "multiple use" allow such uses as mining, timber harvesting, agricultural and a variety of recreational uses.

Contrastingly, "wilderness areas" are set aside as preserves and no development or motorized access is allowed, including roads, fire-breaks, or helipads.

Rare II

Since June 1976 the U.S. Forest Service has been preparing a plan for the designation and subsequent management of the 62 million of its total 187 million acres of holdings.

Called RARE II, an acronym for Roadless Area Review and Evaluation, the USFS planning effort involved more than a quarter of a million comments from the public.

The geographic area covered by the designated 15 million acres of wilderness areas are scattered throughout three-fourths of the continental United States, as well as Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Wilderness Acreages

The largest new wilderness areas are located in Idaho, Colorado and California.

Nearly 900,000 acres of federally owned lands in California have been converted into Wilderness Areas.

The Los Padres National Forest along the central coast south of Monterey in Big Sur Country would redesignate 68,200 acres as wilderness.

68,200 Big Sur Acres Designated Wilderness

Of the 15 million acres recently reclassified as "wilderness areas," two segments of the Los Padres National Forest totalling 62,800 acres, have been redesignated and added to the Ventana Wilderness.

The largest segment runs from Anderson Peak south along the USFS boundaries to Nacimiento Road, easterly to Camp Antonio, then north to Indian Station and along the Coast Ridge Road back to Anderson Peak.

The second, smaller segment forms a triangular area, the approximate three corners of which are Arroyo Seca Station, Indian Station and Bear Mountain.

Coast Ridge Road

Two other areas, which straddle a section of the Coast Ridge Road, were removed from wilderness consideration because they had already been included in an already approved management plan, called the USFS Big Sur Unit Plan.

These areas are "unroaded," according to USFS spokesman Dick Zechentmayer, "but we will be able to do fire pre-suppression work and channel clearing in those areas, which will allow for better management."

"Access to the Coast Ridge Road areas will still be walk-in only," Mr. Zechentmayer added, "there will not be any general public vehicular access."

Proposed Acquisitions

The Big Sur Unit Plan will be part of a much larger Forest Land Management Plan which is scheduled for completion by 1983. Land classifications and the managing direction for the Ventana Wilderness will be the major planning focus.

The Big Sur Unit Plan, which has already been approved by Congress, includes an acquisition list of 2,500 acres.

The USFS does not have the power of eminent domain, thus limiting acquisitions to willing sellers.

Mr. Zechentmayer said, however, that "private holdings within the areas designated as 'wilderness,' unless access already exists, will not be allowed access."

Private holdings within multiple use areas without pre-existing access are allowed to develop access.

The 2,500 acres sought from "willing sellers" have a market value of \$700 per acre, according to the amount allocated in the approved Big Sur Unit Plan.

State Coastal Panel to Hear Ventana & Gelbart

By PAUL DENISON
Monterey Peninsula Herald
Staff Writer

BURLINGAME—State coastal commissioners agreed Wednesday to decide whether Ventana Inn can add 36 guest units and whether writer Larry Gelbart can build a hillside house with an electric tram in Big Sur.

Both had been denied permits by Central Coast regional coastal commissioners. State commissioners will hear pro and con arguments and make their decisions next month.

Gelbart's attorney Wednesday accused regional commissioner Zad Leavy of having a conflict of interest in Gelbart's case and failing to disclose it.

Attorney Myron Etienne Jr. said Leavy had offered to buy Gelbart's land about a year before Gelbart requested a coastal permit to build a house on Coast Ridge Road.

Leavy, who lives on the same road, voted against Gelbart's permit along with eight other commissioners. Only four voted for it.

With playwright and screenwriter Gelbart sitting at the back of the room, Etienne Wednesday read aloud Gelbart's account of a phone conversation in which Leavy allegedly offered, on behalf of himself and Monterey Municipal Court Judge William Burleigh, to buy Gelbart's property. Burleigh has a home on Coast Ridge Road next to Gelbart's land.

Motives Questioned

"Commissioner Leavy did not make this fact known to anyone," Etienne said. "Was he acting as a regional commissioner or out of interest in purchasing Mr. Gelbart's property?"

Contacted today at his home, Leavy denied making an offer to buy Gelbart's property but said he had talked with him about putting his land in open space.

Leavy said he had learned that Gelbart "wanted out" because of building site access problems.

"Bill (Burleigh) called me a couple times and we talked about working out some arrangement so Gelbart could put the land in open space," Leavy said. "We didn't even discuss it in money terms, and no offer was

ever made."

Burleigh corroborated Leavy's account.

Open Space Idea

Leavy said he thought the Big Sur Land Trust, in which he is active, or some other organization, might be interested in accepting Gelbart's land as open space. But Gelbart told him he intended to build on the land.

Leavy said that when Gelbart subsequently submitted an application to build a house with a tram instead of a driveway, he did not disclose the phone conversation because he did not consider it a conflict of interest. He also said that he tried to stay out of the discussion on Gelbart's application, adding his views only after several other commissioners raised objections to the permit.

Deputy Attorney General Charles Getz said Wednesday that Etienne's conflict of interest charge was not germane to the question of whether the state commission should hear Gelbart's appeal and "even if true, does not establish a conflict of interest" under the Fair Political Practices Act or commission guidelines.

Appeal Recommended

State commission staff member Mark Prinz-Delaplaine recommended that commissioners accept the appeal. He said the regional commission had given too much weight to possible tram noise and water use. He also said the permit denial was inconsistent with past actions denying permits "only if they intrude in a highly visible scenic area."

Etienne also represented Ventana Big Sur on Wednesday, arguing that regional commission staff members had misled commissioners by using unrealistically high estimates of water use and low estimates of water supply and by making inaccurate assumptions and calculations of Highway 1 traffic that the resort expansion would generate.

Arguing against the project, as they had done at the regional level, were Frank Ramistella and Laurie Dillon of Big Sur and Sierra Club spokesman Carl Larson and Rod Holmgren.

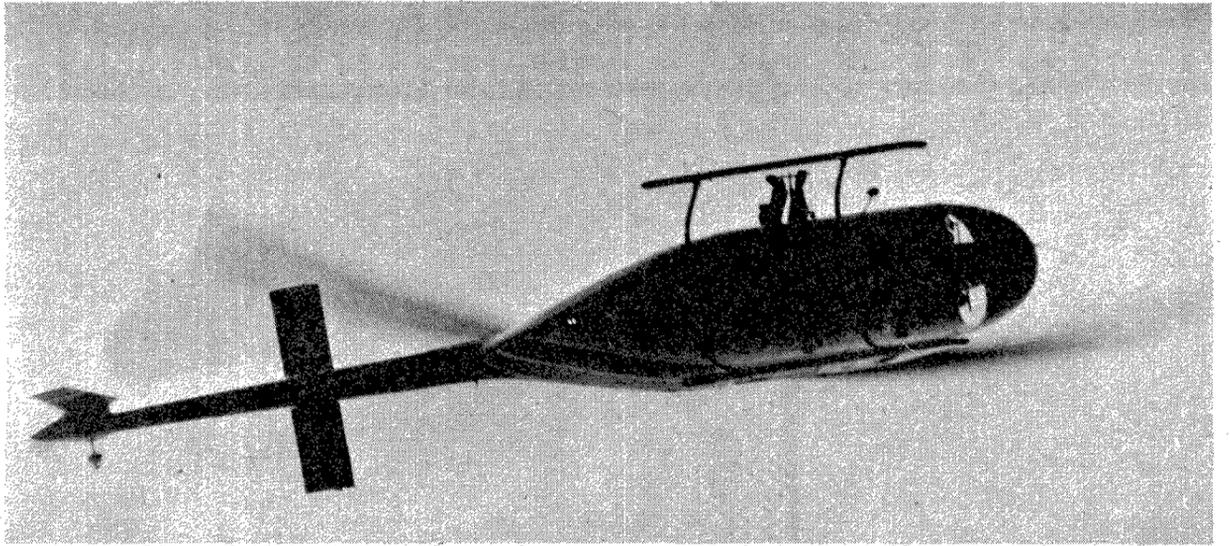
DRIVE SLOWLY

at Night



FLYING LOW FOR AT&T

Story and Photos by PAULA WALLING



A red, white and blue Oakland-based helicopter repeatedly sped over homes in Big Sur at treetop level last Dec. 16 causing concerned residents to telephone the Monterey County Sheriff and the Monterey Airport District office for an explanation. The Monterey tower, however, had no jurisdiction over aircraft at that altitude, callers were told.

The helicopter seen by many residents had a 16mm motion picture camera mounted inside and a special side-facing jump seat for the

photographer, who appeared to be precariously dangling his legs over the side during flight. His assignment was to shoot a promotional film for American Telephone and Telegraph Company to advertise its new computer system, a method of dispatching information about trucking.

According to Steve Bridge of Hookit Productions in Los Angeles, the new system is "a method of keeping an eye on merchandise." Computer terminals within individual trucks would be linked to a master terminal which at

the touch of a button would provide trucking company officials with such information as the departure time and destination of a truck, its next stop, the driver's name, the cargo carried, the amount of merchandise inside, the weight of the truck, and its estimated time of arrival. It is intended as a very sophisticated means of inventory control.

Steve Arndt, director of Hookit Productions, hired pilot Davey Jones, who just returned from the Philippines after working on the

soon-to-be-released \$40 million film *Apocalypse Now*, to film the difficult scenes. One scene called for the photographer to film the driver of a Tony's Pizza truck at fullface range then zoom back to include the landscape, which accounted for the very low flying over Big Sur Valley and along the South Coast.

When asked why Big Sur, which is neither a major trucking route nor a dispenser of Tony's Pizza, was chosen for the commercial, Steve Bridge answered, "Because it's pretty."

COURT RULES COMMISSION'S REQUIRED DEDICATIONS ILLEGAL

By NANCY GRAHAM
L.A. Times Staff Writer

In a case that could have statewide impact, a Superior Court judge has ruled that the state Coastal Zone Conservation Commission cannot force Venice property owners to dedicate land to the state as a condition of obtaining a construction permit.

The ruling came in a suit brought by Isthmus Landowners Assn. Inc., whose president, Robert Tronstein, said it could set a precedent throughout California.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert Weil handed down the decision which ordered the commission to reconsider its conditional permit for development of 37 acres in the Silver Strand and Del Rey Beach tracts in Venice.

It was not immediately announced if the state would appeal.

"The commission apparently has been making

people dedicate certain portions of land in order to get permits," Tronstein said. "People, instead of fighting it, say something is better than nothing. No one has fought it. I understand there are other cases in court, but this is the first case under the 1976 Coastal Act that has tested the act in regard to this matter."

"Since the judge has ruled this, the Coastal Commission will have to take another look at all requirements making people dedicate land as a condition of (obtaining) a permit."

State Dep. Atty. Gen. Douglas Noble said the attorney handling the case could not comment because, "We haven't had a chance to study the judge's opinion. It was a verbal opinion. It would be premature to give an analysis of what happened."

Noble did acknowledge that other landowners have challenged the requirements imposed by the commission.

"I have a case coming up

next Wednesday," Noble said. "I'm not sure, but I believe it's before the same judge, a case of beach access in Malibu."

Isthmus Landowners Assn. Inc., represents 95 percent of the owners of the 254 lots involved, according to Tronstein, who successfully claimed the commission could not require the dedication of land for public use as a condition for the permit to develop the land with single family houses.

Weil ruled that the state Public Resource Code "does not authorize imposition of (a) mandatory dedication requirement as condition of permit issuance."

The judge also ruled that a 20-foot setback required for the permit development was inappropriate at this time because no application for buildings on any individual lot was before the commission "and therefore such condition is an abuse of discretion."

He did, however, hold that a condition requiring the

landowners to restore a marsh area as a habitat for birds and marine life in part of the development was supported by substantial evidence.

Tronstein said the marsh restoration condition was not appealed by the association.

"It was a compromise on the northern end (of the strand)," Tronstein said, adding:

"This was the same land the Coastal Commission had recommended as a park area in 1976. We asked the state to come and take it and pay for it and everybody refused. Then the Coastal Commission said (to the property owners) 'Okay, you give it.'"

"The judge said no. We finally have found that property owners do have some rights and that we property owners are as much ecologically minded as some opposition.

"People with single family homes are the best type of development for the area."

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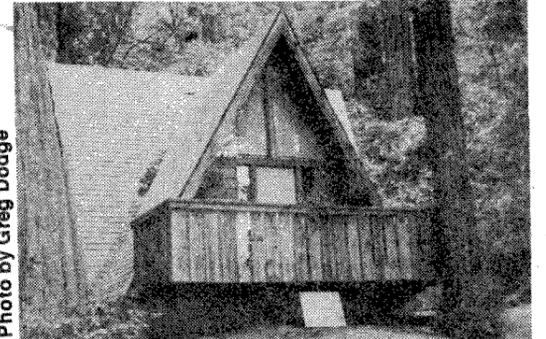


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ONE BEACH less 675 of its largest rocks equal one confrontation.

South Coast Residents Block USFS Rock Removal

By PAULA WALLING

"Everybody in the town was concerned about it," said Susan Pierce of Sorta Gorda Restaurant. "That's the closest beach to Gorda; it's like our beach."

Sisyphus, doomed to an eternity of pushing a boulder uphill, would have been glad enough to see the ones at Willow Creek go. But not the residents of Gorda. And they let the U.S. Forest Service and the contractor involved know their feelings in no uncertain terms.

The Sierra Club might have fought the same battle with lengthy, costly court proceedings. Then again, since the boulders were destined to create "back country improvements," the club might well have ignored the entire issue. Gorda residents did not.

Infuriated by the dolling up of the back country at the expense of the "front country," residents of the

South Coast made a simple, out-of-court settlement: they blocked the road. And when you block the road in Big Sur, no one goes anywhere—even with a valid U.S. Forest Service permit and heavy equipment. The landscape provides only two choices, up or down.

And so it was that Kenny McClennan, a contractor with permission to remove 675 boulders weighing between 500 and 700 pounds each, learned that a handful of local people could halt an operation not previously questioned by either environmentalists or the Forest Service itself.

