

The Big Sur Gazette



Serving the Visitors and Residents of the Big Sur Coast from Monterey Peninsula to Hearst Castle

25 CENTS

VOLUME 2, No. 4

Big Sur, California 93920 408-667-2222

APRIL 16—MAY 14, 1979

Norman Appeal Delayed

At the April 4th State Coastal Commission meeting held in Burlingame, the Commissioners agreed to hear the appeal of Emile Norman, who is objecting to the Regional Commission's condition which would require a large dedication of his property. No date was set for the hearing.

In the winter of 1977, Big Sur Artist Emile Norman began his permit process when he applied to county for a building permit to replace his caretaker's mobile home with a house which was out of view from Highway One, which had existing road access, utilities, septic system, and occupancy. Density would remain the same: two structures on 120 acres.

In the summer of 1978, after obtaining a building permit from the county, Mr. Norman's application was submitted to the Regional Coastal Commission for approval.

During the second of the three Regional Commission hearings, the staff recommended approval of the permit, but conditioned it with a 10 foot coastal trail easement; a dedication of 100 of his 120-acre parcel, called a "required offer;" and "non-glare" solar collectors.

Irate friends and neighbors of Mr. Norman responded to the conditions with a "blitz of letters" to the Commission. At the beginning of the second public hearing on July 10, Commissioner Zad Leavy called their response "an orchestrated letter-writing campaign," but deputy Attorney General Charles Getz officially "withdrew" the controversial conditions. The hearing was continued.

On October 30, 1978, the Regional Commission approved the permit, but in the revised conditions, they prevailed in requiring a scenic easement covering 100 of the 120-acre parcel, or approximately 83% of the parcel.

On April 4, 1979, Mr. Norman appeared before the State Coastal Commission to appeal the scenic easement as conditioned by the Regional Commission.

"The property is not visible from Highway One, and the proposed caretaker's residence will not be visible from Highway One," stated the appeal.

The appeal argued that "the Regional Commission decision is inconsistent with past decisions... where development was visible to the public but no scenic easement was required."

The State Commission agreed to hear Mr. Norman's appeal but, as of April 13, no hearing date had been scheduled.



Spring in Big Sur

WILDFLOWERS can be found along the coast in great variety, color and abundance.

Photograph by Larry Secrist.

Diablo Canyon and Pennsylvania's "Nuclear Nightmare"

by Carl Paul Alaska

The "nuclear nightmare" at the Three Mile Island reactor in Pennsylvania has logically provoked much agonized concern in San Luis Obispo County, site of the about-to-be-activated reactor at Diablo Canyon. At the same time, Big Sur residents are worried that the 90 crow-flight miles separating the Diablo Canyon reactor from Big Sur offer little protection from an eventual accident. For all practical purposes the Diablo reactor is in our own back yards.

How are the San Luis Obispo County residents reacting to the Pennsylvania accident? Has their essential complacency and acceptance of Pacific Gas and Electric's reassurances about the safety of the Diablo plant been affected?

San Luis Obispo County concerned

On Monday, April 2nd, the County Board of Supervisors spent most of their time discussing matters related to Diablo. Disconcerting words like "evacuation" and "disaster" were being used frequently. Clearly the atmosphere has changed. An essentially conservative county which predominantly embraced the technological wonder of nuclear power is having serious second thoughts.

"It may not be the end of nuclear power around here" said one county resident, "but it surely has shaken us up a lot." The San Luis newspaper headline for Monday read, "Accident May Delay Diablo License."

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Coastal Conservancy Rapped

By Elayne W. Fitzpatrick-Grumm

Joe Petrillo, executive officer of the State Coastal Conservancy in Oakland, told KGO radio listeners March 16 that his agency tries to "act imaginatively" to solve problems in conserving or developing coastal properties, "to act as a revolving fund," and "to do equity where it can be done."

But some uneasy listeners in the San Francisco Bay area expressed fears during the talk show that the Conservancy might have ideal goals but, in some cases, ends up involved in "confiscation without compensation."

At the onset of the talk show, Mr. Petrillo explained the work of the State Coastal Conservancy this way: "Proposition 20 was passed (in 1972) to develop a plan for the coastline and to control development along the coast. During that period that the coastline was planned for, when we looked at what could be done to preserve the coast, we had realized that just permitting or denying new developments was inadequate to achieve what we felt most of the people wanted in passing the initiative. For example, where marshes had been filled, dredged, or degraded, regulation permitting or denying of

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Gasoline Available in Big Sur "Ample" Supplies

According to several resort and gasoline station operators, Big Sur visitors and businesses have not yet felt the pinch from the present California gasoline shortages, and there is "ample" gas along the coast.

Although many Monterey Peninsula stations are closed on Sundays and have shortened pump hours during the week, the ten gas stations along the Big Sur Coast between Hearst Castle and Carmel are open during daily working hours, including Sundays.

Gregory Webster, general manager of Ventana-Big Sur, said confidently that "there is ample gas for people to enjoy the coast without worrying about running out."

As to the extent of availability, at press time Mr. Webster said "Ventana's tanks are full, and our entire April allocation has been confirmed."

Ventana's storage tanks hold a total of 18,000 gallons of gasoline, which includes 8,000 gallons of unleaded, 6,000 gallons of regular, and 4,000 gallons of supreme.

95% Allocation

John Harlan, owner of Lucia Lodge, when asked if the gas crunch had affected his business, said that he has never seen more visitors for this time of year, and that his occupancy had been running full.

Regarding the availability of gas at Lucia, Mr. Harlan said that he was on 95% allocations of last year's use, but he anticipated in the months ahead it would probably become worse.

"There are plenty of stocks at the refinery level in California," he said, "and there is no reason for shortages."

Greg Davies, the operating manager of Fernwood, reported that he had negotiated with his station's oil company, and he had gotten his "base year for determining allocation changed from 1978 to 1977, which was the peak year at the pumps."

"Gas is getting more expensive almost by the day, but it is available. We have a ten gallon limit, but I don't see us running out of gas."

Effects on Motels

"We certainly don't have any lack of people," exclaimed Doris Fee of Glen Oaks Motel which, at 100% occupancy has not felt any effects from the gas shortages.

Occupancy at the Big Sur Lodge inside Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park has been affected only slightly, according to LaVonne Tosh, but she credits the United Airlines strike and exaggerated news media accounts rather than the actual gas availability in the area.

"People read the paper and are afraid of getting stuck," she said.

"Squeeze Game"

George Malone of River Inn said his motel occupancy was high and his gas pumps were conducting "business as usual." "If I run out of gas, I'll close down, but I am not playing the game of opening at certain times and closing at others."

"It's not our government's fault," he said, "the oil mongers are playing the squeeze game."

A random survey of gasoline prices along the Big Sur Coast showed a range from 79 to 93 cents per gallon at the ten stations located in the Carmel Highlands, River Inn, Ripplewood, Fernwood, Loma Vista, Ventana, Lucia, Pacific Valley, Gorda and Ragged Point. San Simeon has several stations.

One operator pointed out that prices were higher in remote areas such as Big Sur because of higher delivery costs.

Greg Webster of Ventana noted that residents have been volunteering to buy only \$5 worth of gas at a time, and they have cut down on town trips to assure gas for the tourists.

He cautioned that most coastal gas stations close by six or seven in the evenings, but during the daytime there should be no problems getting gas.

LCP Interpretation Challenged

State Supreme Court Rules Out Recovery from Condemnation

By Gary Koepfel

In a recent State Supreme Court decision (Agins vs. Tiburon), the Court has ruled that "when a public agency has adopted a zoning ordinance which substantially limits his [a landowner's] property.... he may not recover damages on the theory of inverse condemnation."

As his only recourse, the judgment continues, a landowner whose property has been substantially limited by new zoning ordinances, may only "challenge the constitutionality of the ordinance and the manner in which it is applied to his property."

Lead by Chief Justice Bird, with Justice Clark the lone

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Nude Beach for Big Sur?

from the Herald

Nature lovers may soon be able to strip to the bare essentials with impunity at Andrew Molera State Park in Big Sur.

Part of the beach there may be opened to nude sunbathing by California Parks and Recreation Director Russell Cahill.

Parts of seven other state parks or beaches are being considered for the same "clothing optional" distinction.

"There's growing demand for nude beaches from some segments of the population, but we'll be trying to find out how a good cross-section feels about it before a decision is made," said Parks and Recreation information officer Gene Cone.

Ms. Cone said the department had picked areas that were remote and secluded but had adequate access and parking.

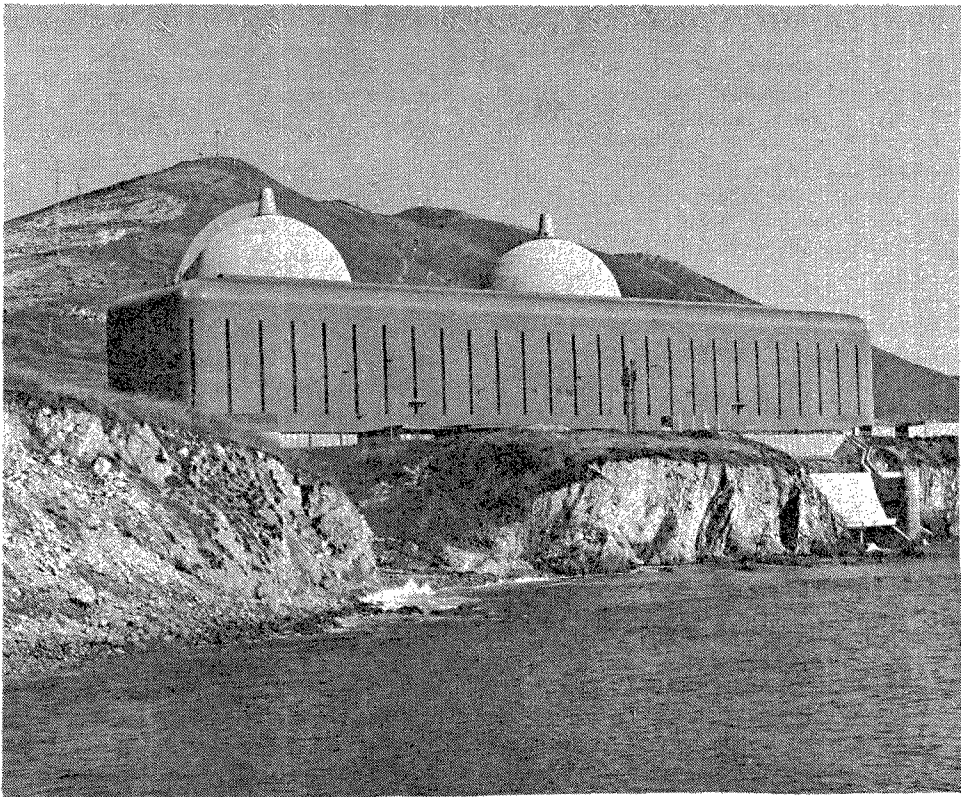
At Andrew Molera Park, the beach section under consideration is located south of the Big Sur River mouth.

Ken Jones, the department's Big Sur area manager, said some southern portions of the beach are separated from others at high tide, and one is a mile to a mile and a half south of the river mouth.

Jones said he had not seen a final map pinpointing the possible nude beach.

He said it's an easy three-quarter mile hike to the river mouth, but nude sunbathers will have to pick their days very carefully.

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NEARING COMPLETION — Unit 1 (left) of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's two-unit Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is virtually complete. Federal licensing hearings have been completed and Unit 1 is expected to operate this summer. Unit 2 will follow about nine months later. The 746-foot long building in the foreground houses turbine-generators for both units. Photo from P.G.&E..

10,000 Abalone Killed by Diablo

By Jeff Norman

In the spring of 1975, I worked for the Friends of the Sea Otter (FSO) on a study of the feeding habits and behavior of the Southern Sea Otter at the south end of its range. I spent two months at Avila Beach, the resort town 6 miles south of the Diablo Canyon nuclear reactor.

I ranged the coast from Morro Bay on the north to Pismo Beach to the south. Pacific Gas and Electric had given permission to FSO to observe otters from their access road, although I was not allowed to cross the chain-link fence that paralleled both sides of the road. The hosts of stony-faced Pinkerton guards added to the atmosphere of paranoia permeating the place.

Early on in my study I met a biologist who had been hired by PG&E to study the sea otters and the intertidal ecology in an attempt to determine the impact of the facility on the biosphere.

This biologist related a remarkable incident concerning the first test-flushing of the cooling system of the reactors.

It seems that thousands of gallons of copper-oxide-contaminated water had been dumped into the ocean, with the resultant death of an estimated 10,000 abalone! This person had discovered piles and drifts of dead abalone that fouled the beaches in the area of the power plant. The biologist was strongly "advised" by PG & E to not publicize the incident, for fear of employment termination. Out of concern for this person's career, anonymity must be maintained.

I first came to know that country in the early sixties, when, as a member of the Sierra Club, I went on a weekend campout/tour of the two proposed reactor sites. One was Diablo Canyon, the other the Nipomo Dunes, near Pismo Beach.

On the basis of the fragility of the dunes and their rare plants, the Sierra Club finally opted for the Diablo Canyon site. This compromise was the result of years of bitter debate within the club, and is still referred to by many members as a sell-out!

The marine terrace that the reactor sits on was a place of incredible beauty. In the background rise the Irish Hills, with a wealth of extremely rare plants. The level green meadows above the ocean were important village and burial sites for the first people on the Coast, and indeed the Chumash treasures unearthed when the reactor site was bulldozed are the finest I've seen.

It's too late to save that lovely shore-line. The tons of concrete will last for millennia. But as yet there has been no delivery of plutonium. The switch has not yet been thrown. It is still not too late to stop this poison power!

The Country Suffers a Credibility Meltdown

Halfway through "The China Syndrome," a new movie about a nuclear power plant accident, a utility company engineer insists that what the accident demonstrated is that "even with a stuck valve, that the system works!"

Yesterday, a nuclear industry spokesman was talking about the accident at the Three Mile Island plant near Harrisburg, Pa. "The system worked," he said. "The system shut down."

We do not mean to imply any larger parallel here. The movie involves an improbable amalgam of events, and not enough is yet known about the Harrisburg case to permit informed reflection. But this rhetorical parallel suggests that advocates of nuclear energy can be their own worst enemies.

For years, the industry and its supporters in Government and elsewhere have insisted that nuclear energy is safe. Relatively speaking, they are right. But under the pressure of emotional protests, the nuclear spokesmen have gone further.

Nuclear power, they have proclaimed, is The Answer; it is not just reasonably safe but comforting so; a serious accident is a million-to-one shot.

Then what are people to think when a Three Mile Island

comes along? The public needs nuclear energy; but it also needs a realistic assessment of safety and risk.

Credibility was not enhanced by the public statements after the Three Mile Island accident. Was it a little leak, a bigger leak --- or a general emergency? The reactor's operators said one thing, state officials another, Federal officials yet another, not to mention the contributions of equipment manufacturers and politicians.

Are there grounds for continuing concern? Who is to be believed? The profusion of explanations and contradictions has meant troubling confusion.

Whenever there is an airline accident, the National Transportation Safety Board dispatches a "go" team of investigators to the scene. It includes an experienced information official who receives, verifies and dispenses details from a command post.

While all involved would remain free to say whatever they wished, the idea of an information center is worth considering for nuclear accidents. The potential for public alarm is great; so is the potential for genuine service.

New York Times, New York City

Shut Down Nuclear Reactors?

For policy and politics, the consequences of the accident at the Three Mile Island reactor will clearly be tremendous.

It is an accident that, by every principle of design, should not have happened. Inevitably, it raises questions not only about this reactor but about the 72 others in operation around the country --- and the 90 further reactors under construc-

Does this accident require the country to change its ideas regarding the chances of serious trouble in other places? The immediate issue is not how to build the next generation of reactors, but whether to keep using the present ones.

Those citizens who are not nuclear engineers will feel a sense of sharp exasperation at the incomplete and sometimes conflicting explanations currently offered from Three Mile Island.

Part of the reason is simply that no one yet knows precisely what went wrong inside the reactor. There's a certain analogy to an airplane crash. Part of the story can be inferred at once, but the rest of it requires a meticulous examination of the wreckage.

In this case, the specialists may have to wait a matter of weeks before it is safe to enter the reactor and inspect the damage at first hand.

The utility, the Metropolitan Edison Co., said with irritation that its press conference yesterday would be the last on the subject. That's just as well. Its statements are inevitably clouded by the thought of financial liabilities.

The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission has the primary responsibility here for public explanation, and so far it has responded pretty well.

The commission is finally aware that in years past the federal government itself has contributed hugely to laymen's suspicions of nuclear energy by its pollyannish evasions in responding to unwelcome questions.

In the present test, the commission is going to have to set an Olympic record for candor and painstaking rectitude if it wants its judgments to be believed.

Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

Beware of Nuclear Power—“A 20th Century Con Job”

"Nuclear Power is the biggest con job of the 20th century."

Dr. Thomas F. Mancuso, medical doctor and research professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, has made that statement many times but nobody listened.

Dr. Mancuso was ignored and called a fear-monger until the nuclear-power accident at Three Mile Island, near Harrisburg, Pa., that received worldwide news coverage.

Those in the nuclear-power industry and the politicians will now be listening to the occupational health expert with more discernment. They will even be more humble when he speaks out instead of calling him "controversial."

Just the day before the nuclear reactor on an island in the Susquehanna River was cripple, Dr. Mancuso warned:

"The United States is setting up its own doomsday with nuclear power plants. If an enemy sabotages or blows up just two of the 72 functional nuclear plants in this country we are finished.

"Also, we are going to see an epidemic of cancer that will

shake the country. People are like a bunch of ants being led to a pile of poisoned honey. They are not getting the truth on nuclear power. Even government experts have told so many lies that they have lost their credibility."

Robert B. Stobaugh, energy expert of Harvard University took an even stronger position. He said:

"If something is not done to build up confidence in nuclear power, you're going to have a shutdown of the whole nuclear industry."

Henry M. Jackson, Dem., of the State of Washington, who is chairman of the Senate Energy Committee, said the Three Mile Island disaster can result in long delays in the building of 92 additional reactors for which permits have been granted. He said: "It puts nuclear-power in semi-limbo."

Critics of nuclear power are asking: What do you do with spent radioactive nuclear fuel, or waste, that reactors produce? Nobody in the whole world knows the answer. That problem alone could bring the death to the nuclear industry.

Guest Editorial by James Moore



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Results of this and other LTS Surveys will be published in the LTS Report in June. Thank you for your contribution to high standards in Monterey Bay Area restaurants. This month's drawing winner will receive a \$50.00 voucher by mail and will be listed in the LTS Report.

Look for this seal of
patron approval:

John Livingstone 1979

LIVINGSTONE TOP 60 SURVEY



Guest Editorial
Monterey Peninsula Herald

Coastal Bureaucracy

The social engineers of the Central Coast Regional Commission are at it again. In exchange for their divine approval of a new subdivision in Marina, they insist that the developer set aside five lots at below-market prices for sale to moderate income families. This is in addition to the 7.7 acres of land he already has agreed to donate for a bird and wildlife sanctuary.

Such a mandated give-away of private property - which has nothing to do with protection of the coastline - is pure bureaucratic blackmail. It is a clear instance of a well-intentioned government program gone wild with its own inflated sense of power.

Although Californians made it abundantly clear that they wanted their seacoast protected against indiscriminate development when they voted for the Coastal Conservation Act in 1972, most of them have been appalled by the commission's high-handed record in action.

Our major concern is that, since their creation, the coastal commissions here and throughout the state have invented broad guidelines and imposed onerous conditions on one and all which are far afield from their original purpose.

The past few years, consequently, have been a frustrating time for anyone seeking permits far beyond the 1,000-yard limit originally established by the people of California as the extent of their undeveloped seacoast they wanted protected from new encroachments.

We do not believe that the Central Coast Regional Commission should become the supreme planning authority for Marina or the entire Monterey Peninsula, for that matter. Nor do we believe the commission should assume the authority now held by the Water Management Agency or the Air Pollution Board. And certainly it should not become an instrument for low cost housing on the Peninsula.

Conservation generally implies a balance between values and a wise use of resource components. The commission seems to be overlooking that fundamental part of its responsibility in its zeal for intruding into all facets of planning, zoning, development and, lastly almost, coastal protection.

It is not just here. A residential development on the slopes of the Santa Monica mountains overlooking Malibu Beach began two years ago and was summarily halted by the Coastal Commission less than a month after construction started. Only recently, after numerous reviews and court suits, has the developer been allowed to proceed with his plans.

A Santa Barbara developer is so incensed over rejected applications and other delays that he plans to file a \$32.5 million suit against the commission and to organize a state-wide movement to return control of coastal development to local communities.

The Herald supported Proposition 20, the coastal initiative, and makes no apologies for that. But what we envisioned would save the coast was done without realizing how that ideal would be implemented. What we have ended up with is a mega-bureaucracy which supersedes everything else.

It is expected that about 30,000 permit applications will be filed with the state and regional commissions this year. With a staff of 200, that comes to 150 rulings per staff member per year, or one ruling every two days or so.

In common with other bureaucracies, the commissions have their own rules, procedures, appeals processes and an ever-increasing workload. What should take a matter of weeks takes months, even years.

The remaining undeveloped stretches of seacoast around the Monterey Peninsula and along California's shores still need protection - but not at the cost of individual's rights far distant from that objective - both in space and philosophy.

It all comes down to this: Can we afford what the Central Coast Regional Commission is doing for us, given what it's doing to us? It is a problem basic to all regulative bureaucracies - the public good is being interpreted not by the public, but by a small and elite group of appointed individuals.

The behavior of the coastal commissions understandably has caused a reaction in the Legislature, where remedial legislation has been introduced. The direction of the Coastal Conservation Act must be steered to a more accurate course to reach its destination: protection of the coastline.

More "Life-Art"

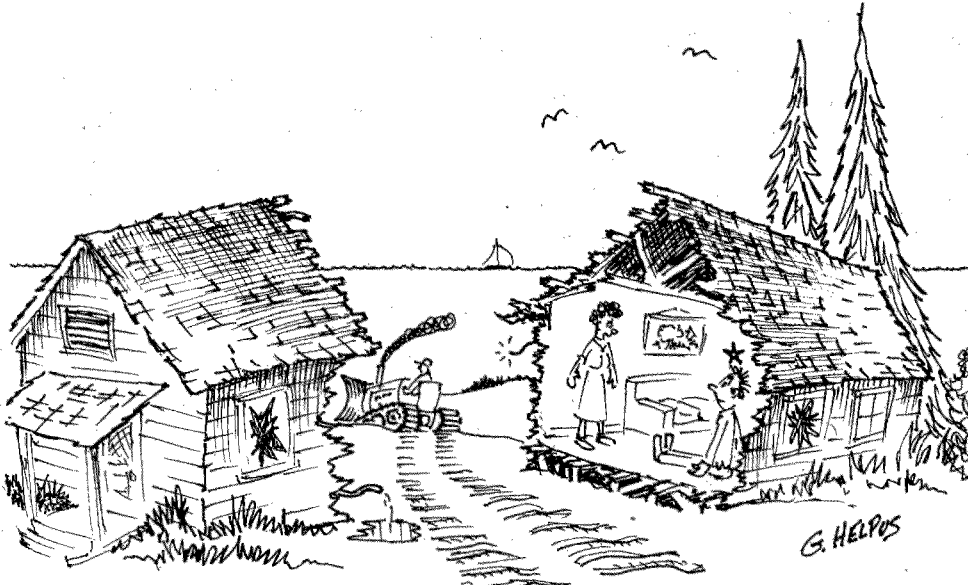
Dear Editor:

Loved the story on Bob Nash - a joy to read - and share. "Even the bravest of us rarely has the courage for what he knows." (Nietzsche) Looking forward to more "life art" stories like this.

