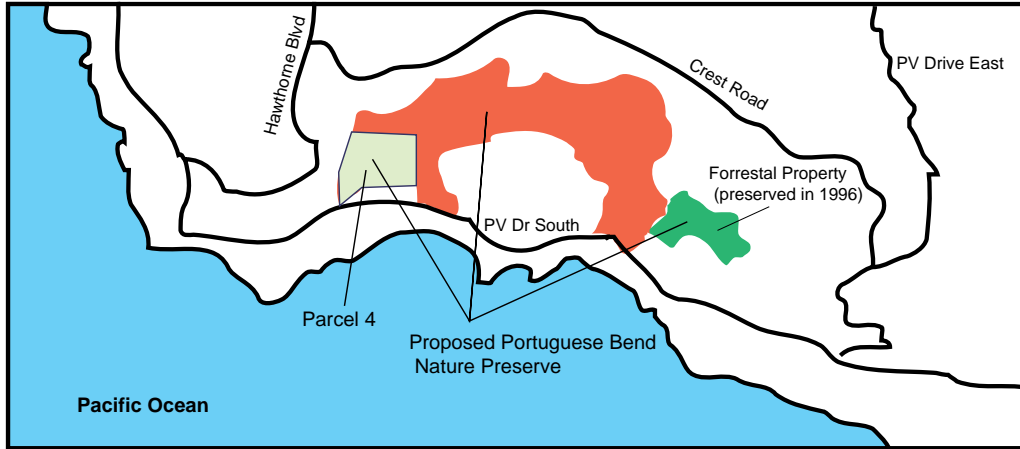


OPEN SPACES

Volume 12, Number 3

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

Third Quarter, 2000



The proposed Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve would include nearly 1,000 acres. The Forrestal property, 160 acres, was preserved in 1996. The RPV City Council recently authorized discussion with the land owner regarding purchase of 100-acre Parcel 4.

New Funds Bring New Acquisition Possibilities

Recent actions at the state and federal level have made large amounts of money available for land acquisition. The Conservancy will be making a concentrated effort to use some of those funds for open space preservation on the Peninsula. But we'll need your help.

In March of this year, voters approved Proposition 12, making more than \$2.1 billion available for land preservation statewide. Congress recently approved the Interior appropriations bill, setting aside over \$6 billion for open space conservation over the next six years—the largest sum of federal dollars approved for such purposes in over 20 years.

Both of these actions demonstrate that open space preservation is a priority in our state and our nation. Simply put, there have never been more public funds available for land conservation.

Our goal over the next two years is to capture a portion of these funds to achieve our long time goal of preserving

over 1,000 contiguous acres and creating the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve—the crown jewel of open space in the South Bay.

Fortunately, we have some experience to draw on—to date, all of the funds used to acquire property on the Peninsula have come from public sources. The Linden H. Chandler Preserve was created when the City of Rolling Hills Estates used \$1.4 million of LA County Measure A funds to acquire a portion of the 28.5 acre property. The remainder of the property was donated to the Conservancy.

Similarly, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes used \$4 million of Measure A funds, augmented with \$3 million of state funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board, to acquire the 160-acre Forrestal Property on the eastern boundary of the proposed Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve.

The Conservancy played critical roles in both of these transactions, brokering the purchases and securing the funding.

The preservation of the proposed Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve will involve linking several parcels of high quality open space and wildlife habitat and will require funds in far greater amounts than we have previously secured.

To be successful, we must compete effectively against dozens of other worthy projects across the state and country. One of the most persuasive statements our community can make that this conservation project is worthy of investment of public funds is that we are willing to commit some of our own private funds to make it happen. This is one reason why your annual membership and other contributions are important to us.

Over the next two years, we will mount a major fund-raising effort to provide a significant portion of the purchase price for the Portuguese Bend property.

We will be providing more details on the program and how you can help us be successful. Stay tuned to this newsletter and your mailbox for periodic updates.

Preservation of Open Spaces--

A Statement of Purpose

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a nonprofit, non-political, public-benefit corporation formed to preserve undeveloped land in perpetuity as open space for historical, educational, ecological, recreational and scenic purposes.

A diverse group of volunteers from the South Bay makes up the PVPLC's managing Board of Directors and its adjunct advisory board. These private citizens have been drawn together by their belief that open space is crucial to the well-being of our community.

Land acquisition by the PVPLC is through purchase and gift. In addition to the good will engendered by gift giving, landowners and others who donate land or funds to the PVPLC may realize significant tax benefits.