Thoreau would call it Civil Disobedience. His essay says, "Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence. A minority is powerless while it conforms to the majority; it is not even a minority then; but it is irresistible when it clogs by its whole weight."

"They held a peaceful demonstration," said Susan Pierce. "They blocked the road with their cars, and it worked."

Although the group managed to deter the rock removal, they were not there in time to stop the contractor from emptying a small fresh water pool that held some 50 to 100 small steelhead trout. The steelhead according to local reports had not made the run up Willow Creek for the past 3 years because of the drought. Local people had hoped the small school might make it this year.

Susan Pierce says the Forest Service now plans to get the rocks from a quarry in Santa Margarita.

The Forest Service has a motto on its Los Padres signs: "Land of Many Uses." It looks as though the uses may now number one less—at least in Gorda.

Commissioner in Hot Water

Reprinted from the Herald

Regional coastal commissioner Zad Leavy may find himself standing before his colleagues wearing a turkish towel and a sheepish grin when he returns from a holiday in Israel.

Leavy had a hot tub and deck built at his Big Sur home without a county permit, and he might need a coastal permit as well.

Leavy, who has usually taken a hard line on proposed Big Sur building projects including some in his own neighborhood, was "turned in" by another Big Sur resident, according to Lou Rodriguez of the county building inspector's office.

"He built a hot tub with a small deck around it," Rodriguez said. "He said he was unaware that a permit was

required and agreed to submit plans and take out appropriate permits, which might include a coastal permit."

Guesswork

Rodriguez said he had given up guessing what projects were covered and which were exempted from coastal law and now routinely tells all coastal zone residents to "check with Santa Cruz."

A member of the regional coastal commission staff said today that most additions to single family homes are exempt from the Coastal Act, with some complicated exceptions. One of these might affect Leavy's situation.

Swimming pools, spas, fountains, etc., require a permit in areas designated by commission resolution as critically short of water.

Leavy lives on Coast Ridge Road in the Post Creek watershed, which has not been formally designated as such.

But commissioners recently denied permits for expansion of Ventana Big Sur resort and for construction of a single family home by screenwriter Larry Gelbart, also on Coast Ridge Road.

Leavy did not take part in the Ventana decision, but he did vote against Gelbart's application.

And one of the main commission concerns in both cases was—you guessed it—water.

It's unlikely that Leavy will have to pull the plug on his hot tub, but for a time at least he may find the water uncomfortably warm.



A NATURAL POOL with 50 to 100 steelhead was drained before Gorda residents could halt further changes at the beach.

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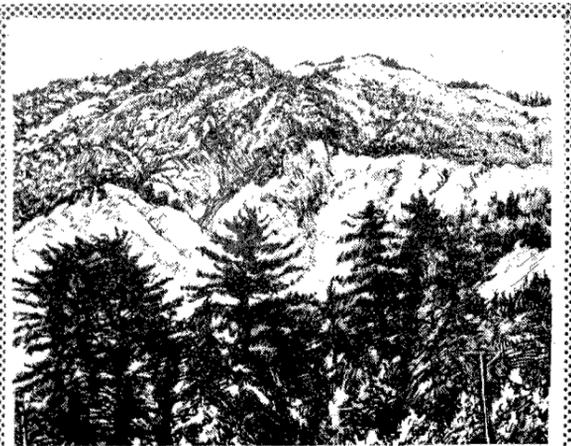
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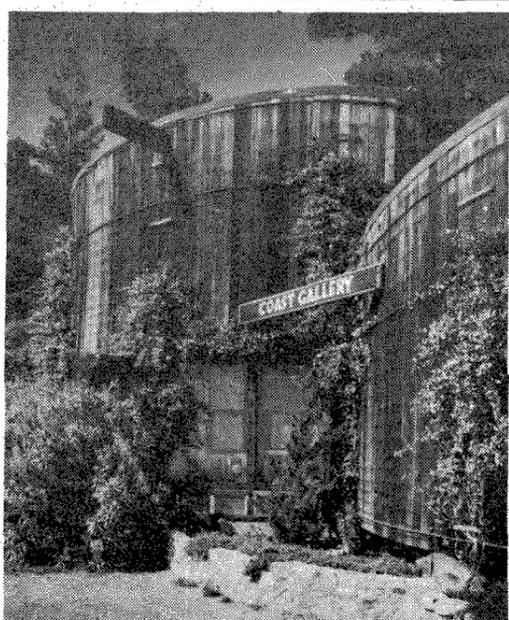
Big Sur Church Services

San Lucia Mission
Sun., Feb. 4
4 p.m.
Episcopal Service
1/2 Mile North of Fernwood

St. Francis Church
Saturday Mass, 4 p.m.
Catholic Service
1/2 Mile North of Fernwood

Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park
Sundays, 10 a.m.
Non-denominational Service
State Park Campfire Center

Immaculate Heart Hermitage
Sunday Mass, 11 a.m.
Mass on weekdays, 6:15 a.m.
Evening Prayer, Sundays at 5 p.m. and weekdays at 6 p.m.
Catholic Service
1/2 Mile south of Lucia Lodge



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Brigade Attends Firefighting School

By FRANK PINNEY

Black smoke boiled into the November sky as rain clouds passed overhead. It could have been the scene of an airline crash or a fuel tanker fire somewhere along Highway One, but we were at Monterey Airport, and the hundred and fifty firefighters there were training in a controlled oil fire school. The class was organized by the Monterey Area Training Officers Association for the benefit of the professional and volunteer firefighters from as far away as Watsonville, King City and Big Sur.

The Big Sur firefighters had just finished their intensive six-week course in Fire Suppression the month before, and their instructor, Captain Dan Guice of the Mid-Carmel Valley Fire Department had arranged for some of us to attend this special "oil fire class." The purpose of the class was to familiarize us with the characteristics of petroleum based fires and teach proper rescue and extinguishment tactics in realistic drills.

Five members of the Brigade attended the class which lasted from 8:00 a.m. until almost 4:00 that afternoon. Don Krausfeldt, Gady Colvin, Steve Wagy, Phil Fish and Frank Pinney spent the entire rainy day on a cleared field east of the runway at the airport. Five fire problems were set up, and each of us were given the opportunity to play

several different roles in the exercises. We started with a two-car collision, fully involved in flame, and a rescue circumstance. Gasoline was pumped from pipes beneath the autos to simulate spillage from the fuel tanks. Instructors ignited the deadly combination and we attacked using two inch-and-a-half hose lines to protect the captain who acted as the rescuer.

The cars, donated wrecks from a local garage, were sealed and gas tanks removed to prevent a serious explosion. Standing between the two nozzlemen and holding their inside shoulders, the captain signalled them to check their pressure and spray patterns and then advance on the fire. Using pressure on their shoulders to communicate his instructions, the captain had the team attack the upwind auto first. The pressure of the water spray forced the flames away from the side of the car allowing a split second to safely ventilate and search for the victim. Not finding anyone in the first car, the nozzleman was positioned to cover the rear while the captain and the other nozzleman moved on to the downwind car. You could feel the heat threatening from around the sides of the heavy water spray pattern, and we knew how important it was to have good equipment and training to provide the high pressure

water that made this approach possible.

Suddenly, there was an explosion as one of the tires blew out from the heat. Just then the captain cracked the door, standing to the side as he did so, and the flames reached the explosive gasses inside. They blew off the door with a thud. As the nozzleman covered with the heavy spray, the captain grasped the "victim" lying across the front seat and jerked the body from the flames and retreated to a safe distance. With the rescue accomplished, the team moved back into extinguish the flames.

This first exercise was a good introduction to the drills that would follow that day. At each of the five sites, an engine and operator provided the water and pressure to conduct the drill. All of the time that day was donated by both the instructors and their students. It was a genuine example of the fire service community working to improve the skills of its members.

The last exercise was an airplane crash with a rescue which was set up in such a way that it could also have been the scene of a fuel tanker crash. In this case, a shallow pool of fuel surrounding the crash was ignited. We advanced across the spill, again using the cooling effect of the fog spray pattern to protect the rescuer. Extreme care had

to be taken to ensure we didn't let the flames come back in around us from behind. The victim, a flight suit stuffed with wet rags, was extricated and removed to safety as the flames closed over our retreat.

In all the drills, we were impressed with two main factors. First, the searing, frightening power of the flames. The propane tank fire was so hot that we stood fifty feet away with face masks to observe the teams as they made their approaches. Second, we were impressed with the tremendous cooling power of the fog pattern from the hoses as we advanced into the very fire itself. Properly utilized, water alone was an extremely effective cooling and extinguishing agent for these fuel fires. We were also aware of the quantity of water necessary to make such effectiveness possible and remembered the limitations on large quantities of readily available water that we face in our own area.

Constant training is helping the volunteers of the Brigade to provide an ever improving level of fire suppression and will hopefully continue to serve to increase the community's awareness of fire prevention. Sweep those chimneys, charge those fire extinguishers, clear that brush, and have a fire-free Happy New Year!

FLUE FIRES --

Serious Problem in Big Sur

By MARY HARRINGTON

The Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade was kept busy this month by the continuing rash of flue fires. In an area where fireplaces and wood stoves are in almost constant use as the chief means of heat, soot and other deposits can build up rapidly in a flue.

On Dec. 16, the Brigade responded to a call at the Smith house. The house had been unoccupied for some time, and the first fire caused the flue to catch. The residents put it out with a garden hose. The half dozen volunteer firemen who responded to the call finished cooling down the stack and checking for damage.

On Christmas Eve seven members responded with engine 196 and a slip-on unit to a fire call at the home of Zad Leavy. A dirty flue had apparently caused the fire. A guest staying at the home while the Leavys were away had controlled the fire with a garden hose. The Brigade members cooled the stack off and checked for damages. Damages were reported to be minimal.

Jan. 5, Frank Pinney responded to a fire call at Esalen around 7 a.m. to maintain a watch on a power line that had shorted out. A tree had blown onto the line and shorted out a wire which caused the tree top to burn. Burning pieces fell on other wires. Pinney, with one of the slip-on units and Lou Porter of Esalen maintained a watch for several hours until PG&E arrived.

Jan. 7 at around 5 p.m. five Brigade members responded to a possible wash down just north of

Nepenthe. No wash down was necessary, but members stayed to direct traffic through a narrow lane made precarious by the muddy shoulder. Engine 196 provided the additional service of pulling a tour bus out of the mud.

Once again the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade urges you to check your flues and make sure they are clean. A flue fire could burn down your house.



Fire Prevention Slogan of the Month

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EXAMPLE: REDWOOD OR BLACKWOOD? THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

Mail entries to USFS, P.O. Box 64, Big Sur, Ca.

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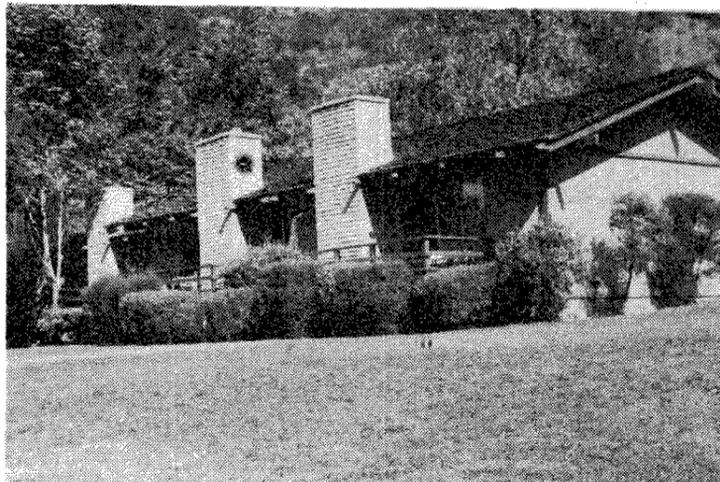


Photo by Greg Dodge

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Views and Viewpoints

Viewpoints

Here are some rules:

Letters, preferably typed, should not exceed 300 words. The Gazette reserves the right to edit or reject letters which do not meet its standards of good taste, accuracy, and length. Letters must bear the name, mailing address, location and telephone number of the writer. Only your name and "Big Sur" (or elsewhere) will be printed. No anonymous letters accepted for publication.

Be your own editor. Brevity means more viewpoints per issue can be included. The success of The Big Sur Gazette depends on your response. Let us hear from you.

Editorial

How Local is the Local Coastal Plan?

Last week in San Francisco the State Coastal Commission appropriated \$58,293 to the Monterey County Planning Commission to execute its proposed *Big Sur Local Coastal Program Work Program*.

With the "Work Program" now officially sanctioned and funded, county planners anticipate a December-1979 completion date for the final draft of Big Sur's new "Local Coastal Plan" (LCP).

Once it becomes certified by the State Coastal Commission, the new Local Coastal Plan will replace the 1962 Master Plan.

In the meantime, during the next few months, the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) will be providing the local - Big Sur - grassroots - citizen - input for the plan.

The CAC was originally appointed in 1976 by Monterey County Supervisor Sam Farr to participate in the Big Sur Special Study. The "Study" ended inconclusively with the publication of consultant Gordon Hall's controversial report which drew widespread criticism.

Thus, the majority of the citizen participation and input to the Local Coastal Plan will be primarily limited to the 16 appointed members who have been reassigned from the Special Study to the LCP.

The problem of adequate representation and participation in the planning process is twofold: first, only 16 out of 1,600 residents, which is only one percent, will realistically contribute to the plan; second, even more problematic, the 16 members of the CAC are not true representatives because they were appointed rather than elected.

Initially the members of the CAC were appointed by the supervisor from a list of nominations made from the floor at a Town Hall Meeting in March, 1976.

But due to changes in the membership during the

past three years, five of the existing members were not among the 29 nominated at that meeting, which leaves only eleven who have some semblance of community mandate. What's more, at least three of the members do not even live in Big Sur.

Shouldn't the sixteen who speak for sixteen hundred be elected, and thereby, true representatives?

The disconcerting truth is that one wonders if it matters whether or not the citizen representatives are elected or appointed because, given the lack of regard for citizen input by the county and consultant during the Special Study, by the time the plan completes its review process, it is more than likely to become indistinguishable and less than local to say the least.