Alma White Big Sur

To Gazette Readers:
DEADLINES
for
Letters to the Editor
ARE THE
FIRST
THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

Views and Viewpoints



HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A VIEW CORRIDOR AND THE COASTAL COMMISSION!

CORRECTION

In the story on ringtail cats by Jeff Norman, in the March Gazette Issue, the

weight of a mature ringtail cat read 22 pounds. The correct weight of a mature ringtail cat should have read 2½ pounds. We regret any confusion this error might have caused.

Ambulance

Dear Editor:

We would like to publicly express our appreciation to the Emergency Medical Crew members - Martha, Bev, and Don - for their prompt response to our call to 911 in the late evening of March 7th.

It is gratifying to know there are trained people to whom we can turn in times of medical emergencies.

Phil and Barbara Fish
Big Sur

Delighted

Dear Editor:

When I began thumbing through the March issue of the Gazette, which I found in my mailbox the other day, I was in for some pleasant surprises. First of all, it was good to read a nice story about Bob Nash, a friend I haven't seen for about 15 years. (Hello, Bob!) Then when I got to page 13, I was carried 40 years back.

My mother, Susan Porter of Big Sur, who died in 1963, was one of those original owners of "The Old Trails Club Cabin" or the Log House, as it was also known in those far-off days. I've forgotten the names of the other Club members except for Anne and Russell Field, who subsequently built a home in Coastlands, as did

CORRECTIONS

In the Fire Brigade Fund Raising article it stated, "The Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded three years ago....." The Fire Brigade was actually founded August 1, 1974, nearly five years ago.

Photo credits were inadvertently omitted in "The Old Trails Club Cabin" interview. The three beautiful historical photos were Compliments of the Maxine Jackson Collection. The editors regret this unfortunate omission.

An error in the feature article on the Coastal Conservancy read, "An example of the RPZ rezoning is the recent request by the Department of Parks and Recreation to establish an RPZ designation for the area extending south from Carmel Valley River to Yankee Point, from the ridgeline to the sea." The statement should have read "from Carmel Valley Road to Yankee Point."

El Rio Grande Del Sur

By STERLING DOUGHTY

The Spring Day of an Essellen

Light pink of early dawn brightened the small hut. Aranom stirred and sitting up he turned to gaze at his wife's sleeping face. For him, it was a most beautiful ritual, to sit and watch the quiet beauty asleep in blissful reverie. Such peace, an expression of the potential of eternal contentment in a world of magic.

Quickly, as a human, he rose and left the hut. Down the twisting trail to the spring, a few words of praise and cold water brings the body to wake. Clean taste and purity and Aranom slipped into the green grass and fresh flowers of spring. A brisk lifeful day with the growing fullness of the land and the great crisp wind forming sheets of white in the long blue water. Wind, clear and bold, bringing the cleansing heritage of the ancestors from the northland, last messages of hope and promise for the coming year.

The deer looked up unconcerned as he rose over the knoll in a loping pace. It was not a time for the hunt but a moment to enjoy the renewal of life. The sun rising enlivened the incredible green and the brilliant million colors of the flowers. The awakening air bringing forth the hawks and eagles for their glorious sensing of the day.

Hours he moved in praise of the land and life. Now slow then fast, to stop, to wonder, to move through the cool forest the gushing stream, and out in rich sun fields alive with glory and light. High rushing sounds of the wind cleansing the memories of the past, transforming them into the grace of wisdom. Soon he was free, existing no more in the world other than that moment. Pure shining presence alive in the purpose of creation. Forever was that day and in the setting of the sun, Aranom in the place of no time not going anywhere returned to his home as if by accident to sit by the fire with his people.

my mother. I believe the Cabin was first sold (or maybe the second time around) to a group from Hollywood including Orson Wells and Joseph Cotten. The story was that Wells had intended the property to be a little present to actress Rita Hayworth. I believe she declined the gift and none of them came to Big Sur.

Anyhow, I was delighted to see those old photos, especially of the interior which looked exactly as I remember it. I spent many marvelously happy days in the '20s and '30s at the Log House.

Just for the record, in the Pico Blanco story on page 15, the former owners of the old cabins were the Duvenecks, not the Deauvanex.

Val Miller
Carmel, CA

Back Country Etiquette

Dear Editor:

Readers of the Big Sur Gazette have, no doubt, been interested in following the story of Herb Aughinbaugh's adventures in the Little Sur drainage. However, this writer wishes to take exception to Mr. Aughinbaugh's lack of regard for two of the unwritten rules of backcountry etiquette: that of respect for old structures and of consideration for private landholdings.

The Duveneck Cabins (to use the proper spelling), were built in the 'teens and early twenties by Jules Kahhofer, who operated a resort there. The pieces of furniture burned by Aughinbaugh were either packed in on mule-back or made on the spot. The hand-made crutch that kindled the fire and was presumed to be "no longer needed" has a special history that will be recounted in next issues' centerfold, which will be devoted to a factual history of the Pico Blanco area. It should be said that the fireplace used by Aughinbaugh has a collapsed chimney, and the building of a fire there was extremely ill-advised, and could have resulted in the loss of the entire cabin.

It must also be mentioned that the summit of Pico Blanco, as well as the Duveneck Cabins and most of the area surrounding the Pico Blanco Trail in Los Padres National Forest, are actually private land. The public has long-standing access rights over this trail, but is not permitted to go off it. Where an easement situation is not in effect, as at the summit of Pico Blanco, permission should always be obtained before starting off on a hike. This is more than strict legality -- it shows respect for your neighbor as well as his land. It may all be God's country to some, but the Good Lord doesn't pay the taxes or cost of fire suppression due to trespassers.

We want to re-emphasize, then, that the few remaining cabins and barns in the Santa Lucias stand as monuments to the pioneers who labored in the forest, planted the side-hills to oats, and revelled in the glorious flaming sunsets. Rest awhile beneath the pear tree blossoming like a fleecy April cloud-puff. You will bridge the gap between homesteader and urban refugee. You will find that you can go home again.

Jeff Norman
Big Sur

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Fire Brigade Develops Defensive Plan for Big Sur

By Frank Pinney

In 1976 the Fire Brigade began the extremely difficult and on-going task of preparing a pre-fire plan for all the residences and businesses on the Coast. This involves preparing a plan for each structure and then integrating it into a strategy for each major area. This spring the Brigade is focusing on the major businesses where concentrations of people and structures increase the possibility of a fire situation. Teams of Brigade members have been formed which have the responsibility to go to each location and work with the owners to prepare the final plan. In addition, the team will be responsible for maintaining an update of the plan as situations change.

Just what is a pre-fire plan, and how does it effect the business or property owner? Simply stated, it is a plan which provides a fire fighter with essential information about a location in the event that a fire situation develops. The plan is built on a simple plot plan of the structures showing structural details as they relate to the spread of a fire, location of water, gas and electric shut-off, major hazards such as flammable liquids and an estimate of the best approach plan for fire fighters and their equipment. In addition, the plan includes notes on the type of occupancy such as children, invalids or other special cases that effect rescue operations. Note is made of where a fire is most apt to start, where it could spread and what tactics would be appropriate for each situation. Hazards to fire fighters and equipment are marked, such as the location of explosive materials, structural weaknesses and the location of the septic tank. More than one fire truck has pulled up to a rural structure in position to fight the fire only to go crashing through the top of an unmarked septic tank or cistern.

The collecting and documenting of this information is only the beginning of the plan. During the Brigade's Tuesday night meeting, each team presents its plan to the rest of the Brigade. A typical session will include two or three locations with discussion and quizzing to insure that each fire fighter is familiar with every location. This is extremely important since the Brigade is committed to the concept that each member could be first at the fire scene and thus have responsibility for decisions on the initial attack.

A major benefit of the pre-fire plan process has been the involvement of local ownership. At more than one location team members have discovered fire-fighting equipment such as extinguishers and hydrants which were thought to be serviceable but in fact are useless due to age or abuse. Each owner is urged to become personally involved in the planning process. It was, after all, the quick action by Nepenthe personnel which extinguished the primary blaze last November thus preventing the spread of the flue fire. What if the extinguisher had malfunctioned or had not been accessible?

During the pre-fire plan process hazards are checked out, and steps can be taken to reduce a potential threat. Grease built up around cooking areas in the restaurants, electrical appliances, and chimney flues are checked and corrective action recommended. We are especially interested in easy access and identification of gas and electric shut-off and a reliable water supply. Each owner must take responsibility for the location, whether it is a major business or a two story goat house, to insure that all reasonable steps are taken to reduce the potential for fire. The Brigade will assist by helping to prepare a pre-fire plan to make our job easier in the event of a fire emergency.

Please use your ashtray

The Lifestyle Merchants

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Two Events Benefit Big Sur Fire Brigade

The Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade will be the recipient of funds from two major Big Sur events.

April 24th marks the 30th Birthday for Nepenthe, which is the only business in Big Sur that is still under the original management.

The gala celebration will include Big Sur native dancers, complimentary Ambrosia burgers and birthday cake, and perhaps, a surprise guest or two.

The entire admission charge of \$10 per person will be donated to the Big Sur Fire Brigade.

While busily preparing for the Birthday Party, manager Holly Fassett took a moment to remember the beginning of Nepenthe.

"I remember making all those adobe bricks," she said. As a young child, she would sit on the window ledge of the cabin and watch the building of her family's restaurant. "I'll never forget when little Kim fell off the window ledge into the wet

cement they were pouring for the stairs. Boy, was Walter Trotter upset!"

The celebration will begin on Tuesday, April 24, at 6pm. Tickets are available at Peyton's Place in Carmel and the Phoenix Shop in Big Sur.

The First Annual Big Sur in Concert, Friday, May 4th and Saturday, May 5th, will also be donating its proceeds to the Fire Brigade. Two outstanding evenings of entertainment are planned, featuring a variety of music from classical to rock. Some of the performers scheduled to appear are the Coast Ridge Boys, Jake Stock and the Abalone Stompers, Marvella Peterman, Kris Coventry and Pat Dotson, John Cluett, Maggie Sherman, Jill De Groat and Penny Vieregge, Pat DuVal and Ronni Bloom Webster.

The concerts will begin at 8pm at the Grange Hall. Tickets are available in advance for \$3, or at the door for \$4. For advanced tickets call Mary Harrington (667-2521) or Peter Stock (667-2225).

Old Fire Engines Never Die...

Reprinted from the Herald Cannery Row Volunteer Fire Co. No. 8 will hold its April meeting tonight at 8pm at Kalisa's Cosmopolitan Gourmet Place, 851 Cannery Row.

Principal agenda item will be a progress report on the acquisition of the original Pacific Grove Engine No. 2, a 750-gallon-per-minute pumper manufactured by American-LaFrance Co. in 1932. The engine, veteran of many Pacific Grove and Cannery Row fires, served for nearly 40 years. It was purchased by Company No. 8 from the Marina Volunteer Fire Dept.

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1st Annual

Big Sur in Concert

FRIDAY, MAY 4th
SATURDAY, MAY 5th

8 P.M.
Grange Hall

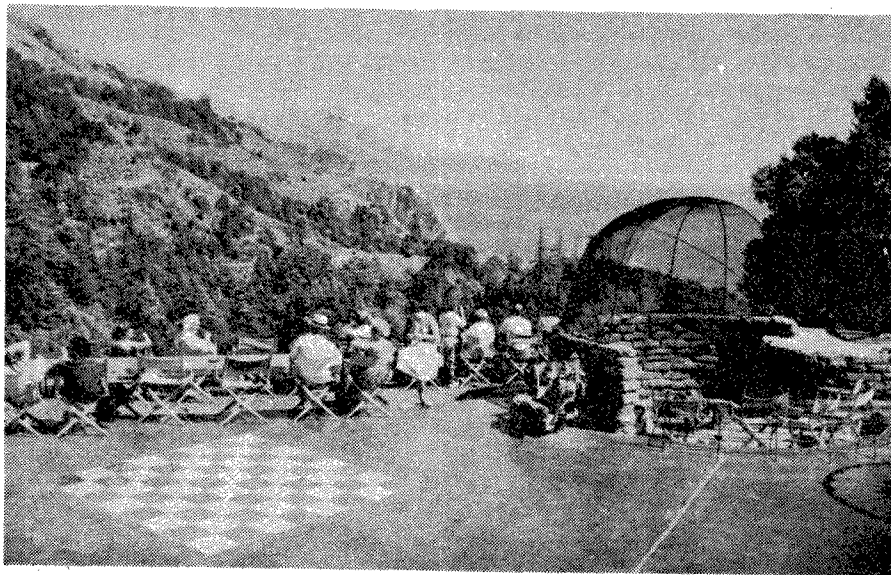
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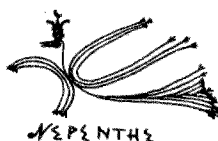


BIG SUR FIRE BRIGADE BENEFIT PARTY

Celebrate Nepenthe's 30th Birthday!



*Nepenthe
and the Angel of Darkness
took me under her wing
and covered my sadness with mystery
and in her shadow i came to find
surcease from sorrow
peace of mind*



\$10 per person

*Amphora
Nepenthe is more than a liquid elixir
nor the Phoenix, just a bird
an attitude perhaps, a way of life
fulfillment is in the form
of that which contains it*

These three poems are reprinted by permission of the author -- Jim Clark

Ambrosia Burgers and Birthday Cake ALL YOU CAN EAT!

*Phoenix
i am the fire, and the light,
and the spark
raging inferno, cast in flaming dark
i light the sky and warm the hearts of men
i am the courage to try
and try again.*

TUESDAY, APRIL 24
6 p.m. to Midnight
Folk and Native Big Sur Dancers

Tickets at Peyton's Place, Rio Rd., Carmel and at The Phoenix Shop in Big Sur

All proceeds benefit the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade

HAWK'S PERCH

All contributions to the Hawk's Perch should be typewritten double-spaced, and mailed with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Hawk's Perch, Big Sur Gazette, Highway One, Big Sur, CA 93920.

Big Sur

I refuse to revel in your beauty
Or write a poem
about your lupin lovely lilac trees
For you are more than anything i see
I feel your Calvary
You are Nepenthe
An ancient cross of redwood
standing on a hill

Kevin Parsons

[Editors note: Kevin Parsons resides in Palo Colorado and is an employee at Ventana-Big Sur.]

Big Sur in January

As the prospect of forever diminishes in your older eyes
a journey to Big Sur can cradle your discomfort.
A terrifying place where land and sea can meet viciously,
death seems as abundant as life
shocking the subconscious which knows mortality.
Listen to the breakers in the distance:
roaring glass shattering in deceptively soft explosions.
Listen with your spirit and panic can well up within.
Listen harder, and be calm
Terror in the rocks harbors the seed of peace -
in apparent rejection we find acceptance.
The tides include your bloodstream,
we are pulled with oceans by the moon.
Swim with migrating whales, run with the wild boar.
God shouts here, but whispers if you let Her.
Her rivers are fast and high,
they will purge your loneliness.

Jim Bull

[Editors note: Jim Bull wrote the above poem after spending four days camping in and around Big Sur. Jim resides in Palo Alto]



Thank you kindly, Bill Witherup, for our continued use of the Hawk's Perch logo.

A Poem for Liel

And She Sure Has Pretty Eyes

she said she wants to be a friend
like a buddy, or, one of the guys
and she has a nice sense of humor
and she sure has pretty eyes
i never had a girl-buddy before
never thought they were very wise
yet, her wisdom is the age of pyramids
and she sure has pretty eyes

Jim Clark

Big Sur Winter

(for Melissa)

Clouds fly by from
elastic summer
Tiny raindrops
turn to pools
The ocean is white
with winter anger
And the gnarled cypress trees
bow even lower
We of the Pacific
respect this yearly barrage
We have even come
to love it
We have the beauty
of falling snow
I have seen thousands
of snowflakes
With each crashing wave
on granite rocks
We have leaves of
wonderful color
That fall to the ground
only to rise again and again
What dead leaf can match
the beauty of a Monarch butterfly
The Big Sur River
becomes a mighty beast
Overflowing it's summer borders
to topple redwoods and massive oaks
But we of the Pacific
know this reckless winter
As all things must
age and die
And the hills and valleys
will be green again
The ocean will calm
and the drifter clouds
will depart

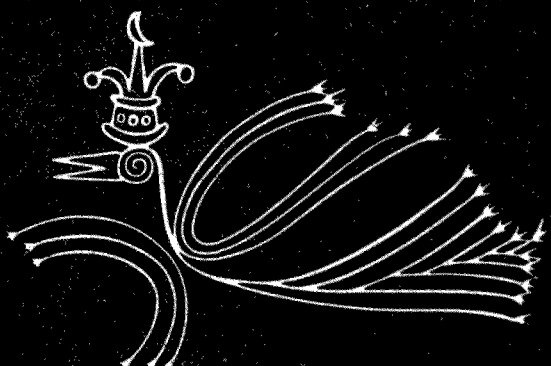
Thomas Ruggiero

[Editors note: Thomas Ruggiero is a resident of Monterey and a frequent contributor to the Hawk's Perch.]

EXPECT

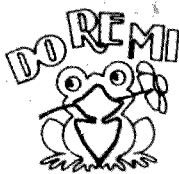


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Photo by Greg Dodge

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COASTAL COMMISSION CRITICIZED AT ASILOMAR CONFERENCE

By Elayne W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm

Bill Press, Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, didn't mince words during the California State Coastal Commission Workshop at Asilomar, March 15 and 16.

Referring to himself as "an ally of, but not an apologist for, the Commission," Mr. Press pointed to a "wholesale effort to weaken the Commission." Why? Part of the problem, he explained is the difficult transition period in the wake of Proposition 13 -- an uneasiness about what the public wants after its "less government and less government spending" mandate.

"But some of the problems of the Coastal Commission rest with the Commission itself," he warned, outlining the following weaknesses:

-- "The Commission has the worst public relations of any Commission I've ever experienced, with the possible exception of the Energy Commission."

-- "It has failed to push and deliver on local coastal programs."

-- "It's had a tendency to give too much attention in the decision-making, particularly in the permit process, to non-essential coastal issues."

-- "It has too narrow a definition of the environment. Times have changed since the passing of Proposition 20 in 1972, and I believe we're working in a context of a more sophisticated and broader definition of the meaning of environment. In addition to marine and land resources, it also gives attention to other important features of quality of life such as jobs, housing, transportation."

Mr. Press suggested that the Commission should begin to reach out to broaden its base and constituents. "We have moved beyond the era of confrontation politics and have to start building bridges with other interest groups besides

those interested in the environment."

He said he sees the Commission "operating still in a vacuum, too independently" and pointed to a "painful lack of communication with state government" and the need to move into "new partnership -- to re-group and re-dedicate."

He added that he sees Proposition 13 not as a disaster but as a "good discipline we've been given. It makes good planning and good economics a must, not a luxury."

His parting comment: "Correct the Commission weaknesses, but continue to stand up and fight for the California coast!"

"Bear the pain"

Another speaker, Brad Lundborg, outgoing State Commission Chairman, said, "We're growing up in a society involved in bitter conflicts over use of natural resources." But, he insisted, these conflicts wouldn't be abolished even if the Commission and other concerned groups "went away."

"It's apparent," he continued, "that the whole process of dealing with resource use engenders hostility on the part of those who might have expected other treatment and don't recognize the value of the Commission. And this hostility against the process has been brought to bear on our elected officials who can't afford to support the Commission strongly unless they perceive that, if they do, they will still be supported in office."

What is needed, he continued, is a "revitalization of interest in the value of the process itself and in its necessity, regardless of any unpopular decisions that might have been made."

He suggested that Commissioners and their staff members continue to analyze their procedures and see that they are valuable, honest, and supportable. "Meanwhile," he concluded, "we will have to bear the pain and hear the

hostility that these procedures will engender. It is futile to expect that, as long as we are effective and as long as we do our job well, we'll fail to feel the hurt and the anger that is our lot."

"Wartime Situation"

Jerry Smith, author of Proposition 20, addressed the group, looking closely at the mood of taxpayers since they rode around with "Save the Coast" bumper stickers in the late sixties and early seventies. "Now taxpayers want less government, and they want government to cost less. How does the legislature transfer that information to the Coastal Commission?"

His answer pointed to increasing numbers of bills dealing with the Coastal Commission to change and control its service. "There's a move backward and inward."

"This is like a wartime situation. We must talk to critics. Go to them. Get together and talk about problems. Make things work. This will take extraordinary human effort. Make it known that if the public is unhappy at local levels with permits, they can appeal to the Commission."

He emphasized the need for local control, saying that "unfortunately, some was lost, and the impact will be disastrous if we are not careful."

Speaker Huey Johnson, Director of the State Resources Agency and Ex-Director of Lands for Public Trust, told Workshop-goers that he equated California's coastline with other "world assets, like the Vienna Woods." He noted that during World War II, the citizens of Vienna chose to be cold rather than cut down trees and destroy their heritage. "We must be careful to pass on our own heritage by using our own aesthetic judgement." He warned Commission members to watch carefully all special interest development bills before the legislature, and to help toward this end.

Confused Priorities

Council Takes Coastal Commission to Task

Reprint from The Cambrian

The California coastal commission was verbally blasted Mar. 22 for having confused priorities.

Joseph Mastroianni, executive director of the California coastal council, a statewide property owners association, said in reference to a coastal commission conference held in Pacific Grove: "Instead of the commission being concerned about their more serious problems such as the sad state of the local coastal planning process, they're worried about their image. It's disgusting."

"If they intend to go out of business as they are supposed to in 1981, the image they project is a moot point. It is more important to make sure they get the job done than to project a good image," he said.

Senator Jerry Smith of Santa Clara, author of the 1976 Coastal Act, was also sharply critical of the commission in a speech at the Pacific Grove conference.

Smith told the commissioners: "Forty-three bills says you're in trouble."

The Coastal Act was passed by the legislature in the 11th hour after the Coastal Initiative of 1972 expired under its sunset date of 1976. Prior to passage of the act, the boundaries set for the coastal zone were 1,000 yards inland or the closest ridge to the ocean. However, the Coastal Act gave coastal commissioners arbitrary powers to reset coastal boundaries.