The process is tedious and lengthy:

Once the county staff planners complete their "draft," it is submitted to the county Planning Commission, which reviews and revises before sending it on to the Board of Supervisors. Upon review and revision by the board, the "draft" is then transmitted to the staff of the Central Regional Coastal Commission.

After the Central Commission staff has made its recommendations and revisions, the Commissioners review and revise the draft before forwarding to the staff of the State Coastal Commission who, in turn, after their review and revision, submit it to the State Coastal Commissioners where the draft plan undergoes its final scrutiny prior to certification.

The final product will be known as the Big Sur Local Coastal Plan.

It will be a land management plan for the Big Sur Coast.

It will have been made in Salinas, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco.

It will not be a Local Coastal Plan.

GUEST EDITORIALS WELCOMED

The health and survival of any community depends on the freedom of reasoned expression. The Big Sur Gazette will reserve this space in future publications for guest editorials on any subject of Big Sur relevance by any resident or interested reader.

Thanks from Mrs. Ewoldsen

Dear Editor:

I was glad that we went to the Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park on Saturday, Dec. 2 when there was a volunteer work day to renovate the fence around John Pfeiffer's homestead house.

working four to six hours on the project. At lunch time some of the women went home and brought back sandwich makings, hot coffee and soft drinks. And it surely tasted good!

The project was pretty well completed when evening came, and the little cabin looked ever so much better inside the replaced and neat fence.

As John Pfeiffer's daughter, I want again to thank every one of the people (most of them were Park personnel), who gave up their day off to do this job—and I include the children who pulled nails, ran errands and carried materials to the workers.

Esther Pfeiffer Ewoldsen

Since about three-quarters of the pickets had been taken away (I guess by campers who needed wood), it was necessary that a lot of new pickets be split from some logs rescued from river floods last season. This was no light task since these were not good splitting material. Some of the rails had to be replaced and several posts had to be set also. The men and women really worked hard, most of them

CORRECTION

The Christmas rush caused a significant typographical error in last month's editorial, "Will Big Sur's History Survive?"

A sentence mistakenly read: "Much as we may like its individuals and wish time and again they could stay, the Park and Forest Service have to make vagabonds of their employees — otherwise they would have a park." Whatever that means.

The paragraph should have read: "Much as we may like its individuals and wish time and again

they could stay, the Park and Forest Service have to make vagabonds of their employees—otherwise they would be residents, and we can't have that or we would not have a Park. Thus Park and Forest Service promotions depend not only on testing but on transfers, rightly assuming that most everyone wants to seek promotion."

The Gazette apologizes for an error that caused a few eyes (including our own) to squint incomprehensibly.

PARKS FOR POLITICIANS

Each year more and more Americans are using the national parks. With the nation's growing recreational needs, the parks are providing a popular and valuable resource.

They are administered by the National Park Service, which does an excellent job for the most part.

But, like so many other

government agencies, Park Service officials are not immune from politics. They get involved in the Washington money-go-round, and try to make points with Congress by providing special services.

The agency has five plush retreats available to VIPs ... These resorts are made available to members of

Congress and other federal VIPs at low cost.

The exclusive resorts are justified on the ground that government officials work hard and need a place where they can relax.

By providing the vacation retreats the Park Service also makes valuable points with the people who approve budgets.

Most top public officials do work under much pressure. And it is helpful to be able to get away and relax. But it is not proper for the government to provide subsidized facilities for them which are not available for other citizens who provide the taxes which pay for government.

Scottsdale Daily Progress
Arizona

To or Not To ...

Dear Editor:

To incorporate or not to incorporate, that is the question (to paraphrase Shakespeare on a more morbid topic). The area of Big Sur is faced with it today.

But have not other areas of rugged natural beauty been faced in the past with the very similar issue? Would it not be helpful to find out what were the results? As the years passed, what happened to the localities that incorporated and what to those that did not?

Big Sur is a magnificent attraction. When awesome mountain reaches down to the sea, "what a sight for sore eyes" for people far and near! Especially, for those who live in level areas of our nation, or the world.

How fascinating to all are the waves splashing against the Big Sur foothills! Does not the mighty Pacific know it has met its master when it is stopped by it from traveling further? The ocean can rage as it will, but eventually calms down for awhile. How humanlike is its temper followed by moments of repose!

What a longing for solitude! For fresh and invigorating air! For the grandeur of rugged terrain that soaks its feet in the greatest body of water on earth, rests its head seemingly against the sky! Yes, what a hypnotic appeal does the restfulness and charm exert to those fortunate to call Big Sur their home!

May it always be a place of uncluttered beauty upon which the sun beams down with approval! May the pace of life there be slow, with the speed limit permitted on Highway 1 substantially lower, than the unwise rush now permitted, on a road of many curves and quite narrow!

As the New Years come and go over the decades and the countries, may Big Sur stand proud, its majesty unimpaired, acclaimed as the proud handiwork of nature and the wisdom of man.

George Herman
Marina

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Prescriptive Rights Problems Aired

Continued from page 1

letter for the record in which they stated that Deputy Atty. Gen. Williams telephoned them October 2, saying "the map showing Yankee Point was a mistake," but in his November 6 letter, he specifically named Yankee Beach.

The Spencers letter concluded: "I would think you would be as irate as we are in having all this go on behind your back! To condone such lies by your silence is unbelievable."

Ethics Questioned

Bobbe Jeffers, a resident, remarked that "the staff of the Commission has too much power! The staff makes the decisions through its recommendations, and the Commission receives the blame through its acceptance of these recommendations."

James Josoff, who recently moved to Big Sur from the Highlands, suggested the Commission take a retreat without their staff and examine "whether there were parts of the law which should be changed, whether your position with the property owners of the area could be improved, and whether the commission is being run by the Commission or by the staff."

He also asked whether their staff was "conducting their business ethically."

Commissioners Respond

In rebuttal to the speakers, Carl Larson of Monterey, a spokesman for the Sierra Club, complained that the Highlands' accusations were "a technique to tear down a solid structure on one issue." He urged the Commissioners "not to let this onerous accusation about the staff stick."

Chairperson Hendersen reacted by calling the manner by which the residents conveyed their concerns as "vicious and vehement," and didn't think it necessary to respond at that time.

She offered to meet the Coastal and Attorney General staffs, then respond at a later time.

Commissioner Lyon asked if anyone had contacted Deputy Atty. Gen. Williams to resolve the discrepancy.

Robert Speers responded by saying "We consider that the Coastal Commission is in charge ... and we have not called Mr. Williams. We look to you and not to the Attorney General."

Commissioner Lyon strongly defended the staff, then charged that the group had become "semi-hysterical over

the world and protect our environment Diablo Canyon and other nuclear power plants must be built and operated.

Willis G. Frick,
San Juan Capistrano

DIABLO DEFENDED

Dear Sir:

After reading the letter by Mr. William Witherup on the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant I feel the need to present a different point of view. Mr. Witherup describes Nuclear Power Plants as an "insane method of boiling water." I strongly disagree and would like to present the hard cold statistics of success for San Onofre, California's other major Nuclear Power Plant.

Since its completion San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station has produced an incredible 30,000,000,000 Kilowatt-hours. This represents 2.4 BILLION gallons of oil not imported and not transported by tankers along our coast; 60,000,000 lbs. of Sulfur Oxides and 69,000,000 lbs. of Oxides of Nitrogen not polluting the air. At the relative costs of production for 1977 (.36c/KWH for Nuclear and 2.4c/KWH for oil) this means \$61,000,000 dollars not billed to the customers of Southern California Edison Company and San Diego Gas and Electric Company.

During this period of operation not one person has been injured or harmed in any way by San Onofre. In the approximately 730,000 reactor days of commercial operation in the United States not one person has been harmed. In any other imaginable circumstances this would be regarded exceptional, but in the opinion by Mr. Witherup this is inadequate.

In order to keep our energy costs down, retain our energy independence in

Dear Editor:

Two new residents have made Partington Ridge their new home this past month.

Sarah Eichman arrived December 1, and Heidi Crowley on December 21, and both weighed in at 6 1/4 pounds.

We have been informed by a reliable source that both additions were conceived and installed on Partington by their respective parents without prior filing of an environmental impact report with the county for implementation of density studies.

Also, they did not consult the Big Sur Advisory Committee, LAFCO, C.P.O.A., or the Local Coastal Plan (this reporter intends no slight on the numerous associations omitted!).

Furthermore, they failed to appear on the agenda of the Coastal Commission for approval, in spite of the fact that they will at times be in the viewshed and no doubt on occasion be visible to the tourists!

At press closing time, the two little new locals had as yet not submitted their input for the Big Sur Incorporation feasibility study.

May they both enjoy many happy new years on their beautiful mountain.
Theodora Crowley

an issue that can be rationally resolved."

Commissioner Blohm disagreed with Lyons and objected that "the investigations were done in a secret way. The staff is running rough-shod over the public. Public opinion of the Coastal Commission at this time is lower than a snake's belly."

The audience applauded when Commissioner Blohm said that "those involved in any cover-up should resign or be removed."

He called for an "independent investigation" and warned commissioners not to "cover it under the rug and look back at it like Watergate."

Due Process

Commissioner Marilyn Liddicoat disagreed with Chairperson Hendersen's statement that the speakers comments were vicious:

"I thought they were very mild considering the enormity of the situation. I see an extreme hypocrisy in the attitude of these Commissioners toward the property owners and toward the extreme environmentalists.

"People have a right to speak out when their government is abusing power," Commissioner Liddicoat continued. "You and your staff are abusing power, and until you listen to them and listen politely, you'll hear it again and again, and each time it will be louder and louder."

Drawing sustained applause, her concluding remark was, "You cannot silence people when the government tries to confiscate their property without due process of law."

Investigation Requested

Commissioner Zad Leavy praised the staff and said he didn't believe there was a "cover-up or abuse of power." Commissioner Walters suggested that "the residents frustration should be directed toward the Commission rather than to the staff."

Commissioner James Hughes felt the buck did stop with the Commissioners. He said he was convinced the problems arose when the Regional Commission "was not privy to the study," and he criticized the State Coastal Commission and Attorney General's Office for not notifying the Regional Commissioners.

Deputy Attorney General Charles Getz argued that neither the Commission nor the staff were responsible for any errors or misunderstandings.

"The State Commission asked for the study," declared Mr. Getz. "Mr. Williams is in charge of the study. The complaints should be directed to me or my superior, Mr. Connant."

Executive Director Ed Brown defended the staff, rejected the charges of 'cover-up,' and agreed with an earlier suggestion to "meet with all the involved parties and try to provide an answer that is acceptable."

Chairperson Hendersen offered to meet privately with the residents, but Commissioner Liddicoat suggested that "time would be better spent investigating facts."

Commissioner Blohm reiterated that an investigation by "someone from the outside is better than having the public believe that it's a cover-up job if the Commission investigates itself."

Deputy Attorney General Getz ended the discussion by advising, "I would not like to see the Chair embroil itself in a controversy involving our office. Me and my superiors could meet, then we could meet with the residents, and report back to you."

As the speakers were dispersing, one woman remarked, "We got attacked, not answered," and another replied, "It's incestuous! Imagine, Deputy Attorney Generals investigating themselves!"

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

SUBJECT: 'CZ' Zoning Vote

Tues., Jan. 23rd

7: 00 p.m.

Big Sur Grange Hall

Residents are invited to attend & participate

COUSTEAU SOCIETY MAKES WAVES

By GARY KOEPPPEL

Jacques Cousteau, president of the Jacques Cousteau Society, is celebrating the fifth year of the society by announcing a campaign to "expand our numbers dramatically and swiftly to at least one-half million people, making us the largest environmental organization in the world."

The Society and the campaign to enlarge it is an effort to counteract "the alarming rate of marine devastation" throughout the world.

The strategy to be used is "the strategy of the Dolphin, which Mr. Cousteau describes as follows:

"Pursued by a shark, a pack of dolphins will suddenly turn en masse, dive below the shark and drive their blunt noses into its belly, one after another. With no ribs or diaphragm to protect its vital organs, the shark is vulnerable. For all of its power, the shark is defeated by intelligence and the force of numbers. It is the weaponry of the peacemakers and the common people throughout history."

If you want to help in the battle against the sharks of our global marine environment, you may want to join or contribute to Mr. Cousteau's effort.

Gazette readers interested in membership or simply in making a donation can write to The Cousteau Society, Box 2002, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Spain has legalized the sale of birth control pills. Previously, the country's penal code provided punishment of up to six months in jail for prescribing, selling or advertising birth control devices!..."

"China's population has just crossed the one billion mark, and world population estimates are at 4,365,300,000—that is 59 million over last year's estimate, or a new nation of human babies as large as the population of Mexico!..."

"According to the World Bank, major forests will completely disappear in 40 years, but severe shortages will occur in 20 years!..."

"In the world's first national referendum on the use of nuclear energy, the citizens of Austria voted against the use of a nuclear power plant already constructed some 18 miles northwest of Vienna at a cost of \$530 million. Chancellor Bruno Kreisky had called the referendum in hopes of demonstrating public support for his energy program, promising to resign if it was defeated. The plan backfired; 50.5 percent of the voters supported "moth-balling" the plant. Kreisky refused to resign, announcing instead plans to start a massive "public education" project to change people's minds about nuclear energy."

The foregoing excerpts are but a few of the anecdotal treasures found in the January *Calypso Log* published by the Jacques Cousteau Society.

JUST RELEASED

Eric Barker lives in a constant state of awareness - Henry Miller



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and other poems
Eric Barker reads his poetry

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BEARS IN BIG SUR (1938-1978)

A Forty-Year Odyssey

By JEFF NORMAN

The headline of the June 4, 1938 *Monterey Herald* read: "Rancher Kills Brown Bear Near Big Sur", subtitled: "Bill Post Shoots Animal Which Invaded Cabin And Refused to Get Out; Origin of Brute Shrouded in Mystery."

The fact that the brown-furred animal was actually a black bear mattered little. What was important to the locals at the time was that it was the first bear seen in the area since the last of the grizzlies was killed in the mid-1880's.