From Harmony to the county line, the zone in which Cambria lies, the average distance of the coastal zone is six miles inland.

Mastroianni stated that the commission's priorities should have been:

--Designation of coastal resource areas of Statewide and regional importance, which was to have been accomplished by Sept. 1, 1977.

--Emphasis on the local coastal planning process establishing a more comprehensive plan for public access.

--De-emphasis on the interim review process.

--A cooperative rather than a dictatorial posture toward local authorities.

--Control of erroneous, misleading, conflicting information in staff reports, which becomes fact in the finding and places an unfair burden on the applicant.

--A more sensitive interface with applicants and governmental authorities.

--Control of coercion between staff and extreme environmentalist factions.

Mastroianni also said that the California coastal Council will "continually oppose commission policies whenever they stray from the intent of the Coastal Act or threaten the rights of the minority property owners."

"We will fight them in the legislature, we will challenge them in the courts, and we will debate them in the public forum. This abusive agency can no longer be allowed to go unchallenged charged Mastroianni.

In his criticism of the commissioners, Smith also called the commission to task on what he described as over-emphasis on the coastal permit process.

"You have been so focused on that process that you have become like a city with a 1,100 mile boundary reaching five miles inland, engaged in day-to-day land

use decisions," he said.

In a meeting held in San Luis Obispo, Mar. 23, regional and state commission representatives said they "conceptually" agreed with a bill in the legislature that would limit their powers.

The bill, introduced in the legislature Mar. 22 by Assemblyman Victor Calvo (D-Mountain View), would remove commission permit controls over some single family home construction. The bill also would do away with the 10-day waiting period after a permit has been granted. The waiting period is designed to allow the commission to hear any appeals on the approved permit.

Calvo's bill would remove commission permit controls from single-family home construction on improved property within the coastal zone. Improved property would fall under the category of property that has sewer, water and other service hookups. Public access and scenic views would not have to be an issue for the permit procedure to be circumvented.

Derill B. Wright, a representative on the South Central Coast regional commission and chairman of the state commission, said that proposals for building single-family homes on "existing, standard-sized, improved lots that conform to the existing general plan and zoning ordinance" will be considered for exemption.

However, the 30 percent of the applications that fall into single-family home construction within the coastal zone must have existing "improvements in place, including streets, gutters, water and utilities," to by-pass the permit process, said Wright.

Public opposition to a project would be the necessary criteria for appeal on the 10-day waiting period between granting of permit and construction, said Carl Hetrick, executive director of the regional commission.

As it stands, if no appeal is filed with the commission within the 10-day period, construction may begin. Hetrick said in the case of no public opposition, the 10-day waiting period should be scrapped.

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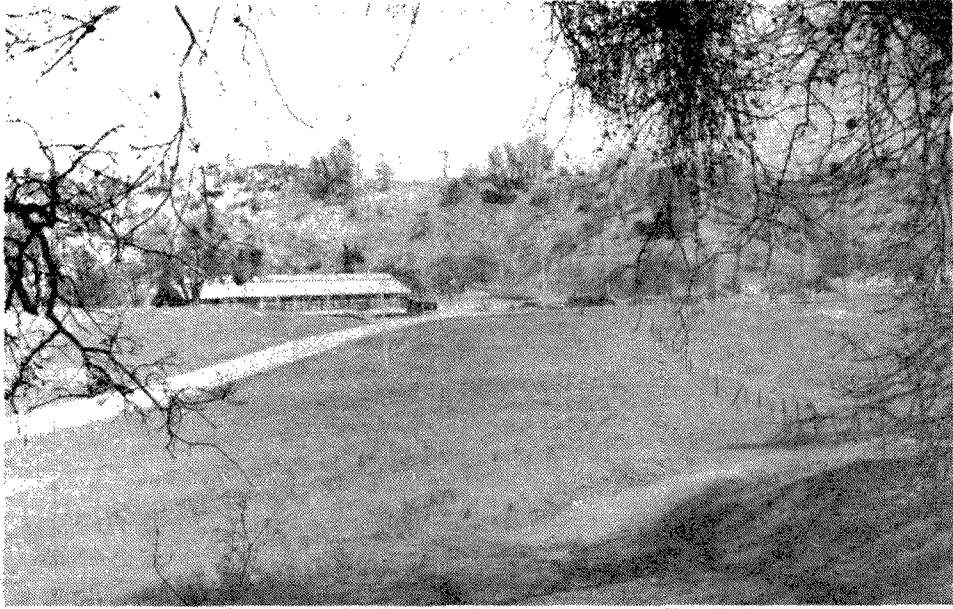
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Marcus Rudnick's La Panza Ranch. Photo by Sean Cassidy and Ken Halla.

PV Students Visit La Panza Ranch

By Georgina Langerquist
Sixth Grade

Just passed Mission San Antonio, a few miles from Jolon, lies Marcus Rudnick's La Panza Ranch.

During a visit by the children of Pacific Valley School, Mr. Rudnick gave a guided tour of the ranch, talked with the students, let everyone ride Paco, one of his gentler horses, and gave everyone cold punch.

The land the ranch is located on is leased from the government by Mr. Rudnick for ranching purposes. He grazes cattle on 140,000 acres from Fort Hunter-Liggett to the ridges of the Santa Lucia Mountains.

Marcus Rudnick is a modern day cowboy. His trademarks are a ten gallon hat

and a scarlet bandana with a gold stick pin. The day we visited him, he wore a blue shirt, jeans, cowboy boots and silver spurs.

"I wear the spurs to keep this beast in line," he said as he stepped out of his light blue pick-up truck.

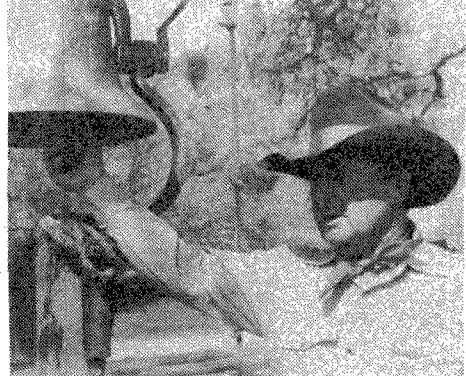
Mr. Rudnick and his wife Marsha have eleven children. He and his wife and his youngest son and daughter live in two double wide mobile homes sitting side by side.

As you walk through the door, the first thing you see is a juke box. Mr. Rudnick happens to be an antique collector as well as a cowboy. Above the juke box hang ropes, bridles and harnesses. To the right is his workshop where he prepares all his own

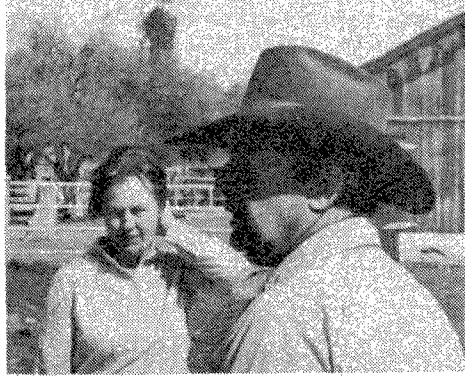
tack. On the wall across from the juke box hangs the head of the Lone Ranger, a large steer which is half Brahma and half Holstein. Mr. Rudnick raised it himself. It was fourteen years old when he slaughtered it and weighed several tons.

While we were there we looked at his horses and the pigs that he daughter raised. One of the pigs was domestic and the other was wild. His horses were the main attraction for the students, especially a seven day old colt.

In the afternoon, Mr. Rudnick let all his horses, except one, out to graze in the pasture across the road from his stables. He explained that if he let that one out with the others he'd fight.



Marcus Rudnick calls the ranch hands to dinner. Photo by Sean Cassidy and Ken Halla.

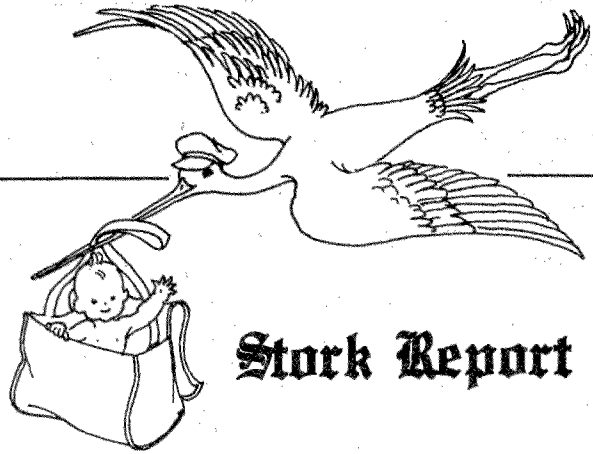


Marcus Rudnick with wife Marsha. Photo by Sean Cassidy and Ken Halla.

"He's a gelding that never got over being a stallion."

By Holly Watson
Fourth Grade

Our school went to Mr. Rudnick's ranch. We got to ride one of his horses named Paco. It was brown with a tan mane and had a white sock on his back leg. We interviewed Mr. Rudnick and taped his answers. Mr. Rudnick was real nice to us (that is the school). He had lots of horses. One of them was a really pretty Arabian. He let us pet most of the horses and some of the time we got to go in their corrals.



Stork Report

Heather Calhoun Born

Teri Calhoun gave birth to a daughter, Hilary Dawn, January 28, 1979. Husband Larry and daughter Heather, who is three, were present for the birth, as were Teri's grandmother and aunt. Hilary weighed 8 pounds 2 ounces and measured 20½ inches, and has brown hair and blue eyes. Teri, a midwife, remarked that the birth was a wonderful experience and that she especially enjoyed having her family there. Larry Calhoun drives the Carmel High School-Middle School bus to and from Big Sur. The Calhouns live in Palo Colorado Canyon.

Raiden Montgomery Brenner

Char and Tom Brenner are the happy parents of their first child, a son, Raiden Montgomery. The eight pound boy was born March 28, 1979 at 10:30 pm at Esalen Institute. Charlie and Dorothy Pias are the proud grandparents.

Captain Cooper Students Receive Basic CPR Training

By Paula Walling

"Clear the mouth. Tilt the head. Pinch the nose. And blow, blow, blow." These are the instructions being given by EMT-qualified Volunteer Ambulance Crew members, Penny Vieregge and Beverly Newell to local school children.

For some six weeks now, children in all grades at Captain Cooper School have received instructions on what to do in case of poisoning, fire, snake bites, insect bites, bleeding and various other emergencies.

For the past two weeks the children have received training in CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation), plus instructions in water safety. The Carmel Chapter of the American Red Cross has loaned their training dummy "Resusca-Annie" for the children to practice on.

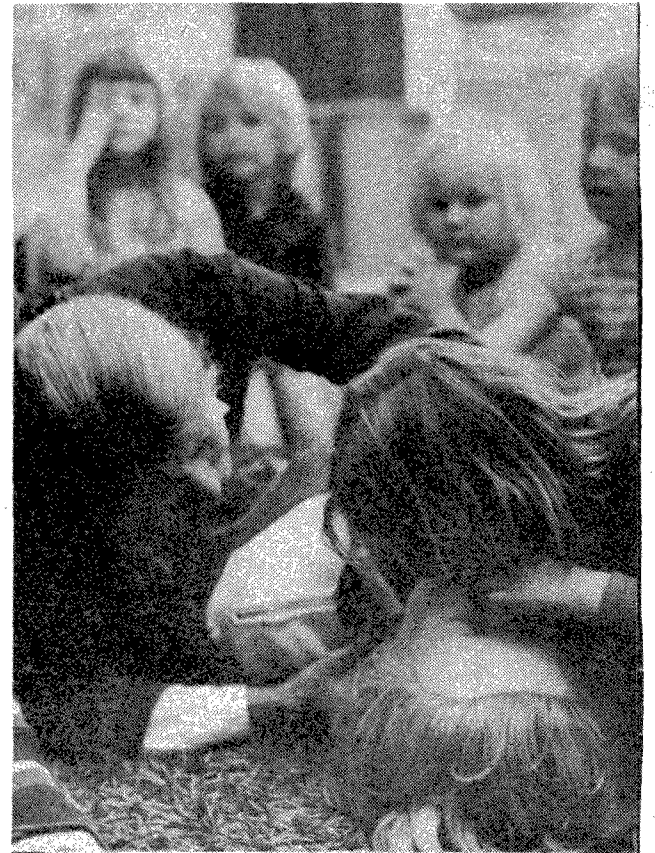
Big Sur children could easily find themselves in an emergency situation where no qualified person is available to help.

Local children (and adults for that matter) are all safer for the instructions being given the school children each week. The levels of training are thoughtfully geared to the ages of the children. Fourth and fifth grade children, for example, are being taught how to splint fractures and bandage wounds, whereas younger children may be told not to move the victim and to apply

pressure to control bleeding (something they should all do).

The children are all anxious to help if they are needed (some will no doubt belong to the Big Sur Volunteer Ambulance Crew one day.) so if you are snoring

alone in the sun on Pfeiffer Beach this summer and a small voice says "Are you all right?" you will know that a Big Sur youngster is just looking out for your well-being. And if you are *not* all right, you will be in small, but good hands.



"PINCH THE NOSE and blow, blow, blow" instructs Penny Vieregge as Ani De Groat gives the "breath of life" to "Resusca Annie," the specially constructed dummy that is used to teach Red Cross CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) classes. In the background are Danielle Rial, John Villa, Charlene Endsley and Sara Lee. Photo by Paula Walling

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TWO MARES with their foals, a colt and a filly, both sired by Handycraft+, welcome the 4-H club members to their ranch.

horses survival in the desert, by supplying liquid nourishment for them.

He went on to describe the differences of the breed explaining that the Polish-bred Arabian was the "drier type" with a dishd head, shorter back, level croup and straight legs.

The Arabian horse, valued for its speed, stamina, beauty, intelligence and gentleness was the earliest improved breed of all the present day light horses. It is said that the first Arabian imported to North America sired the horse used by George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

"Most endurance races are won by an Arab," Lance said, because of their larger lung capacity, longer necks, large nostrils and shorter back (Arabians have 23 rather than the normal 24 vertebrae).

He also added that Arabians have better visual capacity and larger brain cavities even though they are considered relatively small - the average Arabian being 15 hands (60" or 152 centimeters) tall and 800-1,000 pounds (360-450 kilograms).

Lance also explained the freeze-marking method, consisting of markings made with dry ice under the horse's mane, registering the horse for life.

Marnie Sperry, Lynda's sister and co-manager of the ranch, described the feeding, grooming and care to the attentive 4-H members.

"We begin working with the horses at an early age. Grooming and handling them once a day, and getting them used to a halter and lead," Marnie explained. Horses have "an attention span of nil" so 15-20 minutes is usually enough for a young horse.

"It's important to make it a pleasant experience for a young horse when starting training," she added.

When a Jardine Arabian is ready for show competition, they are then trained and shown by trainers Tom and Sandy Sapp of Riverside, CA. Until they reach 3 years of age, they are always shown "in hand" and after 3 years they progress to saddles.

Marnie then proudly introduced some of the Jardine's prize yearlings to the group. First came J. A. Magnificat (Sired by *Bask+, the nation's leading Polish-bred sire, out of Queen Margaretta, one of the top ten park horses). Next shown was Cabin Essence, 2 days younger and half-brother to J. A. Magnificat (also sired by *Bask+ out of Zataza).

A walk down to one of the pastures gave the 4-H members an opportunity to meet two mares with their foals - a filly and a colt - both sired by the famous Handycraft+.

Alan (one of the famous Beach Boys) and Lynda started with a couple of Arabian horses five years ago and began breeding these magnificent horses only 3 years ago. They now have 9 mares, 6 yearling, 1 colt and 2 fillies - one just born April 11th.

Son Matthew has already shown a great interest in riding, while son Adam prefers other activities on the ranch.

The Jardines have developed a quality stable operation with separate bathing and grooming stalls utilizing the most modern equipment including a motorized "hot-walker" for cooling down and drying off the horses after working with them.

The beauty and success of the Jardine Arabians was best explained by Lynda. "We like to help our horses live as much in harmony with Mother Nature as possible."



MARNIE SPERRY, with prize yearling J.A.Magnificat, demonstrates to 4-H members the proper techniques for showing Arabian horses.

Jardine Arabians Host 4-H Club Field Trip

By Ronni Bloom Webster
Photographs by Greg O. Webster

If Alan and Lynda Jardine were not interested in the 4-H Club as youngsters, they certainly are helping 4-H Clubs today.

Recently, Al and Lynda hosted a 4-H Club field trip at their ranch in Big Sur. The 4-H Club members, all from Cachagua, and all interested in horses, visited Jardine Arabians to learn about the famous Arabian horse breed, including their history, breeding and care.

4-H Horse Project Leader Jackie Garner said this was the first year for the project and already there are eight youngsters in the program. Most of the members have their own horses and ride both Western and English style. They will be participating in the King City Fair, May 9-13, and also compete regularly during the summer for awards and the coveted belt buckle, a special merit award.

The 4-H Club members who attended with project leader Jackie Garner were Sarah Johnson, Jennifer Garner, Shea Lefevre, Jennifer Johnson, Susan Iverson and Matthew Garner.

Ranch Foreman Lance Sullivan, who has been with the Jardine's for two years, began the day with a history of the Arabian horses. Using charts and photographs, he showed how the Arabian migrated from North America to Asia and then dispersed - most going south to the Middle East.

According to history, the Arabian was domesticated in 8,000 B.C. The camel, which was domesticated by the Arab Bedouins in 3,500 B.C., was the main reason for the Arabian

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Photography by Horst Mayer

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Mayor of the Unincorporated:**EMIL WHITE**

By Elayne Wareing Fitzpatrick-Grimm

The strong, proud people of Big Sur may be unincorporated, but they've acknowledged a "mayor" for the past quarter of a century --- unelected, and without office space.

He is puckish, curly-headed, Austrian-born Emil Wiesemann, better known (thanks to a harried Chicago book shop switchboard operator, who tired of spelling out his name for callers in the Forties) as Emil White.

"She stuck the 'White' on me," he explained, "to save time, and it's been that way ever since."

Emil's friend Henry Miller, the "rogue elephant of American literature", enticed him to this out-of-the-way coastal wilderness in 1944. He chopped wood and wrote letters for Henry and learned, from Henry, how to paint pictures. Then he stopped chopping wood and writing letters for Henry, and he became an artist-writer himself. He sold paintings, which several said were better than Henry's. Then he began to publish the *Big Sur Guide* which told as many people about this continent's-end paradise as had his mentor's literary works. And whenever mail came to Big Sur addressed to the "Mayor of Big Sur" or the "President of the Chamber of Commerce", mailman Ed Culver would deliver it directly to Emil, who assumed the roles and answered them all.

Emil is currently sojourning in Monterey --- doctor's orders, while recuperating from tuberculosis. He misses his little redwood house in Big Sur. But he's driven, weekly, to the Hot Springs baths at Esalen and visits with his Big Sur friends. Even a mayor of the unincorporated must keep tabs.

"Henry Miller changed my life." Any conversation with Emil necessarily includes the man who, unwittingly, gave him his first job in the States and, later, wittingly, befriended him on Chicago's Michigan Boulevard.

"Before I worked in the book shop, I was a waiter, a bus boy, and a delicatessen clerk. I got the job in the book store during the Depression, and, while I was there, a friend gave me a copy of Miller's first book published in this country - 1938 - *The Cosmological Eye*. I immediately sensed that this was a great writer, never thinking I'd ever meet him. Four years later, I heard he was in Chicago and saw a man coming down the street with his brim over his eye like no American -- maybe like a Frenchman. Could this possibly be Henry Miller? I walked over and asked him. Next thing I knew we were embracing. And I found out, that same day, that fifteen years ago he had been the employment manager of Western Union in New York and had given me a job as a messenger boy. I invited him to a wine lunch with two ladies, and we've been friends ever since," Emil smiled. Books, good food, wine, love for women -- and European. Henry's kind of person.

They kept in touch, even when Emil fled to the Yukon in 1943 to avoid the draft. A year later, the two planned to retreat to Mexico, but when Miller discovered Big Sur, he urged Emil to "come here, because it's even more isolated than Mexico and there's no problem with dysentery."

During their years together in Big Sur, Miller dedicated his book, *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*, "To Emil White of Anderson Creek, one of the few friends who has never failed me." He also wrote about Emil in *My Bike and Other Friends*. Emil reciprocated. He had edited and

published his own book, *Henry Miller - Between Heaven and Hell*, and included Miller writings in his *Big Sur Guide*.

They had some arguments, as close friends always do. But the major one was over who was to blame for the influx of tourists, disturbing the peace of their unique mountain-sea utopia. Emil tells it this way:

"In his first enthusiasm over Big Sur, Henry looked at this place as a paradise with room for thousands to come. He wanted to share its awesome beauty with everyone, and he visualized that someday there'd be many terraces with round tables and colorful umbrellas. People would be sitting around on the terraces of villas, and the slopes would be dotted with chapels and monasteries, as in Greece. They'd be sipping wine from goblets, just enjoying all the beauty. Then, when people started coming, he had a change of mind. He didn't want so many to come, so he wrote an entirely different story for my *Big Sur Guide* -- the final issue -- and that's where I argued with him -- in print. It's an old story. Those people who are in want to keep the new ones out. That's usually the case in all the paradises that are discovered. Most of the time they're discovered by artists first. Then the others start moving in. Rents are cheap, and then it gets more and more expensive."

In that last issue of the "Guide", Miller wrote: "....all these neighbors were a boon and a delight, individuals to the core. They lived in Big Sur because they belonged. The people I couldn't abide were the visitors, the ones who came from nowhere and everywhere, to dig, to probe, to analyze, to ask silly questions or discuss burning topics of no consequence. It's true, I must admit, that I myself was largely responsible for the invasion of these idiots. Had I not written about Big Sur, no one would have been the wiser. Emil White is also responsible in that he advertised the place to the world. Here we are, writing about Big Sur once more. Soon everybody will be writing about it: 'Come, have a close look. Look, see, tell your friends about it. Visit the art colony, if you can find it, that is. Take a hot mineral bath and give yourself an intellectual treat. Attend the potluck revue at the Grange. Sleep under the redwoods. Dance at Nepenthe in the cool of the evening when the love-making begins. Ah, yes! It's a wonderful place, Big Sur, for an outing or a week's vacation. So quiet, so serene. The ocean before you, the mountains behind you. It must be wonderful to live in such a place forever! It is. But think twice about it before you try it. Or read Robinson Jeffers first. He described it all before it ever happened. He saw it as a poet would see it. Jeffers didn't make it attractive. He made it dramatic, violent, awesome. And that's what Big Sur is even today. But you won't discover that until you live there awhile. And how will you get to live there? It's the hardest place in the world to find a piece of land on which to erect a shack or a mansion. A few lucky devils own most of the land there, but they're not parting with it, glory be!"