The *Herald* article gave details of the hunt, which took place at the cabin of a Mr. and Mrs. Carter in Mule Canyon. The bear entered the house, and after eating a month's supply of groceries, decided the cabin would make a good permanent dwelling. (As Bill Post Sr. used to tell the story, the bear was fastidious enough to have carefully placed an empty milk bottle back on the kitchen table after having consumed the contents.) Post, ever the considerate hunting guide, gave Carter the first shot, which missed. Then, according to the *Herald* article, "Post's first bullet struck the bear in the head ... and the hunt was over." All seemed well until Post recalled that it wasn't open season for bear. So the man who might be remembered as saying, "We never violate the law" drove to Monterey and gave himself up to Justice of the Peace Ray Baugh. Judge Baugh considered the case carefully, and his verdict, as reported in the *Herald*, was, "The game laws don't apply to bears in houses."

The *Monterey Herald* was at a loss to account for the origin of the bear, but an article in the *Salinas Index-Register* from that period gave this information: "Two pair were liberated in late May (of 1938) in the coast ridge area north of Anderson mountain, while a male, female and a cub were freed between Arroyo Seco and Santa Lucia memorial park." The article also indicated that the bears had been imported from Yosemite National Park because "40 bears were far too many" for that area to accommodate!

Forty years later the Black Bear is again creating excitement in the Big Sur area. This time, however, the sightings represent an expansion of the bear's range from the Sierra Nevada into the South Coast Range mountains.

October 15, 1978 began like any other morning at the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Valley Station. Then came a rather unusual radio message relayed by Ruth Albee, Cone Peak lookout, from Ray Gould, Nacimiento Summit station foreman. Gould had just seen a bear, a three-legged one, near Ponderosa Camp on the Nacimiento River, and would someone please get up to the

summit with a camera, PDQ.

As the photos on this page attest, a camera was obtained, and yes, the bear was definitely missing part of its right hind leg. But what was a bear doing in the Santa Lucia Mountains east of Pacific Valley?

I spoke with Martin Smith, engine operator at the Pacific Valley Station, who admitted seeing two different bears as early as the first of October. Smith, who moved here from Hawaii in September, had been reluctant to report his original sightings because he knew, like everyone else, that "there aren't any bears in Big Sur." But with Gould's photos to back him up, some interesting details emerged.

All of Smith's sightings were on the Nacimiento Grade east of the summit and west of Ft. Hunter Liggett, and were only in the early morning or late afternoon. The first bear he saw, near the Nacimiento bridge in early October, was "dark brown or black, with all four feet." Then he saw the three-legged one, which was a lighter brown, on October 15. Several days later he saw the amputee again, this time near Carral's Spring. According to Smith "he was just sitting in the middle of the road. I stopped my car and we stood face to face, thirty feet apart, for the longest time." Smith said he wanted to show his wife where he'd seen the bear, so, towards the end of October, he drove her up the Grade and parked near Carral's Spring. They got out, looked over the side of the road, "and there was the bear looking back up at us!"

Other Forest Service employees have been lucky enough to see bears or their sign in the vicinity, although not with the uncanny regularity of Smith. Sal Elizondo, patrolman at the Indians Station, saw a dark brown bear near Ponderosa Camp last summer, and Ruth Albee saw tracks along the Cone Peak trail in November. Several years ago a bear was killed on the highway near San Simeon, and another was trapped on the outskirts of Greenfield and freed, appropriately enough, in Reliz Canyon. And Robert Withrow, a South Coast resident, reported seeing one in upper Mill Canyon about three years ago.

In order to get a better perspective of this apparent re-emergence of a long-lost local, I drove down to San Luis Obispo and talked to Dr. Aryan Roest, vertebrate zoologist at California Polytechnic State University.

Dr. Roest, in addition to supplying me with photocopies of the 1938 newspaper articles, was also able to furnish a variety of statistics on the local distribution of Black Bears. He also indicated that, despite the translocation of bears from the Sierra to the Santa Lucias, the current population of bears in the South Coast Ranges represents a taking over of the locally-extinct grizzly



PORTRAIT OF A black bear in the Sierra Nevada. From "Mammals of the Pacific States," by Lloyd G. Ingles, page 353. Photo used with the kind permission of the author-photographer.

bear's habitat by the still-viable black bear.

According to Roest, black bears were rare or absent in the Santa Lucias during the tenure of the grizzly, but they started moving into grizzly territory once the larger bear had been removed. Roest believes that the black bears are moving from the southern Sierra west over the Tehachapis into the Coast Range, and thinks that one of the major crosswalks, so to speak, over Highway 101 into the Santa Lucias is in the hilly country north of Cuesta Pass.

Dr. Roest mentioned that there are presently about six black bears living in the Hi Mountain area in Los Padres National Forest in San Luis Obispo County; his population estimate for that entire county is 60 to 75 animals, and about the same for Monterey County. However, he said Forest Service estimates for the combined districts of the Los Padres, from Ventura County to Monterey County, ranged from 37 in 1925 to 150 for 1948. All these figures represent educated guesses, for no careful censusing has ever been done.

Dr. Roest also obligingly supplied the following figures for releases and sightings in Monterey County: in 1938 seven were released at Big Sur (see above), and in 1944 ten were released at Carmel (no exact spot given, but it was probably outside city limits). There were sightings in 1950 at Salinas, in 1961 at Gonzales, Salinas and Carmel Valley, and in 1964 at Soledad. Apparently, then, this Sierra Nevada subspecies of the American black bear is gradually working its way northward, approaching the southern end of the northwestern subspecies' range in coastal Sonoma County.

It seems proper at this time to make a distinction between the American black bear and other species with which it may be confused. As seen in the newspaper headline quoted above, the 1938 bear was incorrectly specified as "brown." Regardless of color, though, the only bear currently inhabiting California is the black,

the last grizzly having been killed in Tulare County in 1922. The only true "brown bear", the Alaskan, is found only in that state. It is the largest living carnivore, holding a record weight of 1716 pounds. The heaviest known grizzly weighed in at 1150 lbs., and the record for a black bear from California is 498 lbs., although the average weight for an adult is between 200 and 300 lbs. The color of the black bear ranges from dark brown or black through cinnamon to light brown. There are even yellow and bluish color phases, and while each cub in a litter may have a different fur color, all are obviously of the same species.

The black bear does not have much of a reputation for preying on livestock, although they may be observed feeding on the carrion remains of such animals who have died from other causes. The usual food of this bear is vegetation, berries, insects, honey, fish, frogs, fruit and nuts, as well as carrion. The black bear is not above harrassing tourists, however, and they will help themselves to picnic goods left about a campsite. The seven bears released near here in 1938 were probably some of these "bad bears," incorrigibles that the National Park Service happily passed on to the Forest Service.

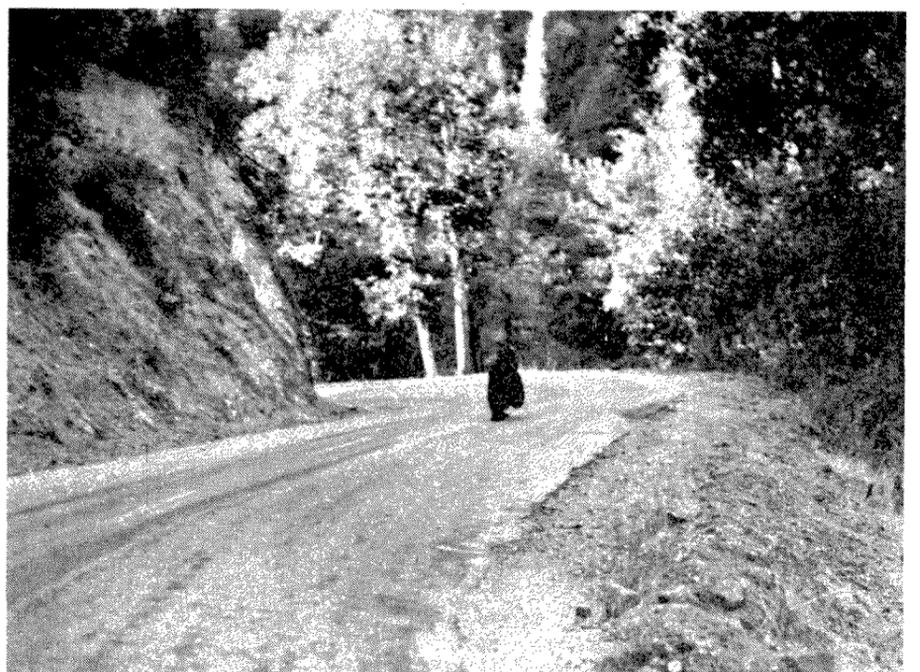
Males and females are paired only during the mating period, in late spring and early summer. The sow comes into season at three years of age, and breeds every other year after that. Gestation is about 7 1/4 months, and the litter generally consists of two or three young, although a sow's first litter is usually only a single cub.

Thus it would seem that the black bear, a slow breeder at best, is making a tentative expansion into a large, previously inhospitable territory. Will this animal be favorably received? What effect did the Marble-Cone fire have on its immigration, and what sort of treatment will it get from hunters, trappers and stockmen in the future? This will certainly be a fascinating contest to watch.



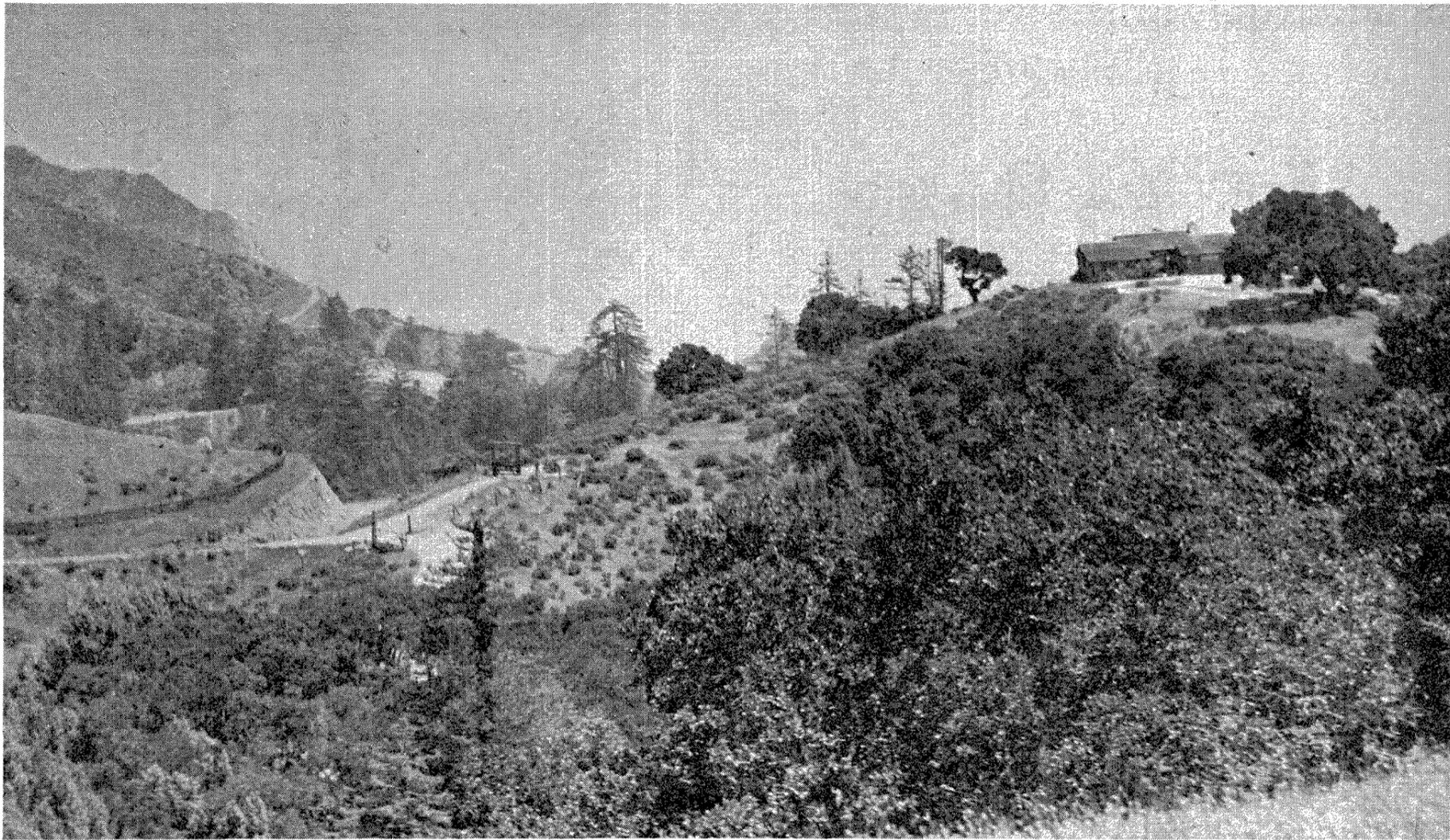
THE THREE-LEGGED black bear along the Nacimiento Road just west of Ponderosa Camp was sighted Oct. 15, 1978. The animal appeared at the time to have no

difficulty in running due to its handicap, although Martin Smith reported that a week or so later, after having a good look



the stump slightly bloody and the bear showed signs of favoring the leg. According to Smith, the stump was a diagonal cut from

the back of the "thigh" to the front of the "shin." Photos by Ray Gould courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service.



LOOK FAMILIAR? IT'S NEPENTHE! The old log house Sam Trotter built in 1925 still stands today with adobe brick on the outside. It was built by the Trails Club for hikers who used to pack in and stay at Pfeiffer's Resort, "where you got three meals and slept in a brass bed (that came around the Horn) for \$2.00 a day—and all the horses you wanted to ride," said Bill Fasset. Trails Club members used to camp out there in the summer. Nobody lived there during the winter. After Trails Club members built their homes (in Coastlands and on Partington) they no longer needed the club house and it was sold. Nickolas Roosevelt spent his honeymoon there in 1939 or 1940, according to Fasset. Linda Sargent then made it her home. Emil White said she was moving the day he arrived in Big Sur, May of 1944. "Somebody wrote Linda that they had a friend and could he come and stay there for a while. His name was Henry Miller," Fasset said. "She'd never heard of him, so she ran out and got a book. You couldn't buy them at the bookstore you know," recalled Fasset.