Emil reflected on Henry's reproachful contribution, and printed it, but with sardonic editorial comment. His answer in part, went this way:

"You forget that the visitors you were talking about, the ones you couldn't abide, were not the average tourists but your so-called fans. And those, my dear Henry, would have come to pester you no matter where you lived. They would have come even if you'd never written a word about Big Sur."

Come to think of it, I believe there were more fans climbing your hillside before the appearance of your *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*, for in its pages you made it quite clear that the visitors kept you from your work and they should stay away. As for my *Big Sur Guide*'s advertising the place to the world, yes, I plead guilty. However, I would like to point out that of the 70,000 or so copies, at least ninety per cent were bought by tourists who were already in Big Sur and only about 7,000 copies went out into the world -- this over a ten year period. During the same time, there must have been at least ten illustrated articles on Big Sur in as many national magazines and newspapers with a possible circulation of about 30,000,000 readers. Every one of these articles mentioned the fact that you lived here in Big Sur. Yet, there was no noticeable invasion of sight-seers up to your hillside. And so, dear old friend, there must have been something else that was bugging you when you wrote the article above. Perhaps you were sore, and quite rightly, at the world for making such a mess of things instead of heeding your wise words, your life-long philosophy....An isolated paradise may be good for the soul, but the paradise which belongs to all because it was made by all is the one we all long to inhabit. I believe it will come. I know it will come."

Has Big Sur changed since the arrival of Henry and Emil? Not the place, just the population. In 1944, Emil said, there were thirty-five people between River Inn and Hot Springs. Now he thinks there are probably about 600. There were some forty houses then. "Now there must be 400. But Big Sur has only changed if you happen to be on the highway or near the park and see thousands of cars during the summer. The feeling of the place hasn't changed much, especially in areas like Partington Ridge. The mountains are the same. The scenery's the same. The fog is the same," he mused.

However, with so many people living in the hills that he doesn't even know, "it's not quite the same." For example, he said, "When I first came to Big Sur I didn't know much about plumbing or building, but I learned fast. The people taught me. We were closer than we are now. Of the thirty-five people here then, we all considered each other neighbors even though we may have lived thirty to fifty miles apart. When anyone heard that somebody's roof was leaking or somebody needed help with repairs, a work party would be organized. The women would get a picnic lunch together, the men would get their tools, and then the fun would begin. It really would. Once I had a Model A. I didn't know anything about fixing it. It clunked out on me various times on the road, and I'd leave it where it stopped. A few days later, I'd find it in front of my place all fixed. One of the highway crew would see it, fix it, and bring it home. That's the kind of neighbors we were. Very few of us had any money then, and we shared everything. Somebody got a deer, and there was a big party. Somebody got some abalone, another party. Once in awhile, someone would find a calf that had fallen off a cliff, and we'd have a feast together. We didn't have electricity, but somehow we made our own music, too."

A few years ago, Emil made a prediction that now Big Sur is preserved -- for the millionaires. "I was right," he said. "Not too long ago a man came to see me, introducing himself as my new neighbor. He'd just bought an estate for \$2,000,000!"

Emil's friend Henry left Big Sur in 1961, partly, Emil said, "because his wife divorced him and moved in with a neighbor, partly because his children, Val and Tony, were in school in Pacific Palisades and he wanted to be near them, but mostly because Grove Press decided to spend \$1,000,000 to fight the ban on his books and wanted him near the city, near lawyers. It's easier to hide in Los Angeles than in Big Sur." Emil's characteristic impish grin punctuated that last statement.

But Emil stayed on to play out the role he'd chosen. He'd already been bull-dozed out of his Anderson Creek "guard house" cabin, moved from a home he'd built on Hot Springs property, and had settled in a new one in Graves Canyon, just south of Nepenthe on Highway One. He'd been married and divorced twice. The first marriage was to Anna Monter, a woman described by Miller as "one of the most ravishingly beautiful women that ever passed through Big Sur." That was in 1947 and lasted a year. He was married to Patricia Roberts in 1953. She helped him edit his *Guide* and bore him two sons, Stefan and Daniel, during an eight-year relationship that friend Henry expressed reservations about. "They were deliberately giving each other the silent treatment," he'd observed.

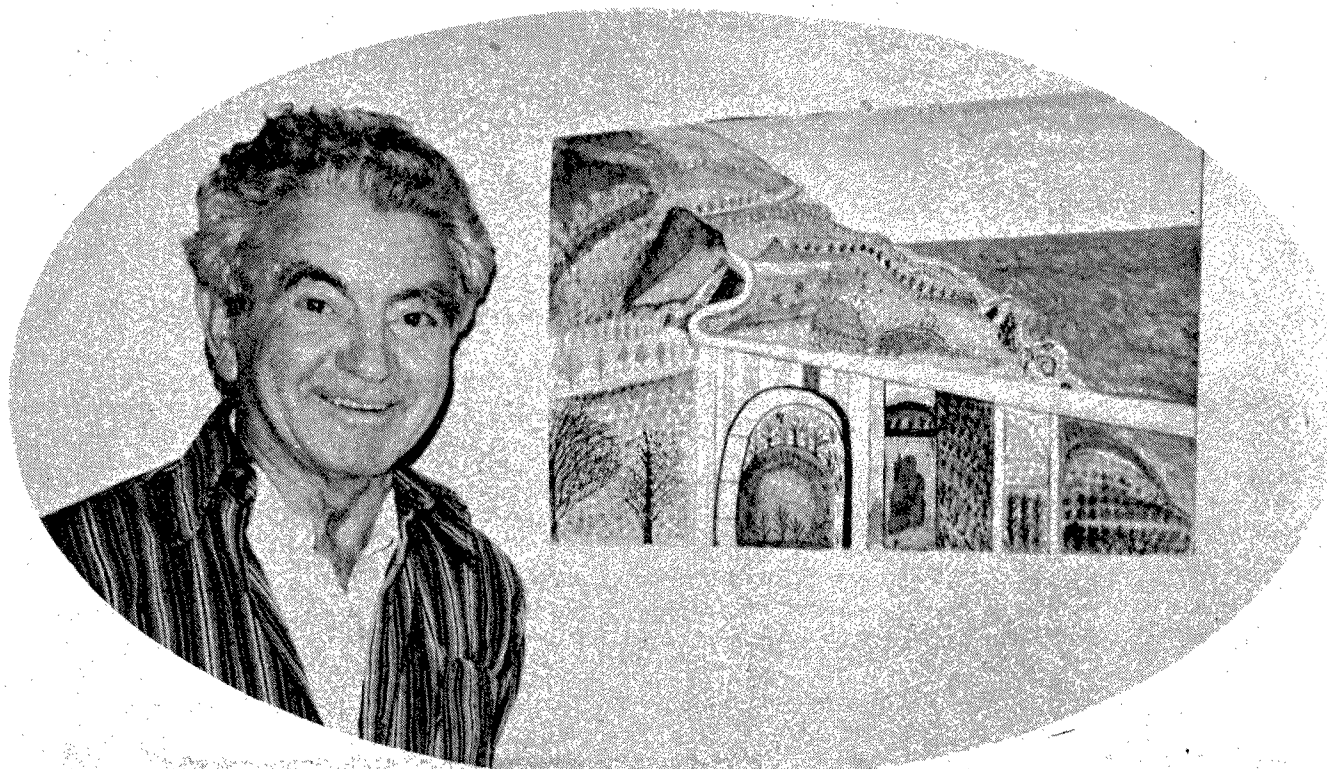
Profits from the *Big Sur Guide* had left Emil comfortable and well-traveled. But Big Sur was home, even without Henry. And, after all, hadn't Henry looked at him as the great lover of Big Sur? How could the great lover-mayor abandon his domain? Hadn't Henry referred to his house as "a halfway station for transitory females?" A reputation not to be lightly considered. Even in his seventies, suffering some ill health, he couldn't let his fans down nor make a liar of Henry!

Now, while he's on the mend from TB, his fans are still visiting him in his Monterey Pines apartment. Miller fans still seek him out, too -- a new generation of Henry Miller lovers who have also read about Emil. "One is a Basque girl, Christy Astuy, a student at Monterey Peninsula College. She writes poetry and has been a fan of Henry for years. She wrote to him in Pacific Palisades. He's in his late eighties now and can hardly see. And do you know he wrote back to her anyway? Maybe he was as surprised as I am that this new generation reads him when the market is flooded with sex-oriented literature that makes Henry's look mild."

Emil receives letters too, the latest from a young business man he'd met at the Hot Springs -- one who had just finished reading Miller's assessment of Emil in *My Bike and Other Friends*.

Addressed to "The Lover of Big Sur," the letter read, "I enjoyed reading such a candid (I guess) description of a delightful man -- Emil White. If Henry Miller chose you as his dear close friend, he's not only a brilliant writer and gifted painter, but a wise man as well!"

"Lover of Big Sur," "Henry Miller's dear close friend," or "Mayor of the unincorporated." A man could hardly ask for more satisfying labels in a lifetime than Emil White's.



Emil poses in his Monterey quarters beside his painting of Big Sur's Bixby Bridge.

The Big Sur Gazette

THE 1962 MONTEREY COUNTY COAST MASTER PLAN

Editor's Preface

When the Big Sur Coast Master Plan was adopted in 1962, it was hailed as an innovative and farsighted land use plan. It has been used as a model for planning in other areas of the country, and it has been referred to locally as "our environmental constitution."

The Master Plan's major intent was to preserve the unparalleled beauty of the Big Sur Coast "without imposing unjustifiable restrictions on present and future property owners."

For the past seventeen years, with the support and cooperation of the landowners and with the judicious administration by the county, the Master Plan has succeeded in preserving the spectacular beauty of the Big Sur Coast.

Since the passage of Proposition 20 in 1972, and as a result of the 1976 Coastal Act, all coastal areas in California are required to either update their general plans or develop a new plan.

Rather than updating the existing Master Plan, the County Planning Department has opted to develop a new plan, called the Local Coastal Plan, the writing of which is presently underway.

The Big Sur Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), which was appointed by Supervisor Sam Farr, has been discussing the issues and contributing input to the County Planners.

During the next few months the county will present a draft of the new plan to the community.

As a community service the Gazette has reprinted the entire 1962 Master Plan in the following pages so that local citizens can refresh themselves with "what has been" in order to better evaluate the forthcoming proposals for "what will be."

Freedom and democracy depend on an informed and enlightened citizenry. It is in this spirit the Gazette presents the 1962 Master Plan.

THE 1962 MONTEREY COUNTY COAST MASTER PLAN

Prepared by
THE MONTEREY COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

INTRODUCTION

A master plan expresses the people's desire to protect and shape their future environment. It is both a statement of policy and a picture of the physical form toward which development should be guided. The great interest shown in the Monterey County coast area in the last few years has created a fear that ruthless development will destroy the scenic beauty that makes this area so desirable. Various individuals and groups of property owners have developed master plans for all or portions of the coast indicating their ideas of the physical form that should be set as a guide for future development. These plus innumerable comments received from individuals during the course of this study have been carefully considered. The major similarities and basic research that went into their preparation form the foundation of this master plan.

THE MONTEREY COUNTY COAST AREA

The area under study, extending along the coast of Monterey County from Malpaso Creek to the southerly Monterey County Line, is world renowned for its scenic grandeur. The precipitous cliffs cut by deep canyons made the construction of Highway One through this area one of the most costly and hazardous highway projects undertaken at that time. However, it opened to thousands of tourists a land which prior to its development had been seen by only the most rugged pioneers.

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY ONE

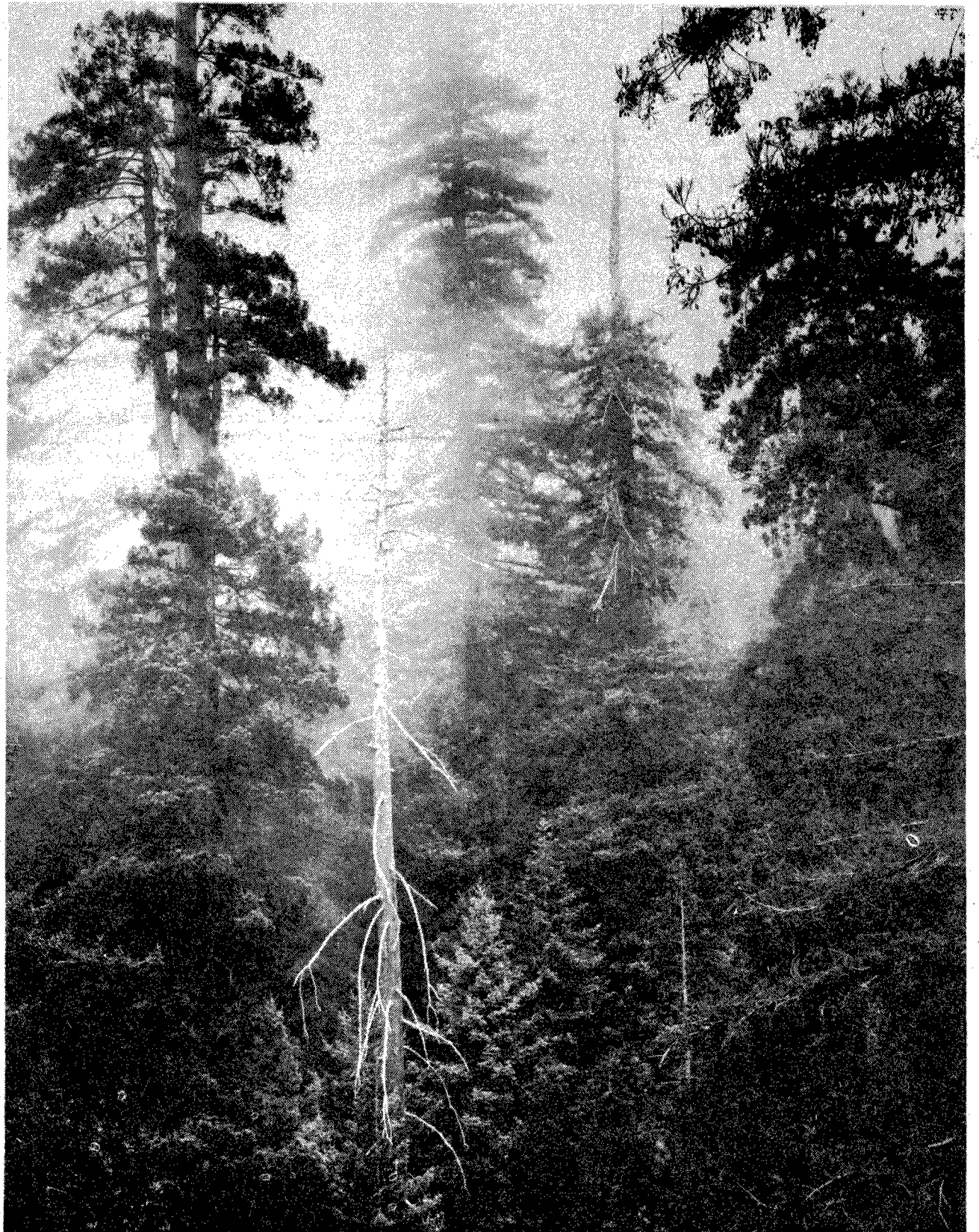
The highway which makes any development of Monterey County's coastal area feasible crosses

broad coastal plains with wide sandy beaches and foamy tumbling surf to steep mountains with cliffs that terminate in a welter of spray from waves dashed on rocks hundreds of feet below. It is two lanes wide, frequently existing as a narrow shelf along vertical cliffs or spanning deep canyons on spectacular bridges. It winds back into redwood clad ravines to cross narrow streams, then climbs the hillsides to emerge once more into a breathtaking view of the ocean. It traverses areas of sagebrush-covered hillsides and avenues of giant redwoods in its 72 miles within this Coast Master Plan Area, offering scenery to suit the mood of any resident or traveler.

THE PEOPLE

The 1960 Census shows a population within the

Continued to next page



Photograph by Larry Secrist

Continued from previous page

master plan area of 659. This also shows that almost two thirds of these people or 413 live north of Grimes Creek while only 246 live south of Grimes Creek. In other words, two thirds of the people live in the northern one third of the area.

The average family size is only 2.5 according to the census in comparison to an average of 3.5 for all of Monterey County.

SCHOOLS

Within this area, there are 154 school-age children. The long distances involved require that a majority of the elementary children must be transported to the three schools that serve it.

The scattered population also makes a high school impractical. Children of high-school age receive their education in other school districts.

EXISTING LAND USE

A large part of the rugged terrain that predominates is devoted to watershed and wildlife. Grazing of cattle is practiced on portions of the steep hillsides and rolling terrain. Canyons along streams are generally covered with redwood trees and giant ferns reminiscent of the "rain forests" in Northern California and Oregon.

Residential development generally has been in the north portion of the study area extending from the Carmel Highlands area southerly, in some of the canyons such as Palo Colorado, along ridges like Partington and otherwise in scattered units relatively close to the highway.

Commercial facilities primarily devoted to tourist services such as motels, restaurants, campgrounds, and service stations are generally located in the Big Sur Valley. Those commercial establishments that are scattered along the highway south of Big Sur serve the traveling public by furnishing necessary facilities at reasonable intervals along the highway.

EXISTING RECREATION

The Monterey County Park and Recreation Plan recommended acquisition of a number of the beautiful sandy beaches in this area. Only a small portion of these have been acquired to date but valuable additions to the popular Pfeiffer Redwoods State Park at Big Sur have been made. The most recent of these is the Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, an 1800 acre gift to the state.

The U. S. Forest Service also maintains increasingly popular camping and picnicking facilities close to Highway One at Pacific Valley in addition to the more primitive camps in Los Padres Forest which can only be reached by trail.

THE MASTER PLAN

THE OBJECTIVE

The Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, and all of those concerned with this area have had as a common goal the development of a workable master plan by which the spectacular scenery of the Monterey County Coastal Area can be preserved without imposing unjustifiable restrictions on present or future property owners.

GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS

The Master Plan is based on the following fundamental assumptions:

- 1 That there is need for a master plan from Malpaso Creek to the south boundary of Monterey County.
- 2 That the area is unique and worthy of special consideration to protect and preserve its natural and scenic beauty.
- 3 That Highway One should be developed as a scenic highway giving special consideration to the area through which it passes. It is not, and should not be developed as an express or high-speed highway. Improvements should only be made when warranted and then only with sensitive treatment.
- 4 That there is a need for architectural and site control along Highway One.
- 5 That there is need for commercial and tourist accommodations to meet present and future requirements.
- 6 That density control is necessary.

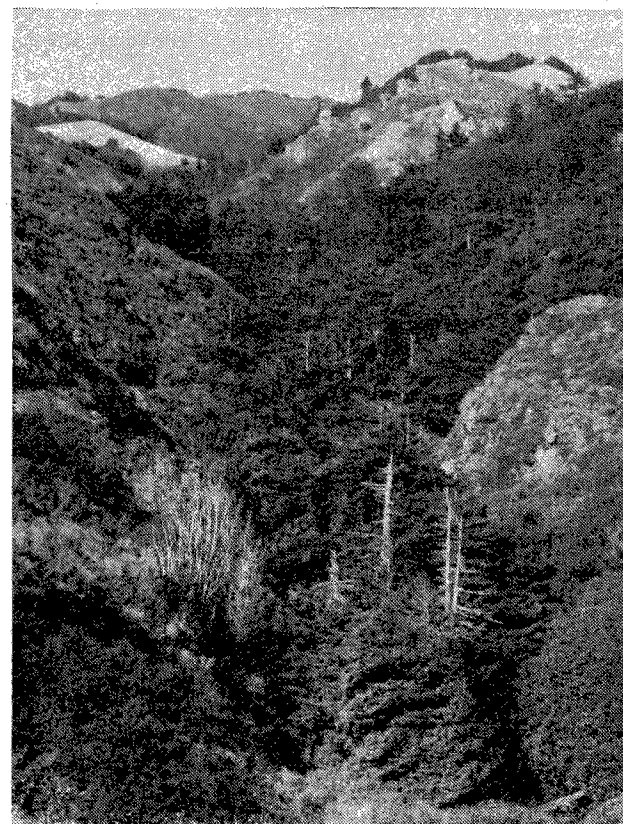
PRINCIPLES OF DEVELOPMENT

- I To keep the master plan for the coast area general in nature and sufficiently flexible in type to be tolerant of changing conditions while being receptive to individual needs. The entire area is worthy of special treatment, and the entire plan must be founded on this principle. A plan must supply broad guide lines for the future, while at the same time, provide a yardstick by which each detailed plan can be properly measured.
- II It may seem premature to develop a final plan for much of the area under consideration because of its relatively undeveloped nature with little or no trend on which to support final decisions. However, broad overall densities must be developed on which to base current and future plans. This recognizes the need for consideration of individual holdings providing for variation of lot size based on detailed site selection studies.
- III There is need to give special consideration to established communities or areas where lot size trend has been developed over a number of years.
- IIII The plan should recognize that interest in the area is now attractive and will continue to attract increasing numbers of visitors. This plus the natural growth envisaged by the plan may result in ultimate highway improvement.