The log house stood empty for three years until its present owners, Lolly and Bill Fasset, bought it in 1947. Mr. Fields, a Christian Scientist who at one time wanted to establish a colony here, was one of the original group of about 18 owners. Orson Wells then bought the property for his wife, Rita Hayworth; she divorced him shortly after that and never even saw the property, according to White. Fields also acted as broker for the property when the Fassets purchased it from Wells and Hayworth. The young oak to the left of the log house was the oak that for years was a part of Nepenthe's Terrace. When it died in January of 1976, Lolly Fasset had Edmund Kara's sculpture of the Phoenix bird set in its place. Trees that the Fassets and Meyroses have planted over the years make both sides of the highway forested instead of brush covered as shown in the photograph. From the Pat Hathaway Collection

Historical Society Meets

On Sunday, Jan. 28, the Big Sur Historical Society will hold a meeting in the Grange Hall at 7:30 p.m. This will be our last "open meeting." A membership roster will be started at this time. There will be a short program of films and slides. We welcome anyone interested in learning more of and preserving Big Sur's history.

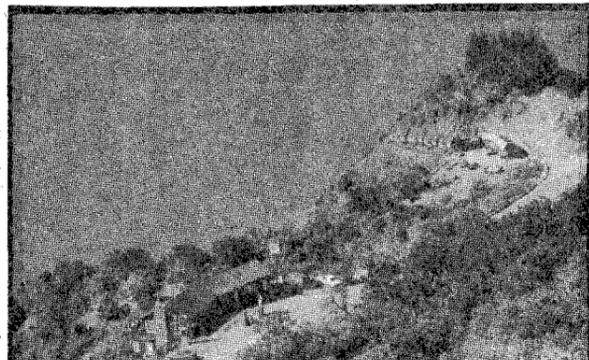
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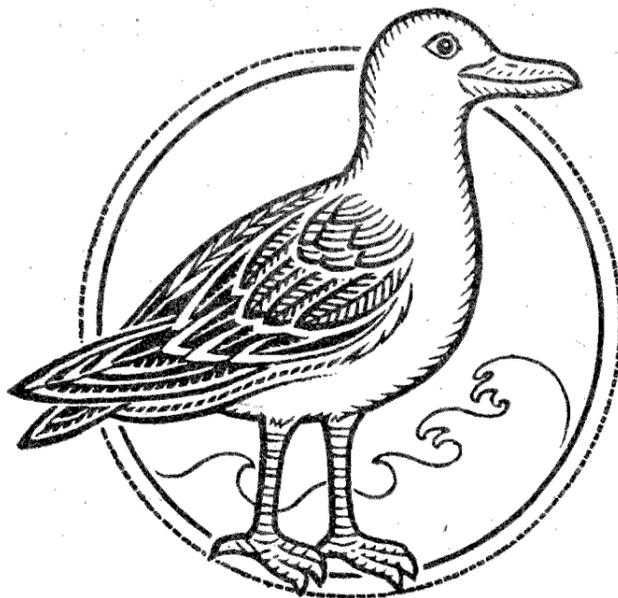
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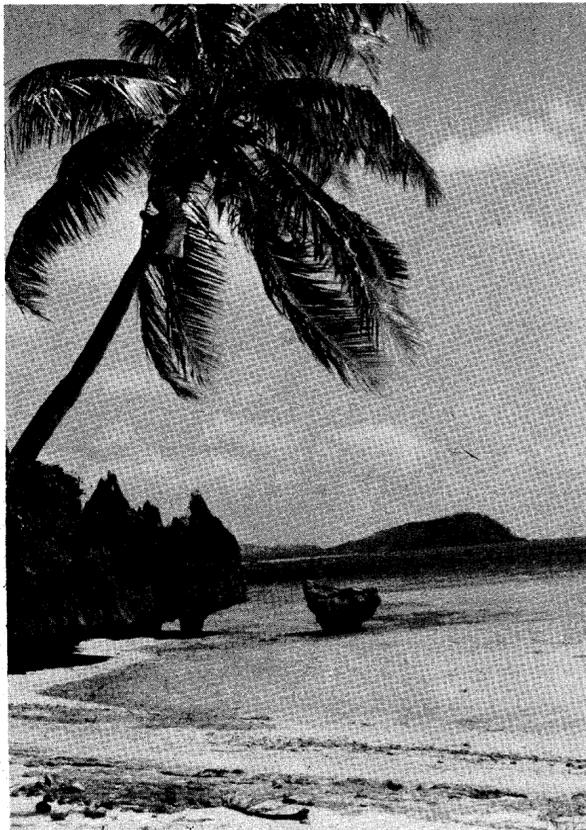
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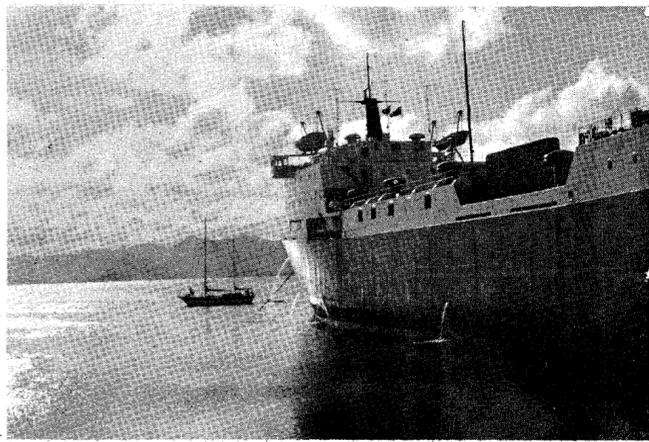
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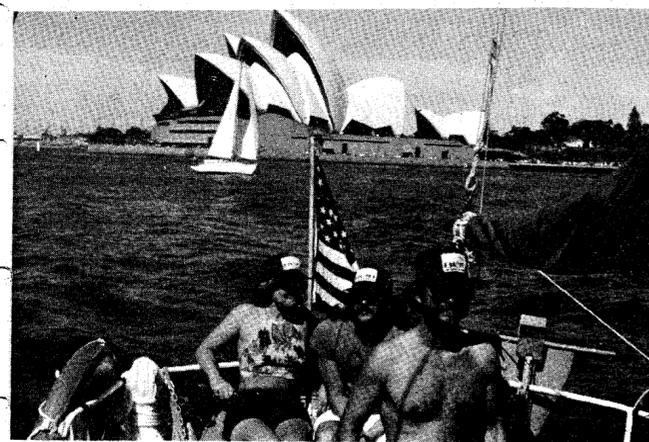


A VOLCANIC island in the Fiji's. Gail recalls that it had interesting old graveyards but no longer a village.



THE "MAYA-MAYI" sails next to a front-loading cargo ship in Fiji.

Photos by Gail Bengard and Lincoln Curtis



THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE in the background gives the appearance of a massive sailing ship as "Maya-Mayi" crew Paul Smith, Tracy King and Micah Curtis enjoy a smooth sailing day. Rougher times await them, times when no thought whatever could be given to picture-taking.



WITH Gail Curtis at the helm, husband Micah stands on the spreader to trim the sails. "Maya-Mayi" is the aboriginal name for the star group "The Pleiades." Gail relied almost entirely on celestial navigation during the long voyage.

A Pacific Sailing Adventure

By Paula Walling

Give me a spirit that on this life's rough sea Loves 't have his sails fill'd with a lusty wind, Even till his sail-yards tremble, his masts crack, And his rapt ship run on her side so low That she drinks water, and her keel plows air.

George Chapman 1559-1634

When Gail Bengard left with husband Micah Curtis to teach school in Australia, she left with a secret ambition: to build a boat and sail home. "I decided about it as soon as I knew I was going, but Micah didn't know about it 'til we

got there! Or maybe he knew about it and didn't believe it."

While Gail was involved with teaching, Micah worked as a carpenter, then began working on boats for other people. He made several large hulls during the time he and Gail worked on what was to be their own 44-foot ketch, the *Maya-Mayi*. Gail also worked on boats during her summer vacation from teaching.

Building the *Maya-Mayi* took 3 1/2 years. Micah and Gail worked weekends and sometimes in the evenings after their regular jobs. The couple took a navigation class that

met weekly from May to August.

Six months before completion of the boat, Micah's brother Lincoln arrived in time to help work on the cabins and weld the rigging. Lincoln joined them in November, 1977 and on April 1, 1978, the three of them launched the *Maya-Mayi* near Melbourne.

Micah's friend Paul Smith and Tracy King then made up the original crew of five which would sail from Melbourne to Tonga.

Rough Seas

Between Melbourne and Sydney they were caught in a storm which broke the steering and the radio. "That scared everybody to death. We were going to sell the boat right then," said Gail. However, they kept going, and from Sydney they had to cross the Tasmanian Sea to get to Tonga. "It's supposedly one of the worst seas around—and it was! It took 17 days from Sydney to Tonga, and it was a hundred times worse than the 52 days it took us to get from Samoa to here. It was terrible!"

Gail recalled that the crew was always tired. They had to be continually on the alert. Squalls were always coming in.

"The whole thing was hard because we were going the wrong way. Going around the world is easy. There's nothing to going around the world...it just takes a long time."

The waves were always big. The sea was never anything but rough. And in addition to that, the crew was inexperienced. "We had lots of excitement, but we didn't sink. That's always important," said Gail.

Ocean weather goes by the Beaufort Scale—from 0 to 12.

The forecast might call for a "force 1" or "force 2." A "force 12" is a hurricane. The Bass Strait storm they were caught in was judged by Melbourne weather to be a "force 11," which may have been one thing to bring about a change in the crew. "Paul and Tracy decided they didn't really like sailing," Gail said simply.

Change of Crew at Tonga

Tonga is where "Mutiny on the Bounty" took place. It is an island Kingdom which has managed to remain free from foreign domination. It has almost no tourist industry, though it is trying hard to develop one. "People there invite you home for dinner," said Gail. "If someone wanted to go someplace where there weren't all the fancy hotels or resorts, that would be the place to go."

It was in Tonga that Brian McMahan of New York and Peter Woolmer of Australia replaced Paul Smith and Tracy King. (Both Micah and Lincoln Curtis were raised in Big Sur. Gail was raised in Monterey and Hollister, and met husband Micah at Monterey Peninsula College.)

From Tonga the *Maya-Mayi* set sail for the Fiji Islands, where LaVonn Curtis—Lincoln and Micah's mother—and their younger brother Ross joined the crew for a 3-week visit. They had fairer days for sailing around the islands than they had experienced earlier.

At Fiji Charlie Bell and Margie Stanley replaced Peter Woolmer, making it a crew of six that would complete the voyage to Monterey.

Gail planned what and how much food to take and did most of the cooking. They left Australia with \$600 worth of canned food and juices. They also took fresh food such as carrots, potatoes, and squash and found it lasted well. They cooked rice and ate meat about once a week. In the islands, they had tropical fruit; bananas lasted about two weeks. They caught fish often. "That was the big moment of the day everytime somebody caught a fish," said Gail. One morning they found "a rare Chinese delicacy" on deck, but tossed it back. It had an eel-like appearance.

Sea Snakes

When the crew went in swimming it was not uncommon for a sea snake to swim just inches away. There are many different kinds and their bite can prove deadly. Said Gail, "At first they're scary because they're poisonous, but after a while you sort of get used to them." Gail dove with the Fijian women when they looked for clams, octopus, and sea urchins. On the reef, she said you had to watch where you stepped because of the sea snakes.

From Fiji, the *Maya-Mayi* sailed to Western Samoa then to American Samoa. On September 22nd, the crew began their 52 day voyage to Monterey. At times it may have seemed like 52 weeks—but in fact this segment was the easiest portion of their trip. Because they were all so anxious to get home—by now Micah and Gail had been away over four years—it took them only 9 months getting home the hard way. Gail remarked that most people take four years to get from here to Australia (the easy way—with winds and currents favoring you). "The whole thing was hard," said Gail, "because we were going the wrong way. Going around the world is easy. There's nothing to going around the world ... It just takes a long time." She says, "Depending on which way you're going into the wind, can totally change everything the boat does."

Sea Sick Navigator

Gail navigated for the long voyage. That wasn't easy

either. "I was always sick for at least 3 days. So for the first 3 days nobody ever knew where they were." Gail used celestial navigation most of the way, rarely relying on the radio. Radio direction finding is not the way to navigate the open seas. Gail explained that you can easily pass the island you're heading for. "If you're out there, it's your responsibility. Nobody should have to come rescue you," she feels. She talked about people who follow the jet trails to Hawaii. The minute it clouds over, they're lost at sea. She says the Coast Guard is continually having to rescue someone who has gone past Hawaii, someone who knows nothing about navigation. "Half the fun of sailing is listening to all the whacko stories out there," she laughed.

To their surprise, they found that most of the older people they met were more interesting, lively company than the young ones. "There's a lot of older retired people out there. And I really admire them. They just don't ever expect to come home. They're just going to die out there somewhere and that's going to be it. They're just gonna have a good time 'til it happens."

Standing Watch

With a crew of six, watches worked out to 4 hours in the morning and four in the evening. It would have been a 2-hour watch if they had had self-steering. Instead, each person spent the first two hours of a shift ready to do

whatever needed doing, and the last two at the helm. After 52 days of this, the crew was ready for a change.

Point Pinos Ahead

Gail's navigational findings told her that the Monterey Peninsula was ahead in the dense fog. "Are you sure?"

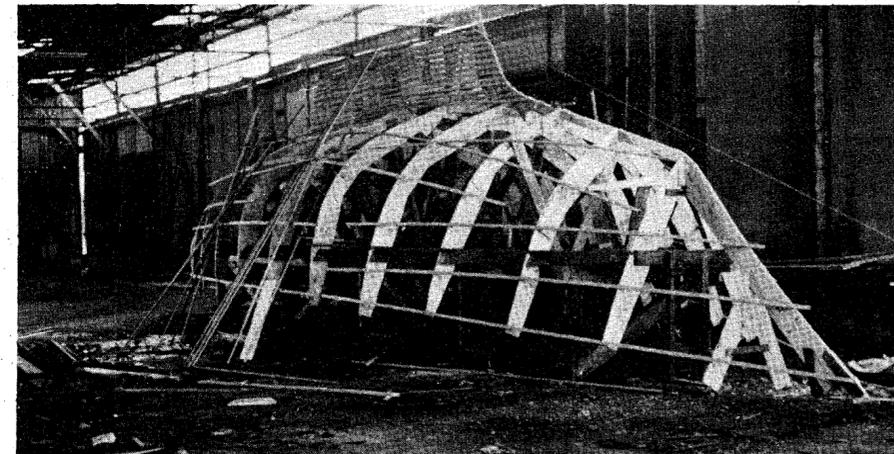
"If you're out there, it's your responsibility. Nobody should have to come rescue you."

someone asked. The light at Point Pinos soon confirmed that they were on a perfect course. They used the radio coming into Monterey mainly to check the celestial because they had been in a storm and had only a couple of days with good visibility.

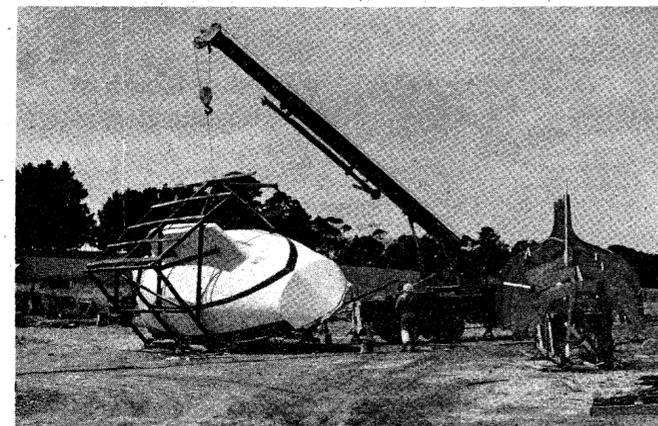
So on November 13, 1978 at 8:30 p.m., all that stargazing paid off.

And what was the first thing they did upon debarking? Find a telephone booth and impatiently take turns calling.

And who did Gail call first? Her grandmother — whose birthday it was. She said that just knowing Gail was back was the best birthday present she could ever have.



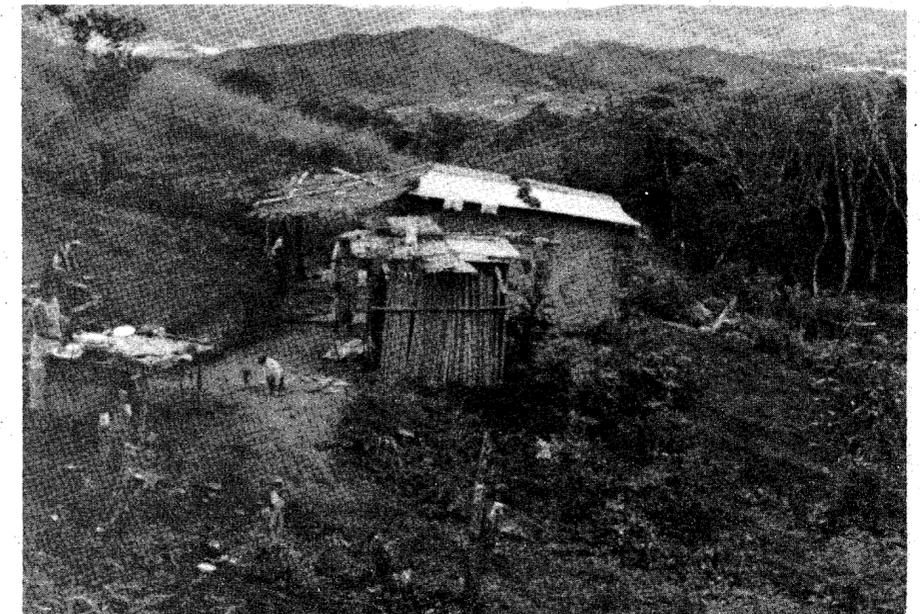
THE "MAYA-MAYI" during construction. The 44-foot ketch was built in Baxter, Australia.



AT BAXTER, Australia, a careless crane driver dropped the boat, causing a crack in the hull and slowing down the launch.

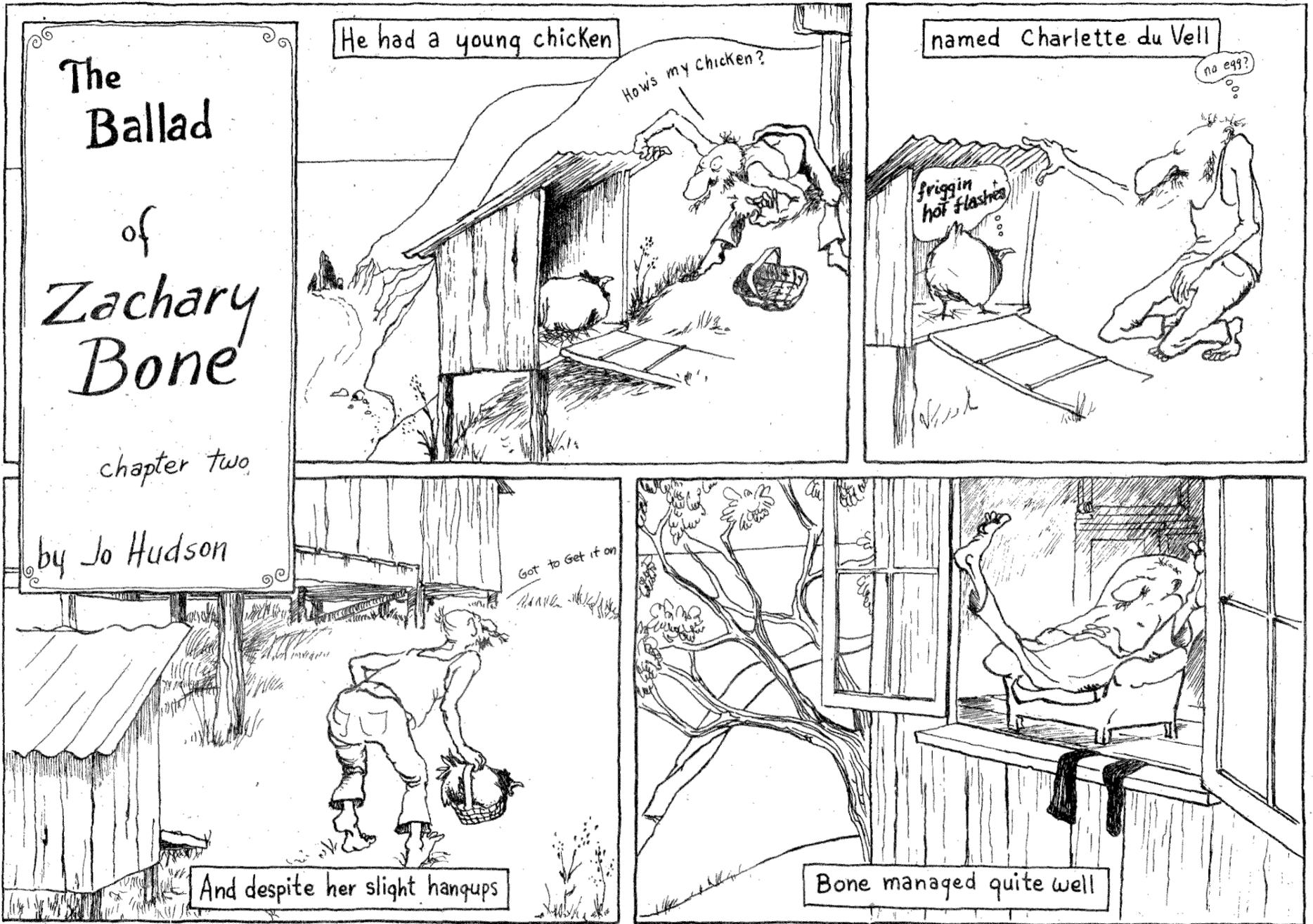


A CRANE prepares to launch the "Maya-Mayi" at Mornington, South of Melbourne.



FIJI ISLANDS—The Eastern side is tropical jungle. Sailing around the island Gail noticed that within a mile it suddenly turned into dry hills. All the rains carried by the Tradewinds fall when the storm front first hits the island

leaving relatively little precipitation on the other side. The Fiji Islands thus grow tropical fruits as well as produce similar to California's.



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HAWK'S PERCH



Edited by
WILLIAM WITHERUP

Poems submitted for the Hawk's Perch should relate in some way to the experience of living or being on the Big Sur coast, especially the section from Bixby Canyon to Gorda. Though we will be provincial in content, style and form are open. The editor suggests interested contributors submit more than one poem at a time for consideration. Poems should be typewritten and, preferably, double-spaced. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany all submissions. Address them to Hawk's Perch, *The Big Sur Gazette*, P.O. Box 125, Big Sur, CA 93920.

Three Poems on the Moon

IN A RAIN OF TORCHES AND ICE

In a rain of torches and ice
the archer's shaft
nails down the night

A sound of breaking crystal
as the moon soars to her place
and the owls are released

A special owl
(the one allotted to poetry)
dives through my chest
and eats the reasonable mouse

Michael Hannon

ON READING STAFFORD'S 'Stories That Could Be True'

Bill, it's a full moon tonight,
which means the shadows are deeper.
I'm thinking about you as I test them
because your poems say you are a man
who wades in shadows up to your neck.

If we lived former lives
I'd guess you were a tree --
a cedar, pine or oak.
You were a listener then, too,
holding the wind and moon in your branches.

The Buddhists talk about Original Mind,
a country we should find our way back to.
You seem to know that path by smell
and how the loose stones and bruised grasses feel.
Even the dust in your bootsoles is wise.

William Witherup

marakesh crucible and crock

June full moon fever and the dogs are riled
compulsory obsessive qualms
up and after hours
with clothes wet in the sink --
moon shaft-shock through the open window
wide berth lunatic ledge
for my unparalyzed counterpart
to leap out of skin and of body
out of brash exhilaration for moon junction blindness
eye beam to rafter

dead white dog at the garbage drop
with black markings --
fresh ad hoc brink of flesh prickle,
so doggone moon struck
baying trick-mystic thresh howl
I'm a canine cheese-happy spellbound insomniac
Peter Cummings

Contributors
Peter Cummings is a resident of Big Sur, when he isn't traveling in far countries.
Michael Hannon lives in Morro Bay. The poem is from his collection, *Ship Without Paper*, Turkey Press, Santa Barbara, 1978.
William Witherup lives in Big Sur. His most recent book is *Bixby Creek & Four From Kentucky*, Uzzano Press, 1977. Copies of the book may be found at the Phoenix.



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Ninety percent of the people don't want change ... Change is being forced down our throats.
Eric Hoffer

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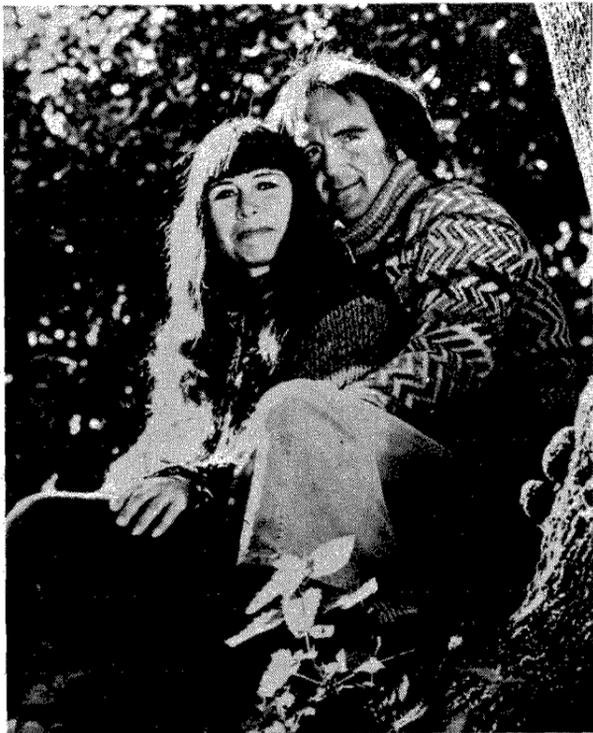
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KANE AND DEEDEE RELEASE NEW ALBUM



"Love From Big Sur," by Kane and Deedee Phelps, can be described as easy listening music. Released on their own Canyon Records label, Kane & Deedee present a combination of original Big Sur inspired selections, some oldies-but-goodies, and even an Elvis tribute.

Like so many other musicians who get their creative energy from Big Sur, Kane and Deedee have written most of the songs for this album, their first album together. From the opening cut, *Canyon*, (about the canyon one must travel through to get to their electricityless home) to the closing song, *Mountain Melody*, (about their free-spirited neighbor lady on the nest ridge who plays solid boogie on her banjo), the listener is treated to a variety of original sounds.

As the female half of the popular '60s duo, Dick & Deedee, Deedee released five albums and made the charts with five hit singles. She toured with the Beach Boys and Rolling Stones and appeared regularly on national TV until 1969 when the duo disbanded and Deedee returned to her songwriting.

Since their marriage, Kane, a former film producer and actor, and Deedee have chosen to live the "simple life" in a remote area on the Big Sur coast. "We discovered that there was an alternative to living in the media blitz, alternatives to feeling like pawns with no power to change," says Kane.

"Love From Big Sur" is available at Coast Gallery and the Ventana Deli or by writing Canyon Records, P.O. Box 135, Monterey, Calif. 93940.

The Book Nook

By HARMON BELLAMY

BLOODLINE by Sidney Sheldon

Sidney Sheldon's new bestseller is far and away the best piece of fiction he has done to this point. *A Stranger In The Mirror* and *This Side of Midnight* were both exciting; **BLOODLINE** is even more so. They were suspenseful, throbbing with intrigue; **BLOODLINE** is even more so. The action was fast, pulsating; the new book exceeds that, too. There were mystery and big surprises; Sheldon's newest effort outdoes his previous novels in that respect as well. And the plot itself will grip you, entangle you in its many ramifications.