STANDARDS OF DEVELOPMENT

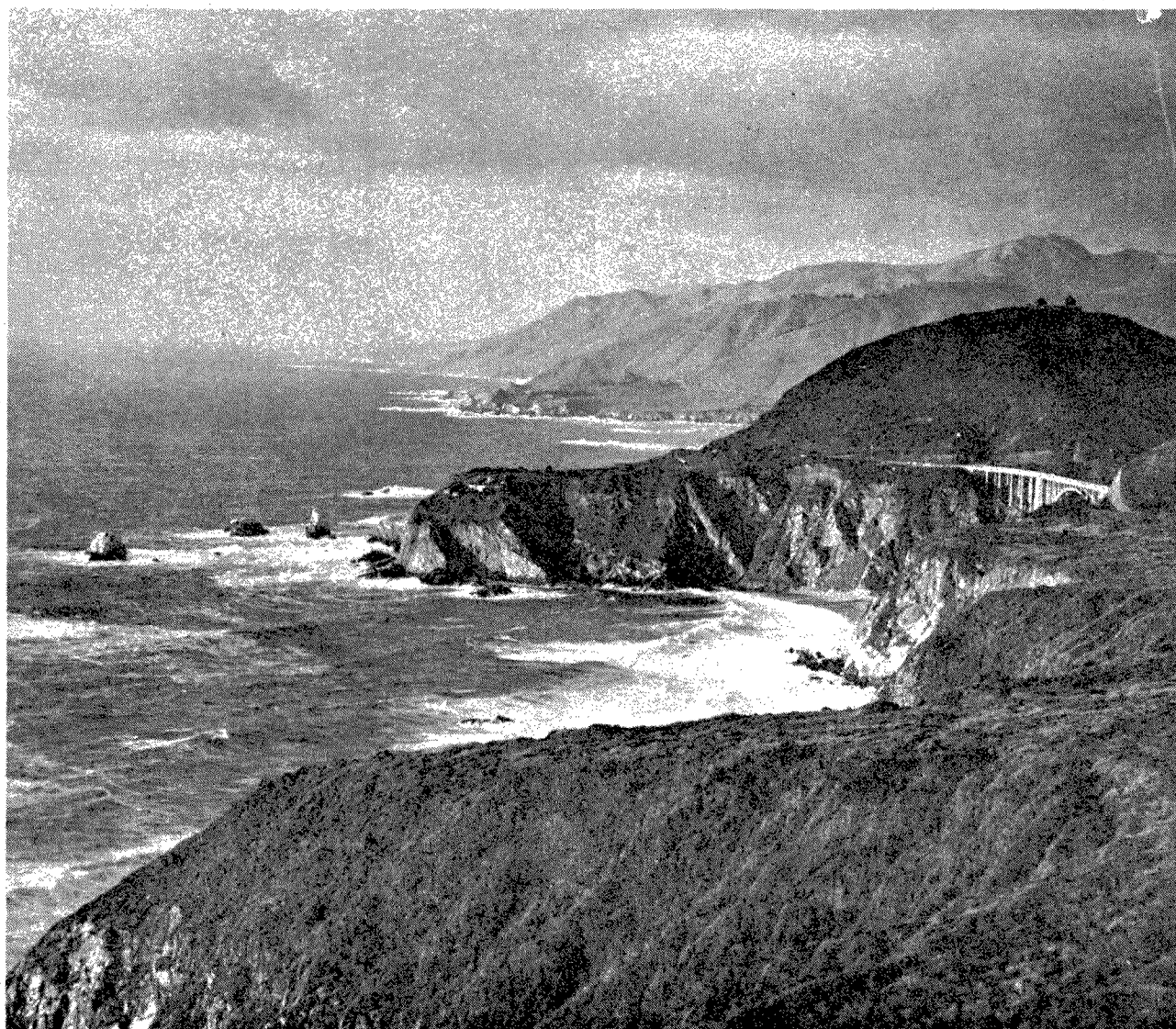
The following standards are used in the development of this Master Plan for Monterey County Coast Area:

- 1 It is the purpose of the plan to encourage open space; therefore, recommended density should simply set up a ratio of living unit related to acreage. The plan should provide for a method to consider dwelling or resort hotel units at the same broad density rate provided for in the plan, while allowing the units to cluster or group in such a way that additional open space is retained.
- 2 That clustering or grouping of living units be considered under the use permit procedure providing a means of evaluating each plan or property on its own merit.
- 3 Encourage single-family residential clustering to a minimum building site area of one acre. This would be accomplished by precised development plans being presented and approved by the Planning Commission as justified by the parcel of land under consider-



Photograph by Larry Secrist

- ation as related to the entire area.
- 4 That property owners be encouraged to keep their land in agricultural or open use with the necessary zoning provided to give them all tax benefits available.
- 5 That existing commercial establishments and zones be recognized for future expansion or development.
- 6 That additional commercial zones be considered on individual merit and community need.
- 7 That existing tourist establishments and zones be recognized for future expansion and development and:
 - Additional units be considered on individual merit as well as need to be served. New units when found to be advisable should be allowed to a density of one living unit per acre.
- 8 Designate Highway One as a scenic highway, giving it the same careful consideration as the landscape through which it passes, in effect, a scenic corridor.
- 9 The present highway should be kept as a local service and recreational facility and no drastic realignment of the roadway or replacing of bridges with fills should be undertaken.
- 10 That turn-out areas be developed wherever practicable.



Photograph by Larry Secrist

- 11 That a 100 foot building setback line be established along the entire length of Highway One.
- 12 That the meander line be retained to define that area which is visible from the highway. Special architectural, site, and landscaping control should be developed between this line and the ocean. Careful consideration should be given to private roads, minimizing scars which might be created by cut and fill operations. Encourage development east of the visual line and minimize density between the visual line and the ocean thereby retaining as much of the natural appearance as is practical.
- 13 That in the evaluation of precise plans, prime consideration be given to the area between the ocean and the highway. It is not the intent to stop all building in this area but to be assured that the structures erected are responsive to good location and site selection practices.
- 14 Careful consideration must be given to height control on the ocean side of Highway One, recognizing that in many places, because of terrain, this may not be a problem. In others, structures may be obtrusive unless flexible standards are developed.
- 15 Wherever feasible, utilities in this area should be placed underground.
- 16 That beaches be proposed for acquisition in keeping with the adopted beach acquisition plan of the County.
- 17 That coordination with the State Small Craft Harbors Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be maintained which would lead to development of at least two harbors of refuge in this area.
- 18 That all levels of governments, county, state, and federal, cooperate to accomplish the objectives of the Master Plan through the development of public property.
- 19 That existing divisions of land which are less than that required by the plan at the time of its adoption be approved as building sites.
- 20 The plan should be periodically reviewed and re-evaluated, thereby providing a dynamic guide for the protection of the area's natural and scenic values.
- 21 That individual property owners be encouraged to develop precise plans for the development of their property based on the broad guide lines established by the Master Plan.

FUTURE POPULATION

Projection of population is essential to the development of any master plan as a necessary part of the land use element as well as the circulation element. The unusual character of the Monterey County Coastal Area requires that certain specific assumptions be made in regard to population based on past experience. There are:

- 1 The greatest growth will continue to be in the portion of the area north of the Big Sur Valley, particularly in the extreme north portion where it is an extension of the Carmel Highlands development.
- 2 The choice locations for development have been and will continue to be the lower slopes with access along the highway and county roads.
- 3 Lack of public water supply will be a deterrent to rapid large scale development and portions of the area near canyons with year-round flowing streams will develop prior to other comparable parcels.
- 4 Owners of large parcels of land will continue to hold it in large parcels.
- 5 Distances to sources of employment will require that a large portion of permanent residents of this area will continue to be retired or semi-retired people.

With these assumptions and based on practical densities feasible for the terrain, it is estimated that the population of this area will not exceed 3,500 permanent residents in the study area by 1980.

HIGHWAYS & ROADS

HIGHWAY ONE

Highway One (California's Wonderful One)

peregrinating the length of the study area is of prime concern to residents and tourists alike. It is the desire of the people of Monterey County to retain the scenery and natural beauty along the highway corridor. However, continued population growth and inevitable increase of tourist travel will require widening of this highway facility for even minimum traffic safety.

Surveys have indicated that there are a number of areas along this highway where widening for slow traffic turnouts is feasible without scarring hillsides, eliminating redwoods, or otherwise marring the beauty of this scenic corridor. These areas should be utilized to the fullest extent possible to meet traffic demands before attempting to increase the width of the entire highway.

The recent report on a preliminary plan for scenic highways authorized by SCR #39 recommends this highway as a scenic highway defined as:

"A highway which traverses an area of outstanding scenic quality - the location and design of which will receive special analysis for the purpose of enhancing the motorists' scenic experience."

In this we concur and feel this can be accomplished through the sensitive treatment of future road projects, the control of access, the establishment of special architectural, site and landscape control in the visual line area, and a 100 foot setback along the entire length of Highway One.

The 100 foot setback line on both sides of Highway One should be retained but the county should give sympathetic consideration to requests for a variance where such setback creates a definite hardship to the property owner or creates a situation inconsistent with the purposes of the plan.

OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ROADS

To be entirely successful in providing a high degree of protection for the overall landscape, the same careful consideration must be used in the location of county roads and private drives. Each road should be planned for its ultimate capacity based on established densities. Individual consideration should be given to design with special regard to the terrain through which it passes.

LAND USE

The Master Plan map indicates agriculture in the form of watershed and grazing for the overall area with development consisting predominantly of single-family residential and recreational uses. Commercial and tourist-oriented facilities are included in the plan where necessary to serve the needs of the residents and vacationists while industry is eliminated as being detrimental and incompatible with the objectives of the plan.

DENSITY

As has been indicated previously, most of the concern of the people in the area has been for possible loss of open space. Primary concern in the Master Plan has been given to determination of practical densities of living units to retain as much open space as possible. Recommended density simply sets up a ratio of living unit related to acreage.

OVERALL

The need for greater densities on the flatter slopes of the coastal area has been recognized by establishing 2½acre overall density in the area between Malpaso Creek and Soberanes Point, thus providing an orderly expansion of the Carmel Highlands Development. Here the more gentle slopes between the highway and the ocean can be utilized to better advantage for residential development while retaining open space between buildings. This is also true in the land from the highway to the ocean from Soberanes Point to

Continued to next page



Photograph by Larry Seclist

Continued from previous page

Rocky Creek, while on the steeper terrain on the easterly side of the highway, five acre density is considered the maximum feasible. With only a few exceptions, to be noted later, the steepness of the terrain in the rest of the coastal area makes it impractical to maintain densities higher than one family per five acres from the ocean to the highway and one family per ten acres east of the highway.

These overall densities are tabulated as follows:

- (1) Malpaso Creek to Soberanes Point - 2½ Acres
- (2) Soberanes Point to Rocky Creek - ocean to highway - 2½ Acres east of highway - 5 Acres
- (3) Rocky Creek to the south boundary of Monterey County - ocean to highway - 5 Acres east of highway - 10 Acres

Within all of these areas it is recognized that there are parcels or portions more suitable for building than others.

Clustering of single-family residences of a minimum of one acre per residence is to be encouraged within the practical density framework outlined above. This will allow more advantageous use of property with larger untouched open space parcels remaining. Within all of these areas, a "visual" line has been delineated on the plan representing the portion of the area east of the highway and therefore most easily affected by development. Between this line and the ocean, design and site control will be maintained.

ESTABLISHED COMMUNITIES

Established communities generally developed on a basis of 2½ acres per building site remain in the master plan as 2½ acre density. These are the following:

- (1) Palo Colorado - Garrapata Canyons
- (2) Big Sur Valley
- (3) Sycamore Canyon
- (4) Coastlands

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TOURISTS

Tourist accommodations such as motels, trailer parks, and campgrounds where approved: One living unit per acre.

SPECIAL TREATMENT

The relatively level land between the highway and the ocean from the Little Sur River to the mouth of the Big Sur River should be developed as a special treatment area. Plans for density, site control and method of development must be approved by the Planning Commission, thus giving individual attention to this area.

In the Big Sur Valley, from River Inn to Coastlands, the density per living unit for motels, trailer courts, and camps should be reduced to one half (½) acre.

That the Victorine Ranch area be considered for "ST" classification with a precise density of one unit per two acres. This is the only large acreage on which development is imminent and domestic water is available. Such a development would recognize the flatter slopes just south of Malpaso Creek and at the same time permit a transitional area between the residential estates of Carmel Highlands on the north and the steeper grazing lands on the south. This would provide for the allocation of building sites located on flatter land and yet be within the broad densities established under the master plan over a larger area.

COMMERCIAL

Existing commercial establishments and zones are shown on the Master Plan map, and it is recognized that there will be need for expansion of them. As the permanent population of the area becomes established, retail facilities and services will become more economically feasible. In general, these should be located in areas of permanent population or as expansions of existing facilities.

TOURIST FACILITIES

Motels, restaurants, trailer parks, campgrounds and other similar tourist facilities should be expanded where economic feasibility and necessity for service to the traveling public is shown. New developments of this type should only be allowed after extensive study and with living units based on the overall density provided for in this plan. The Master Plan map shows this use presently concentrated in the Big Sur Valley with a density of one living unit per acre recommended.

SCHOOLS

It is anticipated that the existing three elementary school sites will continue to serve the people of this area, with continued transportation for a majority of the children remaining a necessity. Low density of population, lack of centralized community, and small family size make it uneconomic to establish more schools.

Of the possible 700 school children in the area by 1980, probably not more than 230 will be of high school age. It is extremely unlikely that the people of the coast will want to support a high school with so few children when almost all of them will have to be transported. Continued use of other school districts by the high school age children is contemplated and no high school site is proposed in the Master Plan.

CONSERVATION

Emphasis should be placed on conservation for the entire area. The scenic easement concept should be utilized to preserve open space, to encourage retention of watersheds, and to encourage landowners to give careful consideration to the development of their land in achieving this objective.

RECREATION

The increasing popularity of camping and of the need of additional facilities is manifest by the number of people unable to find accommodations in Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park each year. In 1961, the total number of turnaways was 8,863 cars, with a peak of 4,742 in August. Private facilities with no limitation on length of stay remain full throughout the summer season. Expansion of both public and private camping facilities is a necessity now and the need will become greater in the future.

BEACHES

The Monterey County Beach Acquisition Plan as it now is in effect has been used as a guide in proposals for acquisition of beaches shown on the Master Plan. The following beaches are shown as recommended for acquisition:

- (1) Soberanes Beach
- (2) Garrapata Beach
- (3) Little Sur Beach
- (4) Big Sur Beach
- (5) Partington Canyon Beach
- (6) Limekiln Beach

The beach at Pfeiffer Point is publicly owned but reached only by private road. A public recreational road should be established to this beach in the near future.

HARBORS

The 105 miles of coastline from Monterey Bay to Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County is one of the longest stretches of unprotected coastline in the State of California. This has been recognized in plans of the Small Craft Harbors Commission with recommendation that harbors of refuge be established at 30 mile intervals along the coast. It is recommended that two or more of the following sites be considered:

- (1) Rockland Landing
- (2) Lucia
- (3) Big Sur River Mouth
- (4) Pfeiffer Point

CONCLUSIONS

This Monterey County Coast Master Plan has been developed with a basic consideration of conservation and retention of the scenic qualities of the coastal area. The Monterey County Planning Commission and staff have attempted to coordinate in the plan the ideas of the people from this part of Monterey County.

The Master Plan is designed to provide maximum protection to the people of the area by acting as a guide to future development. It will preserve and enhance its scenic and rural character and still provide for continued growth. With it as a guide, Highway One should continue to be a scenic way serving Monterey County's spectacular coastal area.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Master Plan should be adopted as a part of the overall Monterey County General Plan. To make it truly effective, it should be followed immediately with such regulations as are needed to accomplish the purpose set forth in this Master Plan. However, this should not be limited to traditional concepts, but new devices and techniques should be investigated and used if appropriate.

Since this entire area is still relatively undeveloped and there is little or no trend on which to support final decisions, it should be subject to periodic review to keep it up to date with changing conditions, ideas, and future development. Such review should not be allowed to defeat its basic intent but only be a re-evaluation to keep it as a dynamic, workable tool for protection of the qualities that make the Monterey County Coast desirable today.



Photograph by Larry Secrist

"A guitar is like a woman" ... so is a guitar case. Especially this one. A young lady he loved asked him to paint scenes from the last Joan Baez Folk Festival in Big Sur on her guitar case. He recovered the case in France, has hung it on his wall with other recovered paintings, and sometimes holds it affectionately, like this ...



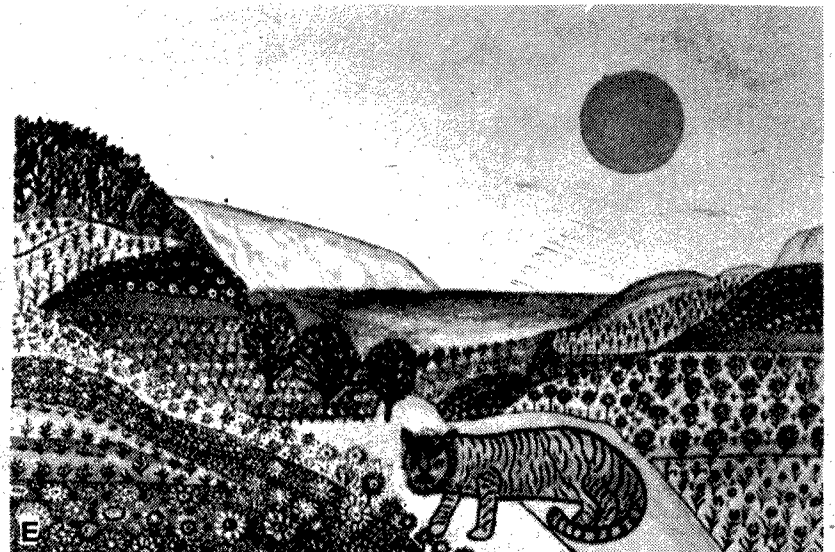
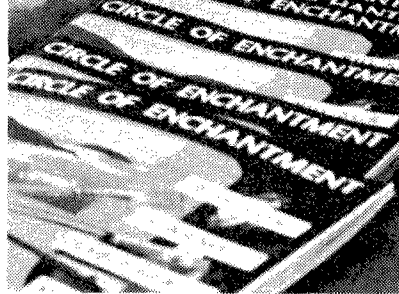
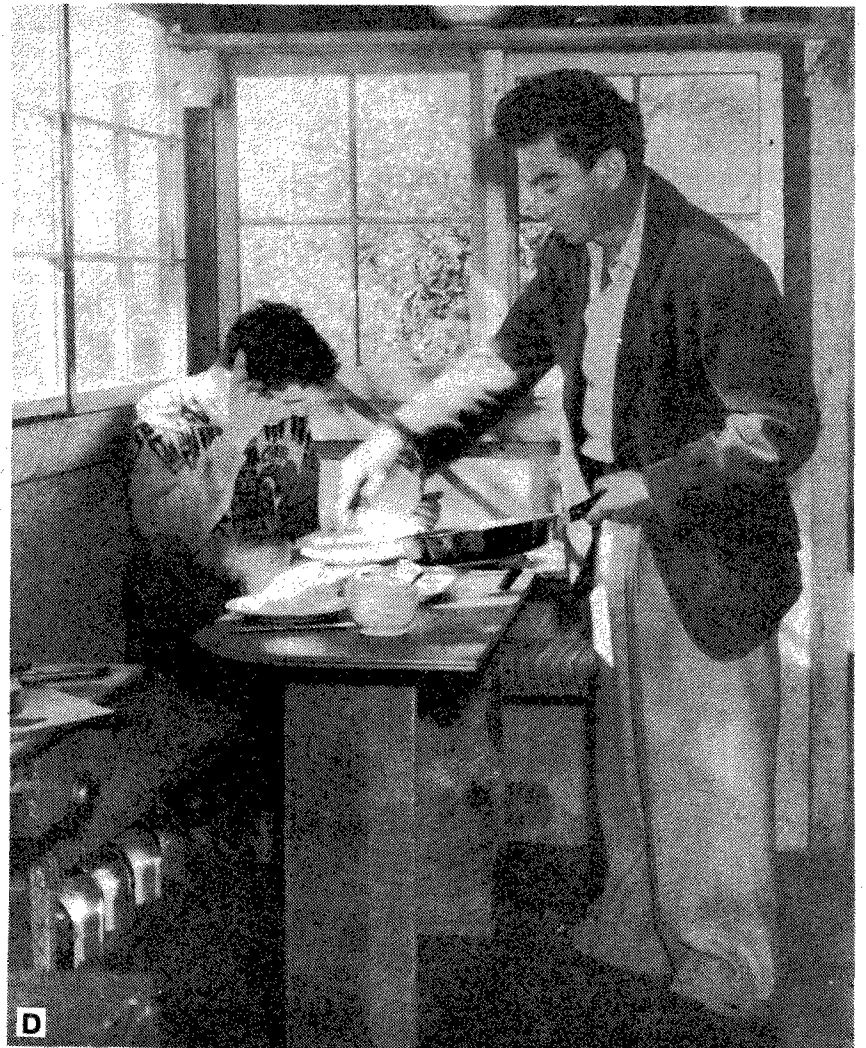
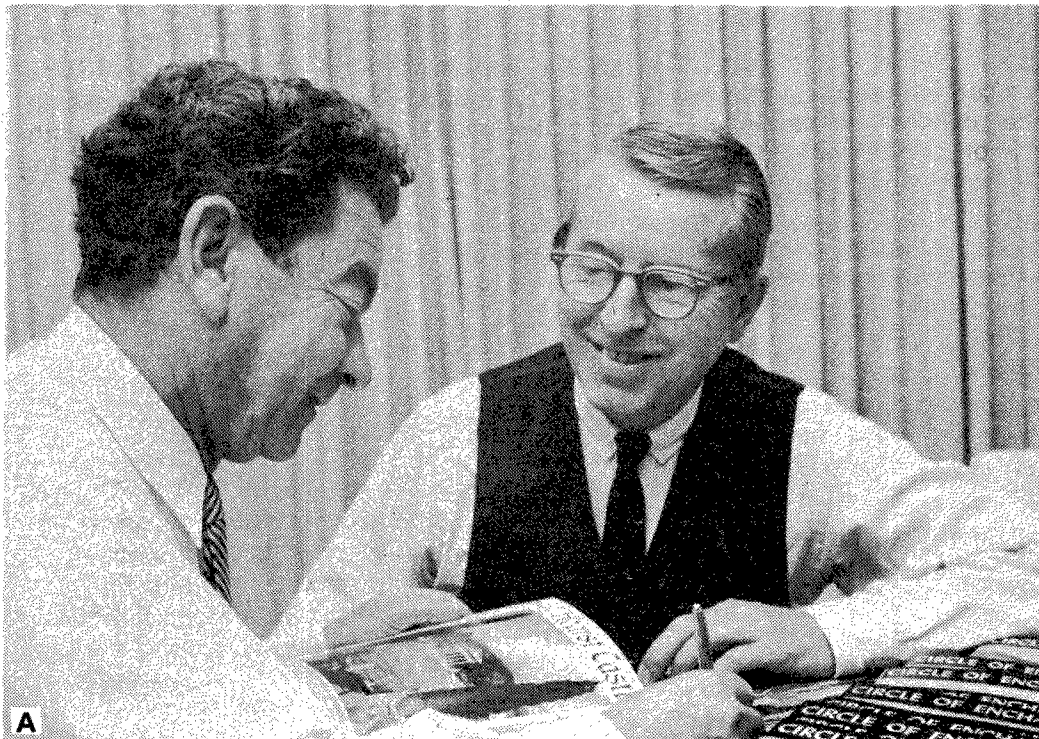
A Emil works with printer Carl Nelson on the "Big Sur Guide."

B "I'm a stranger here myself" is a typical Emil White painting in the "primitive" style.

C Emil fled to the Yukon back in the Forties to evade the draft. he continued an Austrian habit -- skiing -- but it was a habit he willingly surrendered for life in Big Sur when Henry Miller called.

D Emil, during his early years in Big Sur, cooks breakfast for a friend in the kitchen he built himself -- an addition to the old guard house he occupied at Anderson Creek.

E "Tiger, Tiger" is one of Emil's most popular paintings which he has reproduced as a note card in full color.



A Powerful Woman

SHIRLEY RAVENSCROFT

By Bill Liles

My first view of Shirley Ravenscroft was that of a small, intense, powerful woman digging in the garden in a fading patch of afternoon sun.

Shirley, 53, grandmother, teacher, sailor and adventurer, amongst other things, had recently become the first grandmother and one of the few women to sail the Atlantic alone, making the crossing on her second try after 40 days and nights at sea in a 26-foot sailboat.

Watching the way she drove that shovel into the dark Big Sur loam, I could see that she was rapidly regaining her land legs. There was something almost urgent about her movements; she worked the earth with an intensity that put into each thrust everything that her 5'2", 119-pound body could muster, which was quite a lot.

"Actually, I put in more than four months at sea," she said, giving the shovel a final thud into the soil and leaving it to stand marking the spot where she had left off as she turned to the house to make tea.

Shirley pointed out that she had sailed down the coast of



SHIRLEY RAVENSCROFT is greeted by husband Trevor after completing her Atlantic Crossing. Photo from Devon News Service.

Europe from her home in Dartmouth, England, bound for Lisbon, when she was struck by disaster as her tiny craft capsized in a high gale, knocking her unconscious.

"I woke up with blood streaming down into one eye and I was sort of wedged in the slosh between the gunnels," she recalls. "The boat had righted itself and I managed to weather out the storm and limp back to Lisbon. I was a mess, my arm was all banged up and I was sore all over. The boat was a mess, too."

However, true to her British "seadog" blood, Shirley was soon out to sea again, setting her course for the Caribbean in spite of newspaper predictions of her imminent demise.

"Stories of my recent death have been greatly exaggerated," Shirley grinned as she put the kettle on to boil. "It's not the first time. Two years ago the doctors thought I was going to peg-out."

She went on to explain that at that time she was bedridden, 20 pounds overweight, crippled with arthritis and daily shot full of painkillers.

"I went down. I had just about given up. I had been a good wife for 27 years and was the mother of five children. But now it was time to do something for myself or I wasn't going to last. It was then that I realized that will power was the only thing that could alter my situation. The doctors had already tried everything else."

A nearer look revealed the intensity of Shirley's ice-blue eyes as they looked out from a tanned, deep-lines face framed in a halo of pure-white curly hair. The face was healthy and her skin had the unmistakable quality of great vitality.

"No way to die"

"Movement was my cure," Shirley said, handing me a steaming cup and sitting down to talk.

"One day I decided that this was no way to die; so I got out of bed and I began to walk, although it was very painful for me at the time. I got rid of the drugs and I began to walk into the countryside and along the river, a little farther each day. I felt a very strong need to be with nature and found it to be an essential part of my recovery. Soon I began to jog, and eventually dropped 20 pounds of junk off of my body. My eating became health oriented, plenty of steaks, but no frills."

During her illness, Shirley had red Rudolph Stienen's works on the spiritual development of the body. She began to apply those ideas to herself.

"I decided that if I wanted to do all the things I had dreamt about, then I had to give my spirit a good place in which to live."

The body came around during the next year, and as Shirley's energy level rose old dreams became more immediate.

"As a child I would paint the same scene over and over," she confided. "There were hills on each side and a stream in a valley that ran down to a bay, and always anchored in the bay was a sailboat."

"I would dream of setting sail on that boat, straight out into the Atlantic as far as I could go. I have always been rather a romantic, not really anchored here on earth. Ordinary living seems so false to me."

Her dream boat, 26-foot Teassa

Finally, after a year of meditation and physical conditioning, Shirley found her dream boat, the 26-foot *Teassa*.

"I sail by the seat of my pants, mainly," she said. "The essence of sailing is not to be found in the books. For me, sailing is a spiritual adventure; living on the waters of the earth and surviving out there all alone gives one a new understanding. Also, now that I know that I can survive, I can cross the ocean again and again whenever I want."

Shirley maintains that "the only way to have life is to live it," and listed the reasons for her singular spiritual odyssey into the unknown.

"I wanted adventure, independence. I wanted to make my own decisions...go where I wanted to go, do what I wanted to do. I wanted to realize my own dreams...like sailing the Atlantic...also, I was fascinated by navigation and the stars. I wanted to know more about the weather...and...oh, so many dreams!

"Everyone must have a dream to be happy, if you don't have the dream, it won't come true. I looked around and people seemed so trapped, tied up in knots, and inside they had something they really wanted to do; I could see it all around me, something held them back and they were not happy, although they often pretended to be. I think people should do what they really want to do, it's the only way to be really happy.

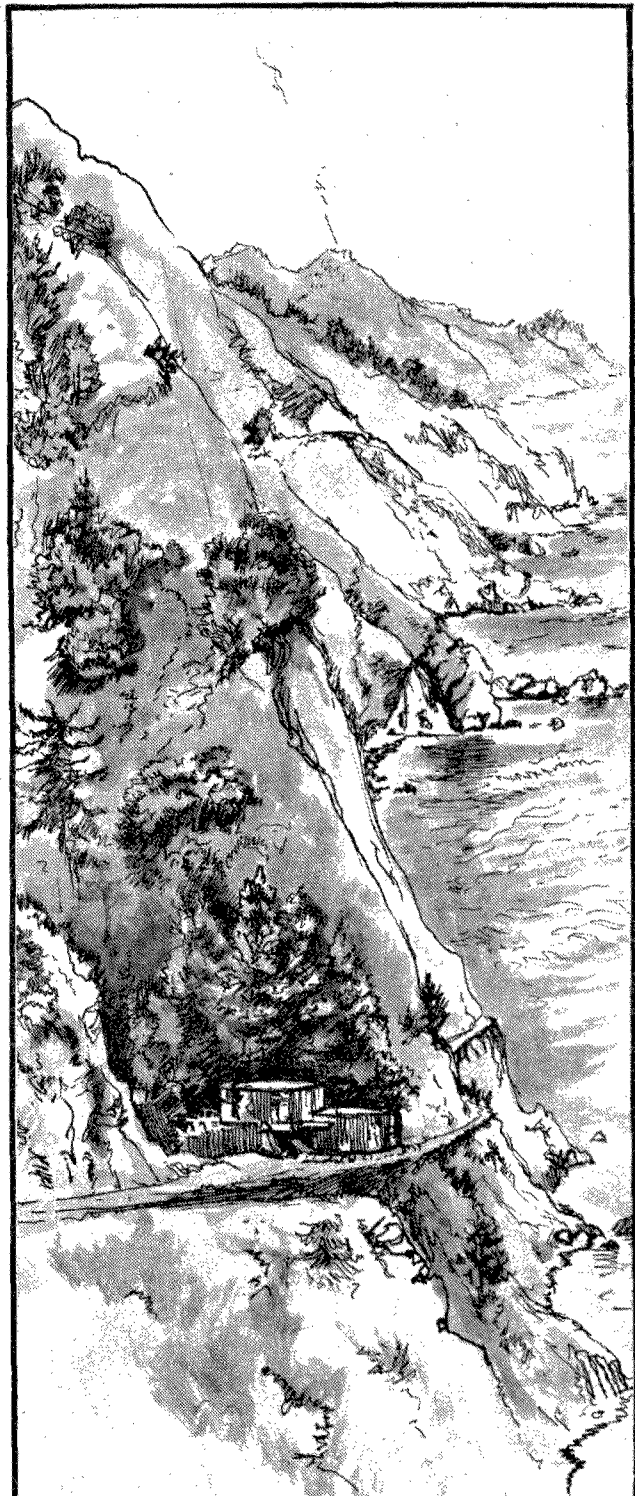
"The most important thing in life is to love what you're doing, even washing a dish....care. I think that for a marriage to actually work each person must allow the other to develop as a spiritual personality. We are complete when we can realize our dreams."

"And, I want to fly"

Having a dream and caring about that dream is the key to spiritual development, Shirley Ravenscroft believes, and the Atlantic crossing, it appears, was but the first leg in an adventure which seems destined to continue indefinitely onward into the unknown of personal fulfillment.

Current dreams include the completion of a book about her voyage (transcript written on the floor of a pitching cabin at sea), participation in the trans-Atlantic race for couples coming up in 1981 (a larger boat and a course in racing being prerequisite to "realizing" that particular dream), and an "Adventure School" in which she would take parties of people with her on runs across the world's oceans, with participants learning the practical skills of seamanship along the way.

"And, I want to fly," Shirley exclaims, her bright blue eyes suddenly as deep as the sky. "Perhaps I'll start with a glider!"



Drawing by Robin Coventry

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Partington Landing

By Mary Harrington

The tunnel at Partington Landing is familiar to most of us, but not too many remember the group of buildings just on the north-east side of the bridge and tunnel. The photograph taken in the early 1930's by Lewis Josselyn (from the Pat Hathaway Collection) shows the abandoned ruins of a simple building probably built by Sam Trotter.

Partington Canyon was first settled by John Partington and his partner Burt Stevens. The two men worked several years to get their ranch going. Partington had a family to care for, but Stevens remained a bachelor. For the first several years of the partnership, he spent the summers working in the mills in Santa Cruz. His wages were used to build up their herd of cattle.

Eventually the two men started a road from the ranch (located on Partington Ridge where the barn still stands) to the ocean. With only Partington, Stevens, a man named West, and one hired hand the road took almost three years to build. West held the claim which included Partington Landing.

In order to get to the cove itself they had to drive a tunnel 200 feet long through the rock. The tunnel is about six feet wide and eight or nine feet high -- just wide enough to drive a two horse team through. The landing itself was constructed of heavy logs secured with drift bolts driven into the rocks and sulfured in place. Some of the original bolts are still there in the rocks.

The three partners shipped out boat loads of wood or fence posts, but the venture proved to be not very profit-

able and they gradually abandoned it. West sold his interest in the Koom Tanning Company in Santa Cruz.

Around the turn of the century William Notley and Sam Trotter formed a partnership with the plan of taking tanbark out of Partington Canyon.

It was only the bark of the tanoak tree that had commercial value. It was used for making tannic acid essential to the many tanning companies of the day. Tannic acid was also used as a preservative of fish nets.

Large trees were felled and then stripped of their bark. However, with the smaller trees they used a technique called jayhawking.

With a pole axe a man rings the tree at a height of 8 feet, again at 4 feet and at the bottom. He then runs the axe from one ring to the next, shoving the axe bit in under the bark as he goes. The bark peels right off. As it dries the bark tightens and curls into a roll from both ends. The bark is stacked at the foot of the tree in wait for the packer to pick it up.

The tanbark was hauled down the steep canyons in go-devils, a vehicle half sled and half wagon. The front end had wheels for maneuverability and the rear end had sled rails for ease in pulling. The go-devils were drawn by horse or mule.

Some of the wood was used for firewood but in the main the trees were left standing where they were out of the way. Tanoak rots quickly and is a prolific and fast grower especially on the northern slopes of a canyon.

Except for the skid roads up the south side of Partington Canyon no evidence remains today of the jayhawking.



PARTINGTON LANDING. Building abandoned when tanbark shipping ceased. Photo by Lewis Josselyn from the collection of Pat Hathaway.



GEORGE ROOD at the end of his mail run in Gorda.

George Rood the Mailman

By Nicol Provost and Julie Mac Alpine

George Rood is the mailman in Big Sur. He delivers mail on the Star Route. He waits at the Big Sur Post Office until the mail is sorted. Then he drives down the coast as far south as Gorda to deliver the mail. It takes him two hours to do his whole days run. All together he drives 175 miles a day. He doesn't use an official truck because this is a contract route.

The only thing he can do about stolen mail is report it and chase it down. The most common complaint he gets as a mailman is that the price of postage is too high.

George drives almost 50,000 miles a year on his mail route.

Historical Society Meets

By Mary Harrington

The Big Sur Historical Society held its March meeting at the Post homestead and the old Rancho Sierra Mar Cafe; the homestead currently used for Ventana staff housing, and the cafe has become the Ventana Deli. The first part of the meeting was devoted to exploring the house and listening to the recollections and comments of Bill Post and Mary Post Fleenor on their former home. Over the years the house has undergone many changes.

The group of almost 50 members moved down to the Deli where Bill Post showed slides made from photographs in the family album. The audience enjoyed attempting to identify people and scenes. Trees were scarce in the early days along the highway and many locations look very different today.

After many visits to the area, William Brainard Post filed claim to a parcel of land and settled in to homestead and raise a family. The early simple homestead soon evolved into an extensive layout of barns and corrals and other outbuildings such as the blacksmith shop. With Monterey a whole day or more away families had to be as close to self-sufficient as possible. When Post first came to the country only a

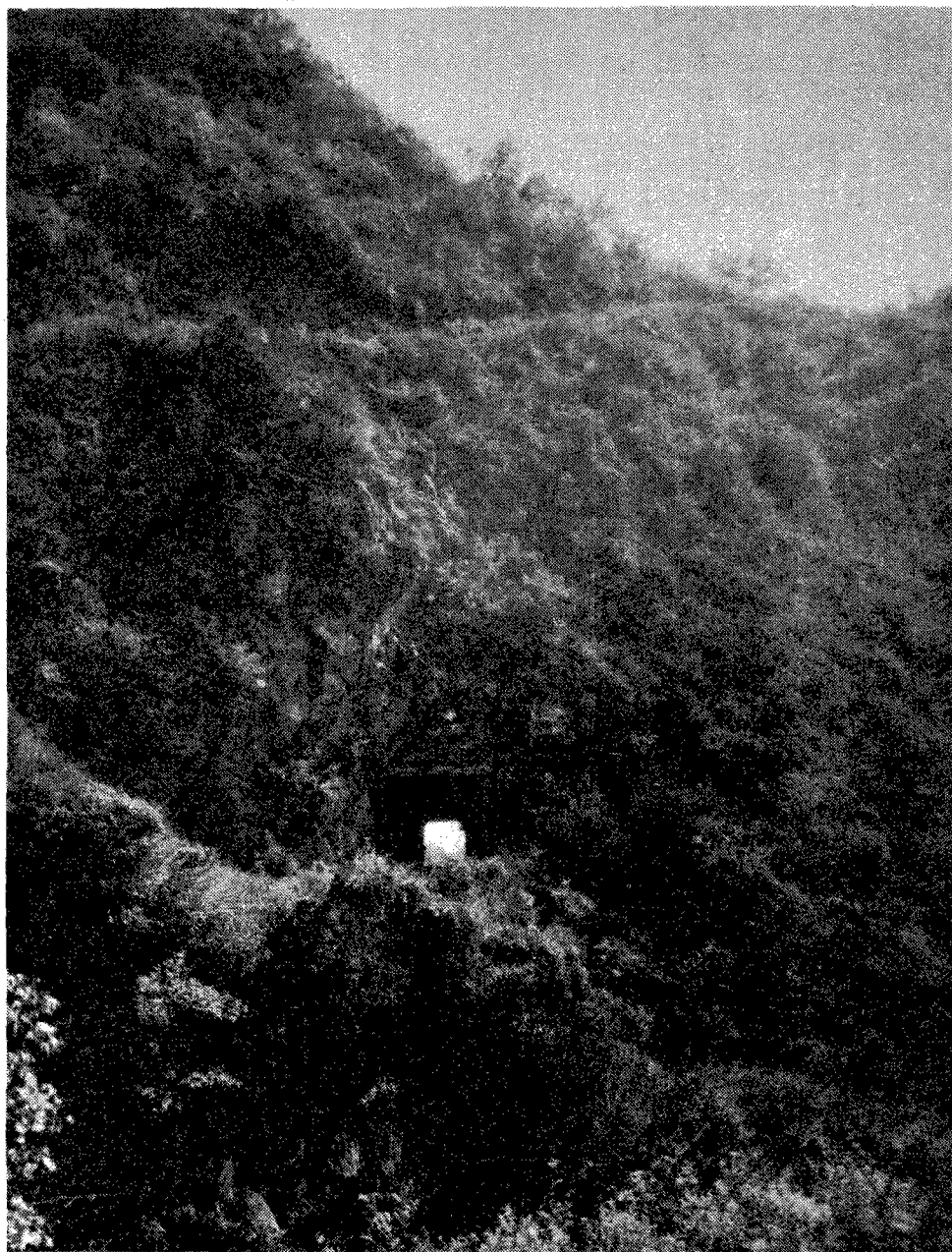
trail extended as far as his place; later the road came to the ranch and then was gradually pushed through to Castro Canyon.

Bill Post, and later his son and grandson, led hunting and fishing parties into the back country. The ranch became a stop off place for travelers and eventually housed the post office.

The articles of incorporation and by-laws of the Big Sur Historical Society were presented and accepted on an experimental basis for the period of one year. The officers elected for two year terms are: President, Sylvia Eisenberg; Vice-President, Toni Nicklaus; Secretary, Pat Addleman; Treasurer, Dottie Williams.

The Board of Directors is made of Esther Ewoldson, Mary Fleenor, and Walter Trotter. Committee chairmen already appointed are Membership, Luci Post; Publicity, Mary Harrington; and Oral History, Penny Vieregge. Anyone interested in participating in giving or taking oral histories should call Penny at 667-2115.

Toni Nicklaus is organizing the next meeting which will be on May 20th at 2:30 pm at the Murphy house at Esalen. The history of Slate's Hot Springs and its evolution into Esalen Institute will be the topic.



THE TUNNEL at Partington Landing. Photo by Lewis Josselyn from the collection of Pat Hathaway.

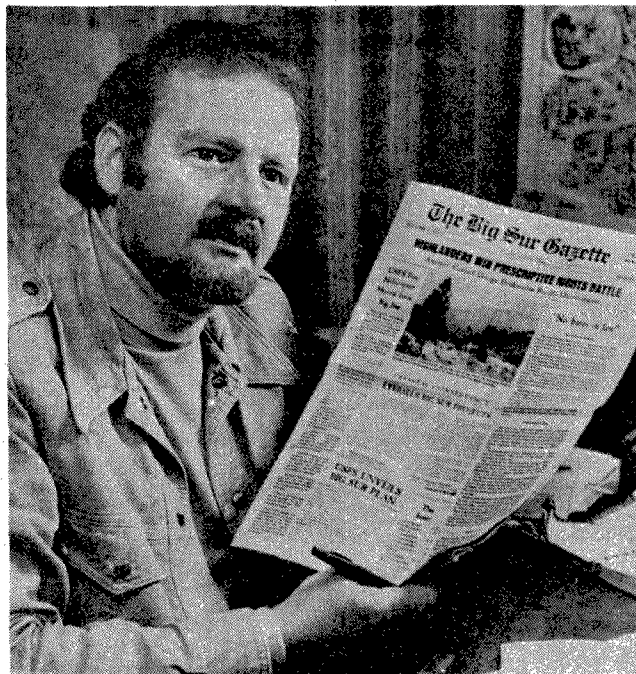
SALINAS CALIFORNIAN FEATURES BIG SUR GAZETTE

By Tom Leyde
Reprinted with permission from the
Salinas Californian

Big Sur Gazette publisher and editor Gary Koepfel looked up at the first eight editions of the new monthly newspaper posted on a bulletin board above his oak rolltop desk and recalled how the publication began.

"I had thought of a newspaper for Big Sur for two years," the owner of the Coast Gallery and former English professor said. "And (Executive Editor) Paula Walling had too....The idea was simple, to produce a medium of communication for the Big Sur coastal community..."

So last July, Koepfel, Walling and General Manager Ronni Bloom Webster set a publication date and began creating Big



GAZETTE PUBLISHER and Editor Gary Koepfel proudly displays the paper's March edition. Photo by Clay Peterson.

was unable to find work as a teacher and moved to Topanga Canyon in Southern California, where he became a craftsman, making sandcast candles. That turned into a successful venture, and he returned to Big Sur in 1971 and bought the Coast Gallery.

Although he has had no newspaper experience, Koepfel has some experience in the publishing field. In 1972, the Chilton Book Co. published his book entitled "Sculptured Sandcast Candles." But Koepfel feels the book and his teaching experience gave him "just a small portion of the tools necessary for publishing a local newspaper..."

Koepfel evidently learned the newspaper craft quickly. When the paper's sixth edition came out, the paper had a circulation of about 2,600. He feels the 1,600-Big Sur area residents coupled with the approximately two million people who visit the area each year "makes a pretty good potential readership," for the Gazette.

"It's been an exciting discovery to learn the things a newspaper is....," Koepfel said. "One of the first things I learned was how many functions a newspaper can serve..."

Community Newspaper

The Gazette is really a community newspaper in the sense that much of its copy is produced voluntarily by Big Sur residents. "We draw from a lot of talent. There's so much talent around here....," said Webster, whose husband, Greg, is general manager of the Ventana-Big Sur.

As general manager of the Gazette, Ronni Bloom Webster keeps the paper's books and sets all its copy on a modern Compugraphic II typesetting machine.

The machine is situated in the paper's office, a cubbyhole at the top of the stairs in the Webster's Ventana home.

Although she has had no previous newspaper experience, Webster finds laying out ads similar to her job in Connecticut, running a convention bureau and organizing trade shows. She said she was surprised at how much work putting out even a monthly newspaper would be.

"We all thought it would be a part-time job, we'd meet once a month and slap things out..."

Walling, who teaches kindergarten-first grade at Captain Cooper School, formerly worked as a stringer for the Carmel Pine Cone, which prints the Gazette. Walling said she felt for several years that there was enough news in the Big Sur area

Commission with its story about the soliciting affidavits, apparently to establish prescriptive land rights.

The paper published a questionnaire distributed under the auspices of the Regional Coastal Commission to individuals whose property fronts the Pacific from Cannery Row to Big Sur. The questionnaire sought detailed information about



MANAGING EDITOR Ronni Bloom Webster sets type on the Gazette's new Compugraphic II typesetter. To install the equipment, Ken Meyrose of Big Sur, who once set "hot type" on a linotype machine, figured out how to safely lift the 350 pound computerized phototypesetter twenty feet to the second story of the Webster's home. Photo by Clay Peterson.

access routes through private properties to reach various beaches.

The questionnaires appeared to be a move to determine whether public use of private beach front property over the years was sufficient to establish implied dedication. That would allow the state to take possession of the property with little or no compensation to the property owner, according to Koepfel.

After the Gazette story appeared, Deputy State Atty. Gen. Ken Williams termed the story "yellow journalism at its best." But about six months later, newly elected Atty. Gen. George Deukmejian declared the controversial questionnaires had no legal foundation.

The Big Sur Gazette is available at the following locations:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| San Simeon—Hearst Castle | Ventana General Store |
| Sebastian's General Store | Big Sur Bazaar |
| Big Sur Coast | Big Sur Lodge |
| Ragged Point Inn | Fernwood |
| Gorda Restaurant | Glen Oaks Motel |
| Limekiln Beach Campground | Ripplewood |
| Pacific Valley Store | Riverside Campground |
| Lucia Lodge | Big Sur Campground |
| Esalen Institute | River Inn Store |
| Coast Gallery | River Inn Restaurant |
| Phoenix at Nepenthe | Point Sur |
| Ventana Delicatessen | Rocky Point Restaurant |

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Carmel Highlands | Carmel Drug Store |
| Highlands Inn | LaPlaya Hotel |
| Carmel Valley | Mission Ranch Motel |
| Carmel Rancho Liquors | Pine Inn Hotel |
| Carmel Rancho Pharmacy | Surf & Sand Drugstore |
| Carmel Valley Bookstore | Vintage Shop |
| Hacienda Hay and Feed | Pebble Beach |
| Holiday Inn | Pebble Beach Drugstore |
| Monte Mart | Monterey |
| Peyton's Place | Doubletree Inn |
| Carmel | Cannery Row |
| Books Incorporated | The Hut |

Sur's first newspaper. "The three of us cranked for 30 days and put out the first edition - of course with the help of a lot of friends," Koepfel remembers.