Sam Roffe has developed a family-owned pharmaceutical company into a giant, multibillion dollar empire with offices and factories and warehouses around the world. When he dies in a suspicious accident while mountain-climbing in the Alps, his only daughter, beautiful, intelligent, 24-year-old Elizabeth, is forced to take over and run the many-faceted conglomerate whose members of the Board of Directors want to go public. The Board consists only of blood relatives (A Sam Roffe edict), all of whom have grave personal and financial problems and who urge Elizabeth to allow them to sell their shares of stock which can only be accomplished if all members sign an agreement. She learns old Sam Roffe had been pressured the same way, but he had declared he would never permit the power to be taken out of his hands.

In Switzerland, Anna Roffe, an hallucinating cousin, is married to Walther Gassner, a handsome blond former ski bum, who became a Board member after Anton Roffe, her father died. Thirteen years older than Walther,

she now believes he has murdered their children and plans to kill her in order to get his hands on her stocks.

Simonetta Roffe, an heiress of the Italian branch, is wedded to Ivo Palazzi who, through her, is also a Board member. For him she bore three children, but Ivo has become involved secretly with Donatella Spolini, a sultry mistress, with whom he had created three more children. Donatella, now tired of Ivo, is blackmailing him for a million dollars.

In Buenos Aires it is Charles Martel in charge of the Roffe branch, but only because he married Helene Roffe. Helene, whose sexual cravings are insatiable, has become the strong one and uses Charles as a whipping boy. In a desperate effort to leave her, he borrows on her stolen jewels to invest in a vineyard which promises him a fortune, but weather conspires to ruin the crop and he is ready for the slaughter.

In London it is Sir Alec Nichols, Member of Parliament, and a Roffe cousin, who heads the English branch of the firm. Sir Alec is married to a former showgirl of great beauty but little brains, is obsessed with her, and goes heavily into debt trying to pay for all the extravagant purchases she piles up. Having borrowed from a loan shark who insists on immediate payment, he is now in fear of his life. If only he could sell his shares of Roffe stock ...

Then there is Rhys Williams, with whom Elizabeth secretly fell in love at age fifteen, when Sam Roffe began grooming him to be his second in command. Although not on the Board, Williams has considerable authority, and when Elizabeth proposes to him, he accepts her as his wife.

As the suspense builds

and Elizabeth twice is almost killed in apparent accidents, suspicion falls on one after another of the Board members, and then Williams whom she adores. Is the killer her own husband who had been having an affair with Helene Roffe Martel prior to their marriage? Or is it Helene herself who wants to become president of Roffe & Company and wield the huge power Sam Roffe had and is now possessed by Elizabeth? Is it handsome Walther Gassner who is accused of slaying his own children and now attempting to murder Anna, his terror-stricken wife? Is it Charles Martel, who needs money so he can escape from his domineering, nymphomaniacal wife? Or Sir Alex who had to pay off Jon Swinton, the enforcer, before they nailed his kneecaps to the floor? Or, once again, is it Rhys

Williams, whom Elizabeth has loved since teen-agehood despite ten years difference in their ages, Rhys who was born of a very poor family and is now president by virtue of his wife's edict?

BLOODLINE is a veritable labyrinth of confusing red herrings, full of twists and turns and unexpected denouements, an exciting, fascinating mystery that will keep you rooted to its pages. No wonder, as this is being written, it is number 1 on the bestseller charts. It deserves all the accolades it will receive. For pure thrilling entertainment that combines suspense, sex, and excellent portrayals of the various outstanding characters who people this book, as well as wonderful journey through three continents, one could ask for little more.

Don't miss **BLOODLINE**.

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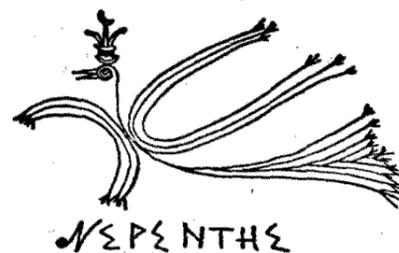
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Los Padres Trail Improvement

Reconstruction of three existing trails in the Ventana Wilderness Area of the Monterey Ranger District, Los Padres National Forest, will begin the first part of January, according to District Ranger Bob Breazeale.

The \$149,000 contract for reconstructing 48 miles of trail has been awarded to Trio Construction Company, Priest River, Idaho.

Work will include clearing, grubbing, removing dangerous trees, trailway reconstruction and installing water bars. "Work should be completed by fall," reports Breazeale. "As soon as work is completed, these trails will be opened for public use. We are also preparing contracts for additional trail work that will be issued by the end of the year," Breazeale added.

The three trails currently involved are as follows:

Carmel River Trail: Starts at the Carmel River Forest Service Station at the junction of Danish Creek and travels south approximately 13 miles to the junction of the Pine Ridge Trail.

Pine Ridge Trail: Starts at the Big Sur Forest Service Station and travels east approximately 22 miles ending at China Camp Campground on Chews Ridge Road.

Marble Peak Trail: Starts at the Coast Ridge Road at Marble Peak and travels east approximately 13 miles and ends at the Horse Bridge on Arroyo Seco Road.

This is the first major trail work to be done since the disastrous Marble-Cone Fire of August 1977. That fire burned 178,000 acres, including 90 percent of the Ventana Wilderness.

USFS-Rare II Results Announced

GOLETA, CALIF.—The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced its recommendations today concerning the future management of 62 million acres of National Forest System Lands. Of the 62 million acres, 624 areas totaling 15 million acres are being proposed for wilderness designation and inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. In addition, 11 million acres have been identified for further planning and 36 million acres earmarked for multiple use management other than wilderness.

Locally, the Los Padres National Forest has 39 areas totaling more than 1,000,000 acres involved in today's announcement. According to Forest Supervisor Al West, three areas are identified for wilderness designation. "These areas are the 64,200 acre Madulece-Buckhorn and the 1900 acre Manzana areas in Santa Barbara County and the 2500 Church Creek area in Monterey County." In addition, West said, 24 areas totaling 819,000 acres are being proposed for further planning and 11 areas containing 176,000 acres are designated for non-wilderness management.

West noted that during the next 45 days the Secretary of Agriculture will seek the counsel of members of Congress and Governors regarding the RARE II proposals. "After this time legislative recommendations will be finalized and forwarded to President Carter," West said. "It is expected that shortly thereafter the President will transmit the wilderness proposal to the 96th Congress with his recommendations. Final wilderness designation rests with Congress."

Supervisor West explained that the 24 areas slated for further planning will remain in an undeveloped condition until more planning is accomplished. "The final decisions for the future management of these areas will be made as we develop the management plan for the entire Los Padres National Forest," West stated. "We anticipate completing this plan by 1983."

According to West no actions will be taken on the 176,000 acres earmarked for non-wilderness purposes until 90 days after Congress is in session, which begins January 19th. "Following that date these areas will be managed for multiple resource uses other than wilderness if such uses are provided for in existing multiple use, resource or special project plans," West said. "These plans are revised and updated through the regular sequence of planning activities on the Forest."

A document describing the RARE II decision making process and a summary of the nationwide results has been published and will be available for public distribution in mid-January. Individuals that submitted input during the

RARE II Draft Environmental Statement review and comment period will be mailed a copy of this summary document. Mailing will begin January 15th and is scheduled to be completed by January 20th.

Persons desiring additional specific information regarding the recent decisions and RARE II process on the Los Padres National Forest may obtain an information packet from any of the Forest Service District Offices or Forest Headquarters. Offices are located in King City, Santa Maria, Goleta, Los Prietos, Ojai and Frazier Park. Information packets contain a list of RARE II areas on the Los Padres National Forest and other National Forests in California with the acreage and designation for each area. In addition a map of the Los Padres with each area and its designation is also available.

Today's announcement culminates the 18 month study process undertaken by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to identify roadless and undeveloped areas in the 187 million acre National Forest System. The process was also designed to determine the best future use for as many areas as possible. The objective was to help accelerate the basic land allocation decisions and remove as much uncertainty as possible about what would be done with the roadless areas.

During this process the Forest Service conducted one of its most intensive public involvement and land management planning efforts. As a result of the public review and comment period for the Draft Environmental Statement the Forest Service received input from almost 360,000 people nationwide.

"I would personally like to express appreciation to the many individuals, groups and agencies that have spent a great deal of their time working with us throughout this entire process," commented Supervisor West. "We look forward to a continuation of this interest as we begin our process for the land management plan for the Los Padres."

Congressional designation of the 15 million acres proposed as wilderness in this RARE II process would almost double the size of the U.S. Forest Service's portion of the National Wilderness Preservation System. An area that is classified as wilderness contains undeveloped natural scenery where opportunities for solitude are retained. Mechanized equipment, roads or structures are not allowed in wilderness areas except for certain emergency conditions. Other multiple use areas are managed for a range of uses from extensive recreation use with minimal development to more intense activities such as skiing, motorized recreation, timber production, intensive grazing, water development and wildlife habitat improvement.

Los Padres Observatory Proposed

The Los Padres National Forest is seeking input from the public on a proposal by the Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy to construct and operate a small observatory near the Forest Service fire lookout on Chews Ridge.

"Before this project is permitted or denied we must complete an environmental analysis for the site," states Monterey District Ranger Bob Breazeale. "We have completed a draft analysis. Before it is finalized we need to know of any concerns and input the public has on this matter."

Copies of the draft are available at the King City office of the Forest Service. The address is 406 S. Mildred, King City, CA 93930. Phone requests may also be made. The number is (408) 385-5434.

The proposal calls for a building, 28x28x25 feet, with a roll-off roof that will house a 36-inch reflecting telescope and associated instrumentation. A small soundproofed generator shed, the clearing of brush for a firebreak and the use of approximately one-half mile of access road, is also proposed.

The proposed development would occupy approximately two acres.

The type of input sought is whether or not the proposal should be permitted or denied and for what reasons. Also needed is the public's assessment of the completeness and accuracy of the Environmental Analysis.

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ROADLESS AREA REVIEW EVALUATION II (RARE II) LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTY JANUARY 1979

MONTEREY COUNTY

AREA #	NAME	ACREAGE/ALLOCATION
102	Black Bute	20,500/Further planning
103	Bear Mountain	21,400/Further planning
104	Bear Canyon	12,600/Further planning
105	Chalk Peak	7,100/Non-wilderness
277	Church Creek	2,500/Proposed wilderness

LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST EXISTING WILDERNESS (BY COUNTY)

MONTEREY COUNTY

County	Area	Acreage
MONTEREY COUNTY (Gross)	Ventana Wilderness	159,065 acres
	SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY	
	Santa Lucia Wilderness	21,250 acres
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY		
	San Rafael Wilderness	149,170 acres

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DECEMBER BIRTHS

GERALD RICHARD GAVIN

Terrie Gavin gave birth to her first child, a son, at Natividad's Alternative Birth Center in Salinas. Husband Richard is stationed at Pt. Sur Naval Facility. Gerald Richard Gavin weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 21 inches. He was born December 20th at 3:25 a.m.

JOCQUA EMERY KEETON

Lynn Keeton gave birth just hours later to a son at Silas B. Hays Memorial Hospital. Her husband Reginald is also stationed at Pt. Sur. Jocqua Emery weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz. and was also 21 inches long. He was born December 20th at 7:34 a.m. The Keetons have another son, Gee, 2 years old.

MEGHAN ELIZABETH MOUNTS

Robin and Tom Mounts are the happy parents of a 6 lb. 4 oz. baby girl. Meghan Elizabeth Mounts was born Dec. 28 at 4 a.m. at Valley Community Hospital in Santa Maria. Meghan measured 21 inches long at birth. She is the couple's first child.

Happy Birthday
Aquarians

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BIG SUR RECIPE

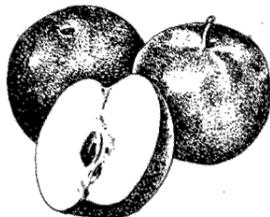


AFTER A HOLIDAY BINGE IN THE KITCHEN

It is easy to make New Year's Resolutions while suffering from a slight attack of gourmandism and therefore, to vow systematic undereating during the coming year. But, now that you've tried it for a few days, let's be sure that you aren't causing yourself undue distress in order to have such virtue rewarded. Here is a nutritious soup—just right for a chilly January eve. Choose the size of your bowl carefully—as you'll want seconds and that's a "no-no!"

CURRIED APPLE SOUP

- 3 large cooking apples -- Pippin type
- 4 small onions, diced
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 Tbsp. curry powder -- or more
- 1/4 Tsp. ground cinnamon
- 3 cups broth
- 1 cup half and half cream



Set aside one apple and finely chop remaining two. Saute onions and apple in butter until tender. Stir in curry and cinnamon. Add broth and simmer for 15 minutes. Puree mixture in blender. Return to pan and place on medium heat. Grate remaining apple and add to soup. Cook for 3 minutes, then stir in cream.

Serve hot -- though delicious cold the next day. Float a dollop of yogurt or sour cream on top and garnish with chutney. Accompanied by tossed green salad and crackers, it's a fulfilling meal.

CORRECTION:

The Holiday Season created havoc with our Mustard Mousse recipe in last month's issue. The correct listing of ingredients should have read:

- 4 eggs
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp. unflavored gelatin
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. dry mustard
- 1/2 Tsp. tumeric
- 1/4 Tsp. salt
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup cider vinegar
- 1/2 pint (1 cup) whipping cream

Beat eggs in top of double boiler. Mix together thoroughly the sugar and unflavored gelatin; stir in mustard, tumeric and salt. Add the water and the vinegar to the eggs, stir in the sugar mixture and cook over boiling water until slightly thickened, stirring continuously.

Cool until thick, whip cream and stir in. Turn into a 1-1/2 quart ring-mold. When firm, unmold and garnish.



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BIG SUR

YOUR RETURN IS OUR REWARD

Grange Supports 'Spirit of 13'

Reprinted with permission from the "California Grange News."

By JOHN C. WELTY
Legislative Director
California State Grange

The Executive Committee of the California State Grange has pledged the Grange's support to an initiative to limit government spending.

The Spirit of 13 Inc., the organization sponsoring the initiative, reported 270,000 signatures on file in their quest for the necessary 560,000 signatures to qualify the initiative for the next election.

The initiative, authored by Paul Gann, who co-authored Proposition 13, includes the following sections:

1. Limits the total annual appropriations of each entity of government, state and local, to changes in the Consumer Price Index and growth in population.

2. Surplus revenues must be returned to the taxpayers at least every two years and are to be returned by means of reduced tax rates or user fees.

3. Governments must reduce spending limits if they

institute user charges or fees to fund programs formerly funded by taxes, gifts or federal funds.

4. Allows for a vote of the people to increase or decrease the allowable levels of spending subject to and in conformity with constitutional and statutory voting requirements with an automatic sunset clause of four years.

5. Requires the state to: (a) fund the programs it mandates upon local governments and (b) include these funds in the state limit.

The California State Grange through this office has sent a petition to qualify the initiative to limit government spending to every Grange in California.

We have been told that in January when Paul Gann takes to the airwaves to promote the Spirit of 13, he will say that petitions are available to be signed at every Grange Hall in California.

The California State Grange passed a resolution by delegate action at the annual convention in Bakersfield calling for the Grange to support the intent of Prop. 13, that being that Prop. 13 is a tax cut and not a tax shift.

JEFFERS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

The famed California poet Robinson Jeffers' birthday is being celebrated this Wednesday, Jan. 10th by the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation, Inc. at an evening social meeting of the Board at the La Playa Hotel. This non-profit organization, through its president and chairman, Fred Farr, were recently proud to announce that their first goal of raising over \$100,000 had been reached toward acquisition of the poet's literary landmark home on Carmel Point. (Actually, \$125,000 has been raised toward this objective to date.)

Jeffers was born in 1887 in Allegheny, Pa., a Pittsburgh suburb, the son of a theological teacher, who took his family to Europe on numerous occasions. There Jeffers steeped himself in the classics in local schools, leading to his sensitive, deeply philosophical writing, marked by a preoccupation with nature.

After his father had moved to California in 1903, Jeffers became a student at Occidental College and later attended the Univ. of Southern California Medical School. With his wife, Una, he came to live in Carmel in 1916 and built Tor House and Hawk Tower of stone, gathered from the ocean beach below his property.

He lived there until his death in 1962 at age 75. (His wife died of cancer in 1950.) Among his best works are *Tamar*, *The Roan Stallion*, *The Women at Point Sur*, *Thurso's Landing*, *Medea*, *The Double Axe*, *Hungerfield* and *Other Poems*.

Jeffers' birthplace in the East was recently destroyed to make a parking lot for Allegheny Community College. Thankfully, Tor House and Hawk Tower, through the efforts of the local Carmel group, whose board members include Ansel Adams and Dame Judith Anderson, will be saved for posterity and turned into a literary center.

Ventana Coastal Hassle "Absurd"

The rejection of the expansion plea for beautiful Ventana Big Sur Inn has to rank as the most absurd decision yet on the Central Coast.

And, Salinas' own regional coastal commissioner, Ruth Andresen, has to share our bouquet of coastal poison oak for this huge mistake.

Because, there has never been a more reasonable request than Ventana for such an extremely compatible development with the coastal environment.

Everyone agrees the past development is proper, in good taste and in keeping with the beauty of the environment.

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If we were going to build a commercial business and make it fit into the countryside, we would copy Ventana Big Sur.

Obviously, the development is acceptable, even to the most skeptical no-growth citizen.

Why, then, the hassle? We won't even quote the owner's representative about the coastal commission's staff report.

We, instead, will offer the insight of a commissioner. Eleanor Taylor of Aromas said:

"I'm deeply disturbed by the kind of data selected to be presented. You have used the very lowest possible estimates of water supply and the very highest possible estimates of water use.

Besides water, another objection, which has never held water, is that approval would limit Local Coastal Program planning options.

But, as Commissioner Kenneth Blohm stated, "It's not the local people (county) who are dragging their feet, it's this commission. Mr. (Ed) DeMars, county planning director, says he doesn't know what this staff wants."

P.V. VIDEO TAPE SHOW SCHEDULED

The November 16 Town Hall Meeting about incorporation held at the Pacific Valley School was video-taped by south coast residents.

A video-replay of the meeting will be shown at Pacific Valley School on January 22 at 7:00.

Interested persons are invited to attend the showing, which lasts for about one and a half hours.

A discussion period will follow the showing.

Windmills in Big Sur

Will windmills work in Big Sur? Is there enough wind to sustain the generation of enough electrical energy to make it worthwhile?

If you have these or other questions about wind energy, there are several sources you can write to for information.

After checking the Big Sur and Monterey City libraries, you may want to write to the American Wind Energy Association, 1621 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington DC 20009.

Another general source is the Wind Power Digest, 54468 CR-31, Bristol, Indiana 46507, Attention: Michael Evans, Editor.

To obtain a reasonably up-to-date bibliography on wind power, you may write to the Department of Energy, 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC.

Energy buffs who might obtain relevant information about the feasibility of wind power in Big Sur are invited to share their findings with the readers of the Gazette.

Andrus Stuns Grange

Delegates attending the 112th annual session of the National Grange were shocked by the announcement from Cecil Andrus, Secretary of the Interior, that he had withdrawn 110 acres of federal land in Alaska from commercial development or other use for three years. The Secretary's action, which had the approval of President Carter, withdraws the land from "settlement, sale, entry or selection" and reserves it "for the purpose of protecting and maintaining resources values of said land."

John Scott, Master of the National Grange, stated that the Administration has turned its back on the citizens of Alaska and turned a deaf ear to the pleas of rural citizens throughout the United States who had requested that this issue be settled by their representatives in

Congress.

Scott said that with the problems of inflation and long-term energy shortages that are facing the nation, it is incomprehensible we would willingly and prematurely lock up potential natural resources whose development is needed to offset our dependence on foreign energy supplies.

We import nearly 50 percent of the crude oil needed in this country, which has been one of the major causes of inflation. We are short of timber for building supplies, causing housing prices to rise. Scott made the Grange's position clear, stating that the Grange believes in the conservation of natural resources but we should be very cautious in locking up our natural resources before we can determine those areas containing resources that are needed to solve today's economic and social problems.

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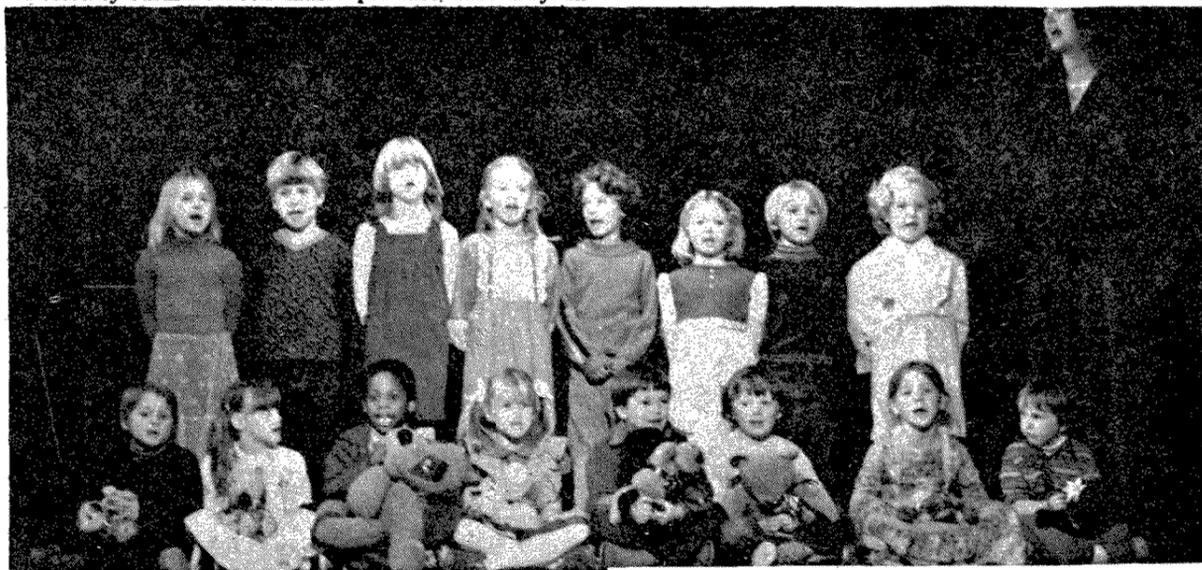
Children Carol for Parents ... SANTA PAYS A VISIT!



THE ENTIRE Captain Cooper cast, kindergarten through fifth grade, gather for the finale at the 1978 Christmas Sing directed by Carmel Schools' music specialist, Bill Purdy. In

unison, the children welcomed Santa Claus with "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Santa Claus is Comin' to

Town," and "Here Comes Santa Claus," the song that ended with his appearance. Photos by Paula Walling

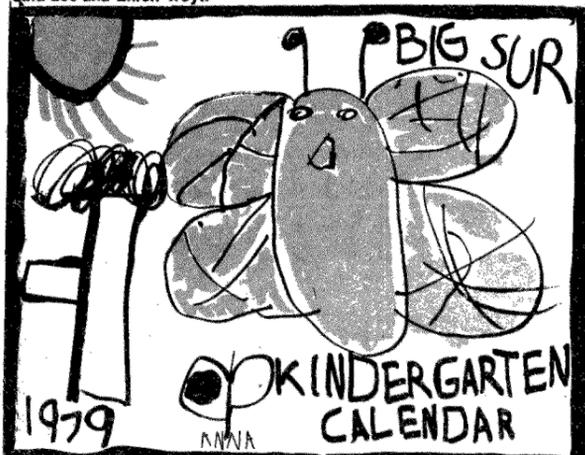


FROM PAULA WALLING'S K-1, Jill DeGroat sings "O Tannenbaum" with the children. Standing are first graders Ani DeGroat, Eric Griggs, Anna Allaire, Mariah Derr, Nathan Thompson, Skye Morganrath, John Villa, Charlene Endsley. Seated with stuffed animals are kindergartners Jeremy Edwards, Danielle Rial, Chris Patterson, Kerl Knutson, Basil Sanborn, Jesse Marron, Sara Lee and Ehren Woyt.



FROM BOB DOUGLAS' fourth/fifth grade class, Tammy Patterson and Michele Case play an alto recorder duet, "Lightly Row." In the background are Lell Fulton, Raffy Fisher and Carole Endsley.

SANTA CLAUS delights preschooler, Russell Colvin, giving him a stocking and a promise of things to come.



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FROM LAVONN CURTIS' second/third grade class, Laura Thrash and Annika Newell play "Mary Had a Little Lamb" on soprano recorders. Also shown: Abraham Newell, Amber Stevens, Adam Jardine, Tiffany Trotter, Eric DeGroat, Matisse Ortiz and David Eaton.

Gazette Classified

FIREWOOD FOR LOCALS

Two acres of the Los Padres National Forest have been opened to the public for free cutting of firewood for personal use. They are the Chews Ridge and Nacimiento/Coast area. Individuals using the Chews Ridge area will not be required to have permits. Persons cutting in the Nacimiento/Coast area or anywhere else on the district must have a permit in their possession when cutting and transporting wood. Both areas will be open through April 15, 1979.

Permits and maps are available at the King City office, Pacific Valley, and the Big Sur stations.

These two wood cutting areas have been established on a trial basis; your assistance and comments would be greatly appreciated. C/O Resource Officer, 406 S. Mildred Avenue, King City, CA 93930. Telephone: 385-5434.

Rules (Both Areas)

- The material cut under the free use program may not be sold, traded or exchanged.
 - Families may obtain a maximum of five cords per year.
 - Free use is granted primarily to aid in the protection and silvicultural improvement of the forest.
 - Cut only dead and down wood.
 - Slash is to be piled in openings and stumps should be cut as close as practicable to the ground and maximum height shall not exceed eight inches.
 - A shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches must be with each chainsaw.
 - One serviceable fire extinguisher must be with each chainsaw.
 - Vehicles are to remain on existing roads.
 - Users must comply with all other regulations governing national forest.
- Another source of firewood that is currently available is Fort Hunter Liggett. If individuals are interested in cutting on the fort they should contact the Hunter Liggett Fire Department at (408) 385-5911 and ask for extension 2527.

Thomas L. Mounts
Fire Prevention Technician
Big Sur

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Robert's Rain Gauge



Captain Cooper School Principal Robert Douglas and his fourth and fifth graders have kept a record of the rainfall at the school since September. The total shown begins with the first rain of the season, September 5th. Rainfall is measured the morning following a storm, unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Amount	Total	Remarks
Dec. 18	1.35	7.45	
Jan. 5	.40	7.85	High winds
Jan. 7	.35	8.20	
Jan. 8	2.80	11.00	High winds
Jan. 10	.20	11.20	

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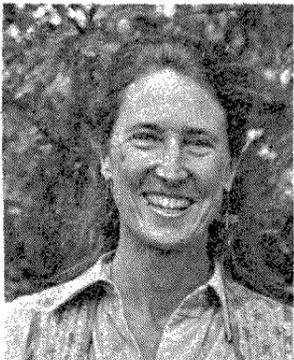
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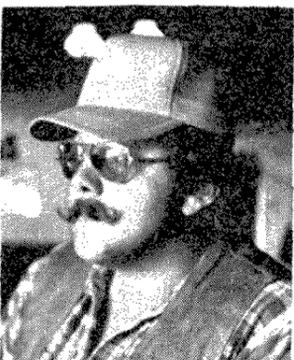
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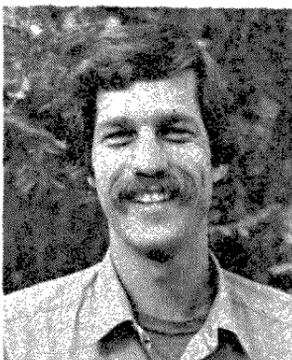
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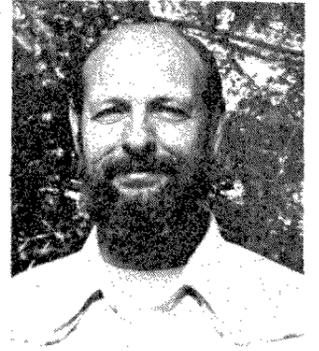
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