The Gazette's first edition rolled off the press in August. In just eight months the paper has amassed a paid circulation of more than 3,000, has broken its first story, and has a one-year contract with most of its advertisers.

Among the Gazette's subscribers are year-round Big Sur residents, Hollywood celebrities who frequent the scenic area, and residents of other California coastal communities.

Supports Property Rights

Although the paper's articles report on modern problems and people, the paper has a decidedly Old West and small town flavor. That's obvious in the paper's name and it's strident editorial position favoring the rights of private property owners over bureaucratic government regulations.

Koepfel too has some of the traits of an Old West editor-publisher. He's an independent and strong-willed individual who wants to keep Big Sur from turning into a scenic Disneyland.

Koepfel, who taught at the University of Iowa and the University of Puerto Rico, moved to Big Sur in 1968. But he

to fill a newspaper. "I felt that a little community newspaper could continue on a voluntary basis...I expect it will be profitable one day, and it will always be a viable business..." she said.

The Gazette is applying for a second class postage permit which will reduce mailing costs for the paper. It is also distributed at 50 locations on the Monterey Peninsula: in shops, restaurants, motels and galleries, and in coin-operated machines.

Prescriptive Rights Issue

Last September, the Gazette ired the State Attorney General's Office and surprised the Central Regional Coastal

Bigger Issue
Prescriptive rights were a major issue in Big Sur coastal areas. Another issue the paper is covering is the proposed incorporation of Big Sur. But Koepfel said incorporation is insignificant compared to what he feels is a bigger issue - staving off out-of-control government bureaucracy.

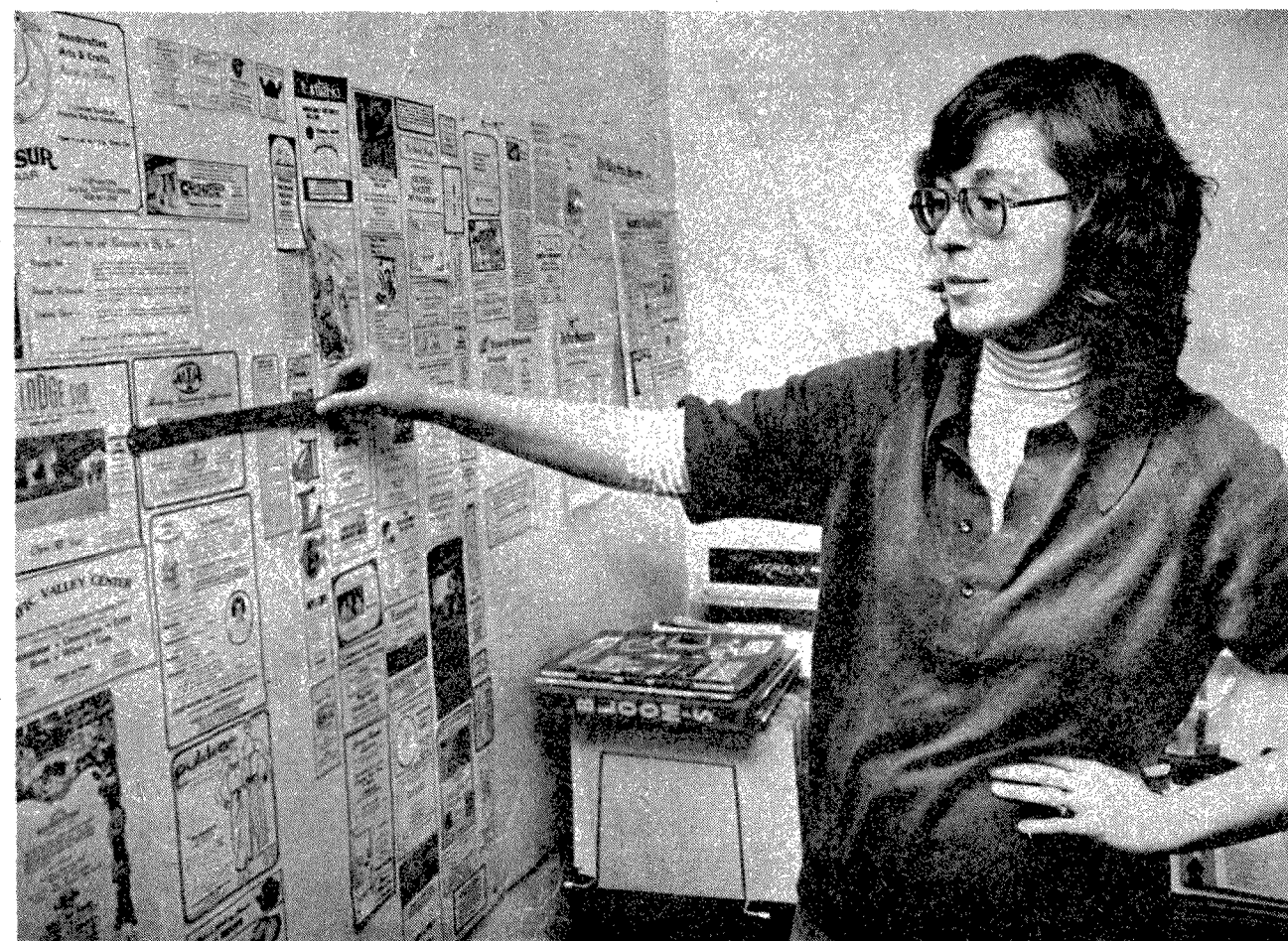
"Incorporation is just a small attempt to become organized and unified and to try to have some say about the government development..., recreational development (in Big Sur)," Koepfel said.

"As I see it," Koepfel continued, "one of the larger issues...is who is going to own the land of the California Coastal Zone...? The Gazette publically supports the rights of...private property owners..., and we would like to have the same rights as government is asking for other countries. What the Gazette wants is what the majority of the people in this community wants....The people are the determining factor of the paper's policy."

Koepfel said there are many agencies and people with their fingers in the Big Sur pie, "and some of them want the whole pie. We're for the people, we're for the land and we're for the visitors, as long as there aren't too many...."



CONTRIBUTING WRITER and photographer Paula Walling peruses a new edition in the Gazette office. Photo by Clay Peterson.



IN THE GAZETTE composing room, Ronni Bloom Webster checks ad sizes for the next issue. Photo by Clay Peterson.

PICO BLANCO

by Herb Aughinbaugh

Conclusion

Jimmy had retired to the dampness of the tent. I sat finishing the last of the coffee, watching the dying embers of the fire. When I heard it first, I thought it was just the mixture of wind and rushing water, but it grew louder and more distinct. It sounded like a chant, in a language unfamiliar to me, coming from somewhere above me. My first thought was to block it out. It had to be nothing more than the natural night sounds around me or perhaps too much "luxury" in the coffee. I seemed compelled to listen, to concentrate on its source somewhere in the blackness behind me. I turned and faced the peak and it grew more intense. I could make out two distinct voices, one male, one female. Although I hadn't the faintest idea of the meaning of the chanting words, the rhythmic beat had a soothing effect, not at all frightening. It stopped as abruptly as it had started. I waited but the sound did not return. I could hear only the wind in the trees and the rushing water. I extinguished the last of the fire and retired, my mind filled with a thousand unanswered questions.

I woke early, stiff and cold from the damp rain-soaked ground. The sky was overcast but the rain had halted. I didn't mention any of the "chant" experience to Jimmy and went about preparing a fire for breakfast. We debated our course of action for the day. Should we immediately climb to the peak, certainly one of our goals, or should we take a different track and explore one of the areas outlined on our hand-drawn maps? The weather was definitely a factor. How long would the sky remain rain free? Would this be our only chance to reach the summit? We gave in to the optimism that the weather would hold and decided to try and locate the spot, where, according to one map, a fork of the Little Sur River ran underground exposing a large cavern before resurfacing and continuing its descent from the mountain to the sea.

We made our camp as water-tight as possible and loaded one of the back-packs with our cameras, film, and flashbulbs, noontime snacks and the climbing rope.

We followed the river downstream looking for the landmarks on our map that would guide us to the right location. At one point, according to the map, we should find an old fence line which led to a long-abandoned cabin. The cabin overlooked an area that had "sunken" into the ground. A few hundred yards beyond this fault we should be able to locate the fork of the river that enters the mountain.

I scanned the hillsides looking for anything unnatural, straight lines of any kind that could reveal an old trail or the fence line. A short distance ahead of us I spotted the "line" running down from a ridge above us. The fence posts had rotted away and the rusting barbed-wire had entwined itself in the overgrowth of sage brush. We followed the fence lie down into a redwood filled valley. The one-room cabin, just as marked on our map, lay below us. Windowless and weathered, its roof sagging, exposing the hand-hewn redwood support beams, it stood like a silent sentry. Beyond the cabin, again as marked on the map, was a large mushroom-like ring approximately 100 feet in diameter. The land within the ring had sunken over six feet into the valley floor. Was this the ceiling of the large limestone cavern of legend? With our hearts beating rapidly in anticipation of what lie ahead, we followed the fork of the river that ran above the ring upstream. The river did indeed flow into the mountainside!

Our jubilation was shortlived. The volume of water rushing into the mountainside was so great that it acted as a giant moving liquid stopper completely sealing off and



"MURRY ALSOP — Journey Improvisor" is the long-time caretaker of Pico Blanco.

preventing any entrance.

The sky darkened as we searched the mountainside looking for another possible entrance. The rain began again, further dampening our spirits as we searched in vain for an opening in the limestone. The tempo of the rain increased and the ever-present wind drove the cold, dime sized droplets into us, penetrating our heavy clothing and leaving us cold, wet and discouraged. We headed back to the base camp.

Again, just before sunset the rain ceased. We went about our camp duties in silence, neither of us wishing to add any more frustration to the day by recapping our failure to find the underground cavern. If the rain did not dissipate by tomorrow, we would have no choice but to climb to the summit and head back out to the Pacific. Our long list of explorations would have to wait until another time, another encounter with "Pico."

We were seated in silence around the after-dinner fire when they started again. The slow, rhythmic chantings. I remained silent as their volume increased and the tempo quickened. Jimmy finally broke the "silence." "Herb, do you hear something?" "Not just the water sounds, but something that sounds like ..." "Chanting?" I added interruptingly. "Now that you mention it, yes, chanting sounds coming from somewhere up near the summit," said Jimmy. "I heard it last night, but I didn't want to mention it until it happened again." I replied. "What is it?" Jimmy queried. "I haven't the faintest idea!" I answered. "I suppose it is the spirits of the long-lost Esselan Indian Tribe. If you care to buy one of the old legends." I added. "It seems to be becoming more faint," said Jimmy. "The same thing happened last night," I replied. "It grew in volume and tempo for a period of time and then just ceased," I said. Again, as last evening, the chanting stopped. We sat around the fire for more than an hour waiting for a reoccurrence, but the evening was silent, except for the night sounds. We extinguished the fire and retired, praying for a day of sunshine.

We didn't have to wait until morning for the weather forecast! The rain started soon after we retired and continued on into the night. We rose early and managed to

rekindle the fire in spite of the rain-soaked wood and ground. Today would have to be the day we climb to the summit. We had run out of time and weather.

We needed time enough to climb to the summit and still make it out to the Old Coast Road before darkness fell. A mining company had cut a four-wheel drive road into the mountain. At one point the road came to within several hundred yards of the summit. We could climb to the top from our present location, traverse the peak and descend down to the road. The walk to our pick-up point could be reached in four hours using the road instead of the trail. The only problem lay in the fact that the road was private and the legendary caretaker who lived on it prevented any use of the road by any other than the mining company officials by any means at hand! I had met the "caretaker" on two occasions and hoped he would look kindly on our predicament.

The climb to the top, while exhausting, offered no more than a minimum amount of challenge. We easily reached the rain covered summit in two hours. The cloud layers hung below us in the rain. Any view to the ocean or far away Monterey was obscured by layers and layers of mist. Oh, for a clear day, or better yet, a full moon night! What magic this very spot I was standing on must hold for the chosen viewer!

We ceremoniously buried a container filled with our maps, names and addresses, and the date of our arrival at the peak. We started to cross the side where the road down could be located. One side of the mountain had given way to a gigantic land slide that, according to legend, covered the entrance to the "Lost Mine." I gave it no further thought as we descended to the road.

The mountain and the weather had certainly won out. Even in allowing us to reach her summit she chose not to unlock any of her secrets for us, indeed, not even a breathtaking view of the coastline! We trudged out onto the road, rainsoaked, ankle deep in mud and low of spirit.

As we neared the caretaker's home I mentally prepared myself for the encounter. I could clearly see his house in the distance and I am sure he had observed our progress for some time from his vantage point. We turned off the road and started up his driveway. I could see him standing on the porch, dressed in a bathrobe and slippers, brandishing a shotgun! "Get Out! Get Out!" he cried. "Back to the trail! You can't use this road you damned tourists!" he added, accenting each word with the barrel of his gun. "But Morey, I am your neighbor!" I yelled after him. "Who in the hell are you!" he yelled back. "I live in the Cowen Cabin below you in the Valley," I respectfully replied. He paused and stood thoughtfully for what seemed like an eternity, I, all of the time, standing still, eyes glued on the shotgun. At last he answered, "Damn lucky for you! I've got no right to let you, but take the road out! But, it isn't any easier than the trail," he added. As we passed by the porch he smiled and waved goodbye with his free hand. The sign on his front door read: "Murry Alsop-Journeyman Improvisor."

He was right! The road wasn't much easier. We climbed higher and higher, deep in mud and trying hard to evade the two-foot deep ruts in the road made from chain-covered tires. The sky started to clear as we neared the top of the winding road. Within a half an hour the sky cleared just as fast as it had brought on the rain. Blue sky and brilliant sunshine greeted us as we rounded the last curve before descending into the valley and home. The blue Pacific was visible before us, the waves breaking over the rocks at the mouth of the Little Sur River brilliantly white. I turned for one last look at "Pico." She stood majestically in the sun, her peak twinkling like the eyes of a thousand night watchers. Maybe next time, she seemed to say. Maybe next time.



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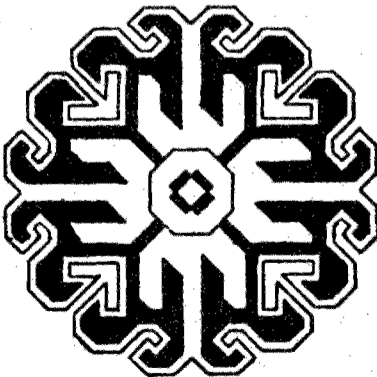


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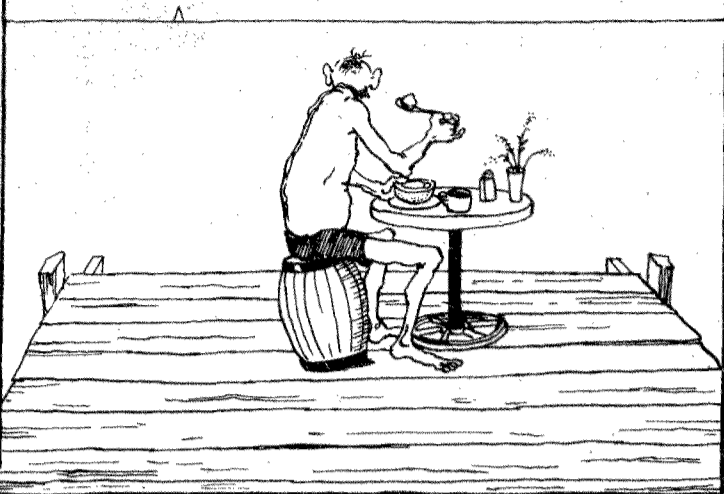
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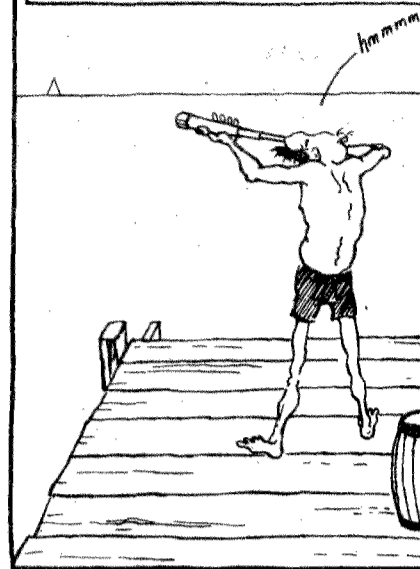
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The
Ballad
of
**Zachary
Bone**
Chapter Five
by Jo Hudson

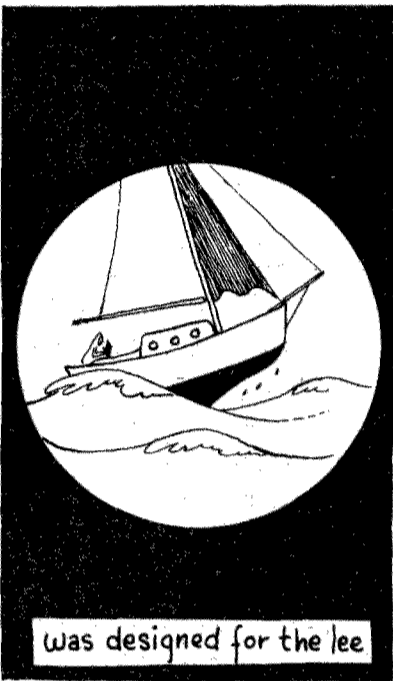
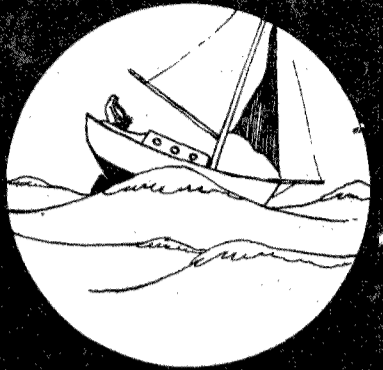
One gorgeous bright morning
There appeared far at sea



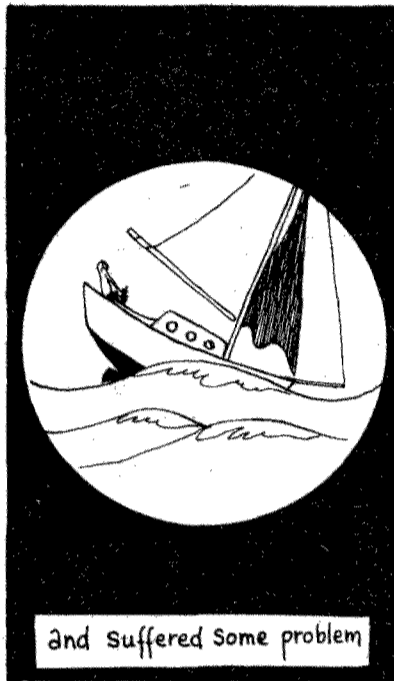
a tiny white sailboat
which filled Bone with glee



But the brave little cutter



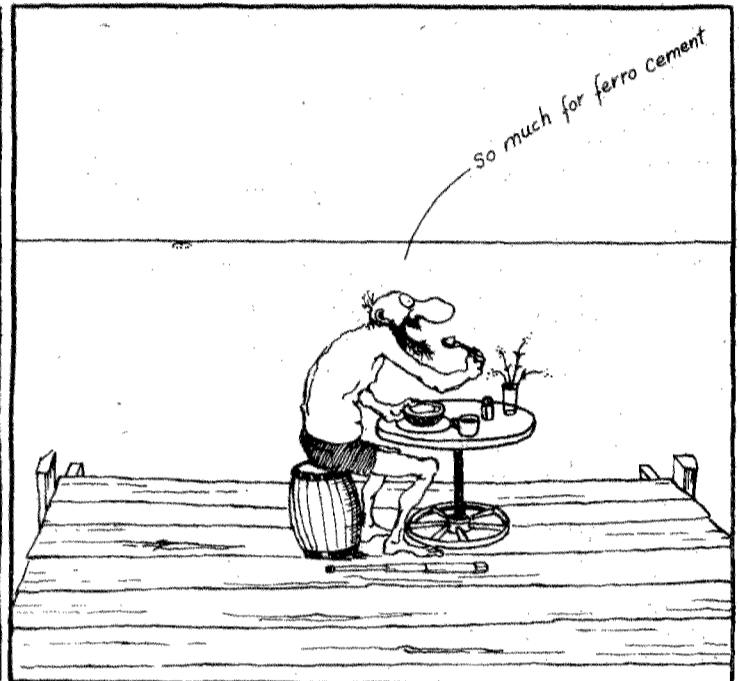
was designed for the lee



and suffered some problem



with old Gravity



So much for ferro cement

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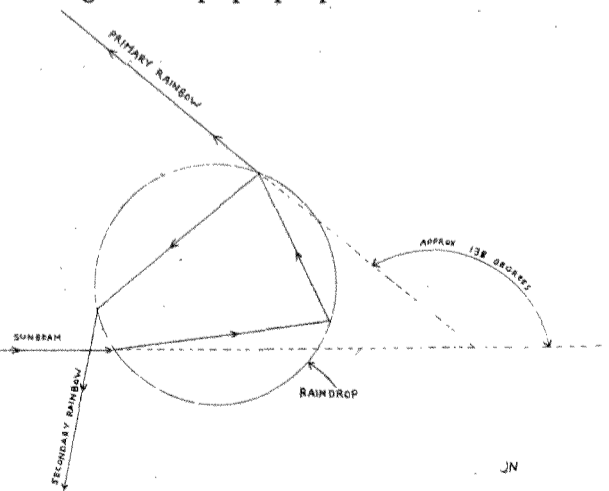
Standing On My Head

by Jeff Norman

Someone told me that I must have been standing on my head when I was looking at the rainbows described in last month's Gazette. I'm sure you all detected the glaring error in the description of the rainbow's colors as progressing from violet at the top, through the spectrum to red at the bottom. As you all know, the commonly-seen primary rainbow has those colors arranged in the reverse. Only the occasional secondary rainbow has its colors ranging from violet uppermost to red below.

As can be seen in the drawing below, there are two angles formed by the primary emergence of a ray of light from a raindrop. Using the line of sunlight as the base of the angle, and the path of the escaped primary rainbow ray as the leg, the resultant angle can be measured as obtuse (greater than 90 degrees and less than 180 degrees) or acute (less than 90 degrees). I erroneously assumed that the angle was acute, and since the refractive angle for violet is greater than that for red, violet came out on top. How obtuse of me!

To set the matter straight, the rainbow angle for red light is 137 degrees 58 minutes, and 139 degrees 43 minutes for violet. Reading the angle for a primary rainbow as obtuse puts things in their proper perspective.



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Photo by Greg Dodge

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The Book Nook

By HARMON BELLAMY

CHESAPEAKE
by James A. Michener
Random House, \$12.95

Belatedly, here is one man's opinion of a book that broke all known records by reaching the top spot on the bestseller lists the first week of its publication. Undoubtedly, the author's fame contributed perhaps 95% of this meteoric leap to the forefront of popularity, but the contents of this magnificent history of Chesapeake Bay and surrounding territory prove worthy of the sales tabulation it established.

To itemize even a small portion of what takes place in Michener's book would result in far too long a resume. Suffice it to report that he begins his lengthy novel with one Pentaquod, a Susquehannock Indian, who escapes from his own tribe in 1583, settles in the Choptank area of the bay where its river flows into the Chesapeake, and becomes the catalyst for the many generations who follow - the Indian, the whites, the black slaves, the rest of the foreigners. Based on many historical events, the book covers four tumultuous centuries up to 1977, and involves the wealthy patrician Steeds, the boat-building Paxmores, the uneducated degenerate Turlocks, and the enslaved Carters who were shanghaied from Africa and struggled their way upward to freedom.

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over from England, how each family emerged and expanded with children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, uncles, aunts; how Pentaquod's descendants intermingled with the new arrivals and gradually became part of them; how each gradually found his or her niche combine to form a fascinating story of early Maryland and Virginia and the entire Chesapeake region. How the slave trade grew and brought the first blacks into this land, how the tribal chieftans sold their own young men and women for personal gain, how the Arabs were in the forefront of slave traders, will keep you glued to **CHESAPEAKE** for several hundred pages. In fact, a huge, almost dominating portion of this novel is reminiscent of "Roots," equally as stirring and exciting, with tension heightening as favorite characters are lost to the auctioneer's gavel.

Michener devotes considerable space to the Revolutionary War in which he also seems to expose George Washington's role as a rather minor one. The fight for independence, as recorded by Michener, was won for us by the French in dramatic sequences that will hold you in thrall. And the War of 1812 and later the Civil War will reveal new aspects that were not stressed in school books several decades ago. Michener evidently did a tremendous amount of research, as he always does before starting a writing project, and some of his revelations, if true, are in themselves worth the reading.

Some of the characters and their problems will clutch at your heart, especially where the blacks are concerned,

with families torn apart, perhaps never to see each other again; yet always Michener writes in simple, unadorned language, letting the impact of each situation carry the tension. Until the very end, he shows his great sympathy for the blacks and for all downtrodden peoples. But he does not permit a slowing down of the tale throughout the first 750 pages. There is fighting on the land, on the sea, among the families, and one scene propels you into another. For the sake of historical fiction alone, **CHESAPEAKE** is a valuable pulsating story that is everything the advance publicity promised.

Only toward the conclusion, in the final chapters, when World War II has ended and slavery is no longer a problem, when Nixon has resigned and Carter has become president, does the interest begin to lag. The story seems to have been told. Michener has nothing more to add because the reader knows all about Nixon's disgrace and the Arab-Israeli conflict and the oil situation. And the last Paxmore, indicted with Nixon's other White House aides, has served his jail term and is released. The excitement is no more, the tension is gone, and the story of Chesapeake Bay and its many tributaries, its outlets and coves, its history has been told.

CHESAPEAKE is a marvelous reading experience.

Fellowship Welcomes New Members

The Christian Fellowship invites interested members of the Big Sur community to join them each Tuesday night at 7:30 for a time of informal Christian fellowship. Their group Bible study is presently studying the Book of Romans. For more information call Christa or Danny at 667-2162 or Martha or Ralph at 667-2419.

First Phase Ventana Wilderness Opens Trails

The Pine Ridge, Marble Peak and Carmel River trails in the Ventana Wilderness, Monterey Ranger District, Los Padres National Forest, reopened for public use April 4th, according to District Ranger Robert E. Breazeale.

These 3 trails are the first to be reconstructed since the Marble Cone Fire of 1977. This disastrous fire caused extensive damage to the Ventana trail system resulting in closure of the wilderness because of health and safety hazards. Other connecting trails in the Ventana will remain closed until reconstruction work can be completed.

The 3 trails reopened are:
Pine Ridge Trail #3E06:

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

Carmel River Trail #3E03:

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.

Marble Peak Trail #4E07:

Starts at the Coast Ridge Road at Marble Peak and travels east approximately 13 miles and ends at the Horsebridge on Arroyo Seco Road.

Visitors must obtain a wilderness permit before entering the Ventana Wilderness. Permits and a trail status map may be obtained from Forest Service offices in King City, Big Sur Station, Pacific Valley Station, Carmel River Station and at the Indians Station.

According to Breazeale contracts for additional trail work are being prepared and will be issued by the end of the year.



Photo by Paula Walling

Colleen Quinn Weds Ronald E. Murphy

Colleen Cae Quinn and Ronald E. Murphy were married on January 28, 1979 at Asilomar in Pacific Grove. Family members came from Iowa, New York and New Jersey for the wedding. They ranged in age from 3 1/2 to 90 years, the youngest of whom was asked to be the ring-bearer. He declined the offer, saying he didn't like bears. He accepted when presented with the opportunity of being the "ring dog." But like pit bulls, ring dogs have a tenacious grip, and the 3 year old - Ron's nephew - refused to let go of the rings when Father Charlie asked for them. The boy's mother had to rescue them so the conclusion of the humorous ceremony-in-the-round could take place. Colleen manages Swanson's in Monterey. Ron is the chef for Los Laureles Lodge. The couple will be living in Carmel Valley.

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John Armstrong Marshall
Author of a book teaching how to utilize both the right and left sides of your brain

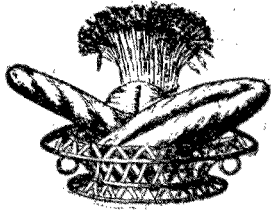
Dr. G. Patrick Flanagan
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Rev. Bill Little
Monterey Church of Religious Science. Speaking on the philosophy of Science of Mind

Robert W. Bradford
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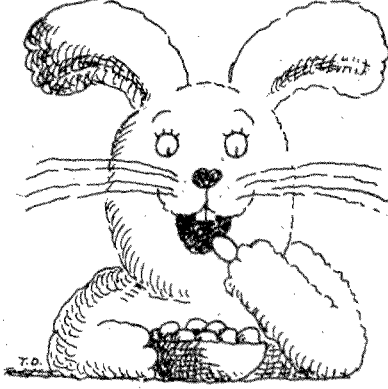
Claire's Cooking Corner

BIG SUR RECIPE



RAVIOLI FOR RABBITS

After everyone has enjoyed the Easter season tradition of finding baskets-full of colorful chicken eggs -- hidden by clever bunnies -- serve a bowl-ful of "spinach eggs" to your hungry hunters. In Italy, these are known as Ravioli Verde and are a tasty use of fresh spring spinach.



SPINACH EGGS

Ingredients:

1. Cooked spinach -- lightly steam two bunches, including stems, then hand chop into 1/4" coarseness.
2. One egg -- briefly beaten
3. One cup Ricotta cheese -- if possible, find a dryer, curdier type rather than the very smooth kind -- but any will do.
4. 1/2 cup freshly-grated Parmesan
5. One tsp. freshly-grated nutmeg

Method:

Mix the above ingredients together in a bowl. Scoop out a spoonful of the spinach mix and gently toss between your hands to form an egg shape. These should be about 1 1/2" in length. Roll each spinach egg in white flour, thoroughly coating it. After you have a plate full, drop them into a large pot of boiling water. At first, they will sink to the bottom, but will start popping to the surface when almost ready. Let cook for a couple of minutes more, to insure that the flour membrane is well done. Remove from boiling water with slotted spoon.

Serve these spinach eggs in a heated bowl or on a heated platter. Pour melted butter on top and sprinkle with parmesan.

Bon Appetito!

Hughes Named President of Tor House

A prominent Carmel businessman and former member of the City Council, David V. Hughes, was recently elected President of the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that recently took possession of the famed literary landmark on Carmel Point. At its March 8th meeting, held for the first time in Tor House itself, former president Frederick S. Farr turned over the reins to Hughes, with Alfred E. Smith assuming the role of Vice President. Just a year ago, Farr spearheaded and launched a successful drive to rescue the poet's home for posterity.

Capt. Norman Chetlin was reelected Treasurer and Amanda Baker was again named Secretary. A distinguished Japanese Jeffers scholar, Prof. Tokhuio Miura, of Hosei University, Tokyo was named an honorary Vice President. Presently on a sabbatical leave and doing research at UC-Berkeley, he attended the historic session.

Mrs. Donnan (Lee) Jeffers, who with her husband will have a life estate status at Tor House, was named to develop a docents program to handle the limited public visitations planned for the

future. A total of twelve hours per week has been allotted for such visits.

Other members of the Tor House board are Ansel Adams, Carmel; Prof. Robert Brophy, Irvine; Allston James, Carmel; Dame Judith Anderson, Montecito; Edwin Bliss, Carmel; Mrs. Webster Downer, Carmel; Amelie Elkinton, Carmel Valley; Walter S. Frederick, Carmel; Joseph A. Lee, Carmel; Dr. Lawrence Clark Powell, Tucson, Arizona; George L. White, Carmel Valley and William Sugaya, San Francisco. Will Gahagan will continue as acting Executive Director.

Zrelak to be Fire Officer for LPNF

Ted Zrelak has been selected as the Fire Management Officer for Los Padres National Forest according to Forest Supervisor Al West. Zrelak is currently coordinator of the Pacific Southwest Region's South Zone Fire Organization in Riverside, California. Since the creation of the position in 1976, Zrelak has had the responsibility for coordinating fire suppression activities on the Cleveland, San Bernardino, Angeles, Los Padres,

Sequoia, Inyo and Sierra National Forests.

Zrelak is not new to the Los Padres National Forest. Prior to his current position he was the District Ranger on the Monterey and Mr. Pinos Ranger Districts, of the Los Padres. As Fire Management Officer for the Forest, Zrelak will serve as principal staff assistant to the Forest Supervisor, responsible for planning and direction of the fire suppression organization

needed to protect over 2.5 million acres of forest and private land. This will include fire prevention, suppression and fuel management activities.

Zrelak has been with the Forest Service 22 years. Previous Forest Service jobs include assignments on the San Bernardino and Cleveland National Forests in California as well as the Utah-Idaho Region of the Forest Service.



For the Aware

by Araby Colton

This month we have an issue made to order (tragically) for the people of Big Sur.

!!!Our Lions Are In Danger!!!

Senator H.L. Richardson has introduced a bill --**Senate Bill No. 835**-- that will open California to lion hunting! This is in defiance of the moratorium on lion hunting, which was an act of the legislature, to be effective to January 1, 1983. It will allow the California Department of Fish and Game to open to hunting any area in which lions are found (by CDFG) to have increased in numbers, and in which lions have killed livestock (even one sheep) or have damaged property.

CDFG may issue hunting permits for killing 15% of the estimated (!) lion

population of that area. Any county in which two or more depredations took place in the previous year, or in which just one incident took place in each of the previous two years shall be declared a mountain lion control area (for which read **OPEN SEASON ON MOUNTAIN LIONS!**)

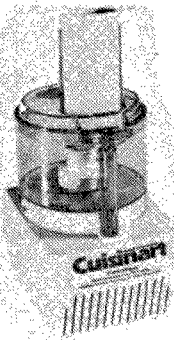
Our lions....responsible for no more than 1.2% of all losses of sheep to predators (Dr. Carl Koford, report to legislature, 1977)... so rare, so valuable, so beautiful, extinct in most of the country, could be exterminated.

Get out your February *Gazette*, for plenty of information on mountain lions, if you need it.

Write Senator Barry Keene, acting-chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, and let him know you oppose this wholesale killing of our lions.

REMEMBER! There is nothing more important, nothing more effective, than our letters. Our letters, from every single one of us, can save our lions!!

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"Cuisinart" classes Luncheon included... \$10.00
- Saturdays -- 10:30 a.m.**
1st & 3rd Saturday of each month
"Cuisinart" classes with lunch \$10.00
2nd & 4th Saturday of each month
"Cuisinart" Demonstrations \$5.00

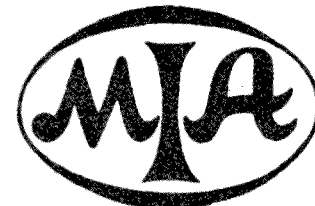
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Short - THE RED BALLOON - a boy makes friends with a balloon and it begins to live a life of its own.

Saturday, April 21 - MATINEE - PINOCCHIO - Animated version.

Thursday, April 26 - INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS - B&W U.S.A. 1956. The classic original - Aliens plan to take over earth by transplanting themselves into human bodies. Set in California.

Short - OMEGA - A dazzling visual experience. Man is liberated from his earthly bonds to roam the universe at will.

Saturday, April 28 - MATINEE - YELLOW SUBMARINE
Short - BEETLES MOD ODYSSEY

Thursday, May 3 - BROTHER SUN, SISTER MOON - U.S.A. Color

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Diablo Canyon Continued

Continued from front page

"If we have anything to say about it," said Tony Metcalf of the Abalone Alliance, "it will do more than delay it." The Abalone Alliance has fought a long and tenacious battle against the Diablo facility. Affiliated with anti-nuclear groups throughout the state and country, it has led the struggle to inform citizens about nuclear dangers.

"The overall concept of nuclear power is too dangerous to permit its use," continued Tony. "For years we've been saying that an accident at a nuclear reactor would be too catastrophic to take the chance. Now that finally a meltdown almost did occur, the pro-nuke people can no longer be so smug."

Diablo reactor design same as Three Mile Island

Adding to everybody's concern is the fact that Diablo and the Three Mile Island reactor use the same basic cooling system, pressurized water. "P. W. R.'s" have a long history of problems.

Leon Panetta has added his concern about Diablo to the many other voices. He telegraphed Joseph Hendrie, chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) calling for a comparison of Diablo to the Three Mile Island plant before Diablo would be allowed to operate. He also asked the NRC to delay any immediate action as far as issuing the license.

Already P. G. & E. officials are stating that a delay in licensing is to be expected while the report from the Three Mile Island plant is being studied. (San Francisco Chronicle, April 4th) It had been scheduled for operation this summer.

However, despite further studies about safety, the fact that the "gas bubble" problem at the Pennsylvania reactor had never even been anticipated in engineering studies, according to Dudley Thompson, an executive officer of the NRC, demonstrates that there are definitely unknowns in the science of splitting atoms to generate electricity.

"The unknowns about nuclear energy are too terrifying," said Tony Metcalf. "The Abalone Alliance, like every other anti-nuclear organization is definitely on the offensive. The

similarities in construction between the two plants are too many. Also Diablo is sitting just a few miles from an earthquake fault!"

"Safe" levels of exposure

Nuclear proponents have consistently argued that low level exposure to radiation poses no danger to human health. The P. G. & E. plant at Diablo, since it is situated in a fairly isolated peninsula, several miles from towns, has been described as especially safe. But new evidence points out that long term effects are hard to calculate exactly but are considered to be very dangerous. As is frequently the case, experts line up on both sides of the question.

But the Three Mile Island near-meltdown has exposed the problem of how a supposedly minor series of accidents can lead to a close call with a total meltdown. If such were to happen to Diablo, either through human or equipment error or because of an earthquake, most of San Luis Obispo County and, maybe, if the winds were right, everything from there north to San Francisco, would be a radioactive wasteland.

Protests planned

On June 30th, the Abalone Alliance is planning a giant Stop Diablo rally. "We'll be going all out to let the P. G. & E. officials and the NRC know that we don't want Diablo to be activated," explained Tony Metcalf. "We expect tens of thousands of people at the rally and each and every one of them will be important." Further announcements of this rally will be made as the date approaches.

In the meantime, all concerned citizens can express their opinions by writing a letter to the following addresses:

ABALONE ALLIANCE: 452 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo 93401

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMM., Landow Bldg., #1209, Washington, D.C. 20555.

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRICITY: Richard H. Peterson, Chairman, 77 Beale St., San Francisco, 94105.

GOVERNOR EDMUND BROWN, Capitol Mall, Sacramento, 95814.

State Supreme Court Rules Out Inverse Condemnation

Continued from front page

dissenter, the high court voted 6-1 in favor of the judgment which concludes "the use of inverse condemnation with its imposition of money damages upon the public entity would, in our view, unwisely inhibit the proper exercise of a valid police power."

Inverse Condemnation and LCP Process

During the Convention of Regional and State Coastal Commissioners held at Asilomar Conference Center on March 15 and 16, deputy Attorney General Richard Jacobs, who is assigned to the Coastal Commission, announced that the Supreme Court decision was immensely important to the LCP [Local Coastal Plan] process.

"The California Supreme Court effectively wiped out inverse condemnation in California," he stated.

He then advised the statewide Commissioners and staff that "I think I can safely tell you can go back to your commissions, go back to the local government, to the LCP process and tell them that basically they don't have to worry about fiscal exposure; they don't have to worry about the fear of large monetary awards if they adopt an effective LCP if they have to go a little bit too far; because if they happen to go a little bit too far, and the LCP is unduly restrictive on a land owner, the land owner cannot recover monetary damages, against either the state or local government; his only remedy is going to be invalidation of the scheme."

LCP Advice Challenged

Response was swift and fiery to the deputy Attorney General's interpretation of the Supreme Court's decision and, especially, to the advice he gave to the Commissioners.

Joseph Gughemetti, an attorney from the firm of Jackson

and Gughemetti, in a letter to all Coastal Commissioners statewide, charged that deputy Attorney General Jacob's presentation omitted certain information, in particular a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision which upholds "the right of property owners to sue under Federal Civil Rights Act for unreasonable activity which destroys the land use value of property."

Mr. Gughemetti requested the Commissioners to request an official ruling from Attorney General George Deukmejian regarding "the policy espoused by Mr. Jacobs."

"This sort of random and irresponsible advice must not continue," he said, concluding "and I assume it is your desire that the Coastal Commission and LCP process not be riddled by a policy in denigration of federal constitutional and statutory rights."

Reconsideration, Ruling Requested

The California Coastal Council (CCC), an organization formed "to combat the abuses of the California Coastal Commission," has requested the Supreme Court for reconsideration of their decision.

Robert Nix, a Regional Director of the CCC, stated that the court decision had "effectively invalidated the constitutional rights of 23 million Californians."

"No recent decision in this country's history is more indicative of the erosion of our constitutional and individual rights than this ruling," he said.

Mr. Nix said that the California Coastal Council had already formally requested the Attorney General for a ruling from the Department of Justice regarding Mr. Jacob's interpretation and advice to the Coastal Commissioners.

Coastal Conservancy Rapped

Continued from front page

development couldn't go back and restore those marshes. And where developed subdivisions exist along the coast that were approved long before the Coastal Act and buildout would have adverse environmental impact, regulation would be very difficult to handle because of the problem of single lots. It's very difficult, and often unfair, even if it may be legally permissible, to prevent a person, permanently, from developing his lot."

He said the State needed an agency to buy up land, sell, provide grants, and oversee developments. "The state thought it should buy up the Coastlands, but the cost was too high. So it tried to develop an agency that would be able to act imaginatively in these situations, to act more as a revolving fund and to do equity where it could be done."

Asked how the Conservancy differs from the Coastal Commission, Mr. Petrillo replied that the Commission is the agency which "approves or denies new development proposals and does general planning for the coast. But the Conservancy works with local landowners, the business community, environmentalists, and local government to deal with problems which aren't considered in development permits, such as restoration of marshes, providing of redesign of subdivisions and for purchase of access ways.

When the lines were opened to calls, Mr. Petrillo stood on the firing line:

"Can people still buy coastal property to live on, Mr. Petrillo?"

"In remote or currently open areas," Mr. Petrillo replied, "It's hard. But in some developed or partially developed areas where the Coastal Commission is looking to see those built out first, it's possible."

"With regard to residents who are already on Coastal land -- aren't their rights jeopardized by Proposition 20 and by work of the Commission and the Conservancy? How can you balance my rights as a property owner with the fact that the people of California want to preserve their coastline and I want to own a piece of it?"

"The Conservancy," according to Mr. Petrillo, "was formed to deal with this problem of balance. Assume you have a lot-no house-in a remote area that the public wants to keep open. It's harsh to keep you forever from building your dream house. But we can work with landowners and purchase their land from them and redesign the subdivision so it is consistent with the Coastal Act. Then the landowners can either trade into the redesigned program, take their money, or keep the land and not develop it. We try to give them more choices to reduce the harshness of the regulation. Costs to the public are then minimal. Environmental interests are taken care of by getting rid of the problem at that subdivision and equity to the landowners is dealt with."

"If your land is in the Coastal Commission Zone, doesn't you land devalue because of restrictions? Is this fair? Shouldn't we be compensated for the loss of value of the land? Who does the owner see about this?"

The reply: "What the Commission does is no different from what your local zoning boards do with regard to public interest. But if the regulation is so severe the government takes your land for public interest, you should be compensated. Land is always subject to the public good. One goes to the Commission for a permit to develop property. The Conservancy comes in to restore a degraded area or to restore an existing subdivision or agricultural lands that would otherwise be lost."

Then came an irate one. "As I see it, your agency plans to collapse existing subdivisions by beating down the value using the destructive rulings of the Coastal Commission. The Coastal Conservancy will buy at the degraded prices, resubdivide, presumably put nice zoning on it, then sell. And I presume the insiders will buy that up. Looks to me like the Coastal Conservancy is in a position to cash in an awful lot of money there, degrade the innocents, and put the money and value in the hands of the smart operators who know how to deal with agencies like these!"

Petrillo came back: "We have protections against that. We don't go into an area unless the landowners themselves request it. We work with the landowners to get an independent appraisal of what the value of the land is. We are generally dealing with single family lots and homes, not large, regulated parcels. We purchase these family lots at a high cost. So far, most have been very happy with this."

The caller remained unconvinced. "Sounds nice, but we don't see it in practice. I feel we're becoming victimized by big government."

Another who felt victimized called in to ask about a property owner who has a half million dollar investment and can neither sell nor develop his land. He said the Coastal Conservancy doesn't want the property because it isn't flat enough for development. He even offered it as a park to be enjoyed by the public. He said he was told by the Conservancy they didn't have enough funds to purchase it for a park but that he could give it away to the state and gain tax advantages.

Mr. Petrillo was sympathetic, but, he said "The Coastal Conservancy can't take all the coast property it would like. Not enough money. I just don't have answers for every problem yet."

Nude Beach for Big Sur?

Continued from front page

"There are some nice with a bad case of the goose-warm, sunny days, particularly in summer and fall

Public hearings on the nude beach designations will be held April 25 in Sacramento, April 30 in Los Angeles and May 2 in San Francisco. The department also will accept written comments pro and con.

Which means that unlucky nude bathers could end up

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