Open Spaces

A Newsletter Published by the
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John Nieto Appointed Education Manager

Life-long South Bay resident John Nieto has been selected to assist Kathy McGowan as our education program manager. Nieto will take responsibility for the third grade and adult education programs, while Kathy remains focused on expanding our education efforts by adding programs for grades two and four.

Nieto has been married for 30 years to Christine, and they have two children, Andrew 14 and Josette 13, both attending Miraleste Intermediate School. In previous life, he worked in aerospace project management, but gave this up to become "Mr. Mom" when the children were in kindergarten.

Nieto brings a long history of education and volunteer experience to this position. He has been a classroom volunteer, School Site Council member, and just before moving to Rancho Palos Verdes, he was elected PTA president.

Since moving to RPV four years ago, he has become active in several Peninsula organizations, including Los Angeles County Sheriff's Peninsula Emergency

Response Team (PERT), assistant block captain for Neighborhood Watch, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's Sea Ranger program with both children, and is an American Cetacean Society Whale Watch naturalist. He is also the current vice president of Los Serenos de Point Vicente docents and has served as

beach captain for the California Coastal Cleanup Day at Abalone Cove for the last two years. He is a Coast Walk volunteer and is a PVPLC hike leader for our monthly nature walks.

He and his wife have hiked all over the world, including sites in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, South America, Mexico and Canada.

His goals for the next year include coordinating docent/naturalist training

for Conservancy activities at George F Canyon and for our monthly Nature Walk and 3rd grade nature studies programs. He also wants to facilitate cross training of our talented volunteer staff and have this resource available for various PVPLC activities and to help us expand our 3rd grade nature studies program into San Pedro at White Point Elementary School.

We are very pleased to have John with us.



Interior Secretary Babbitt Views PV Blue Restoration Efforts

Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt visited the Defense Fuel Supply Point (DFSP) in San Pedro in September to view the site and hear about Conservancy-

led habitat restoration efforts at the site.

Babbitt, accompanied by Jane Harman, candidate for the 36th congressional district seat, members of her staff, and about six members of Mr. Babbitt's staff, was introduced to DFSP by military and civilian personnel responsible for managing the fuel supply point. He was also given a brief tour of the facility.

Arthur Bonner, Habitat Restoration Specialist for the Conservancy (see story on page 4), described ongoing efforts to rehabilitate PV Blue butterfly habitat at DFSP and repopulate the species. He also discussed the overall plan of developing stable populations of the butterfly at other locations on the Peninsula.



Arthur Bonner describes habitat restoration efforts to Interior Secretary Babbitt and Jane Harman.

Conservancy Grows to Meet Increasing Responsibility

In the beginning, we were a small, dedicated group of volunteers with a vision. As one of the major Peninsula land owners told the *LA Times*, "they are nice people, but they don't have any money [to buy land]."

Twelve years later, we believe we're still nice people, but we have brought over \$13 million to the Peninsula for land acquisition. We also have been instrumental in the preservation of over 360 acres of Peninsula open space with an appraised value exceeding \$19 million. In addition, our role has expanded to include a well-regarded education program and active land stewardship and habitat restoration programs.

Our yearly budget has grown in step—from nothing in 1988 to nearly \$400,000 in fiscal year 2000. Funding from our membership has increased to over \$75,000 per year. We are now under contract for habitat restoration and native plant cultivation, and we have accepted a major management and restoration responsibility at White Point Park in San Pedro.

The increasing budget indicates increasing responsibility. If you've been

a member for several years, you've watched us change from an organization with no paid staff and no office to three full-time staff members and an office.

In May of this year we hired Keith Lenard, director of land conservation for the Wyoming branch of the Nature Conservancy, as our new executive director. Keith has overseen the rapid evolution of our responsibilities and our staff this year.

In response to increasing habitat restoration responsibilities, we hired Steve Heyn and Arthur Bonner as our stewardship director and restoration specialist, respectively, in July of this year.

Also this year, needing to develop a plan for the restoration of the 102-acre White Point property, we asked Loren DeRoy to head that activity as a contract employee. Loren has helped us partner with officials in the City of Los Angeles and is coordinating a local citizen-based steering committee to develop a master plan.

Our office support activities increased to the point where we needed full time help from individuals with office and

financial management skills, so we hired the team of Lisa Dennen and Jack Monks to bring those talents. As their first task, Lisa and Jack have been helping to reorganize our financial and membership management tools.

We also opened a new office, located at 916 Silver Spur Road across from Longs Drugs. Please stop in and see us.

So, the Conservancy is changing rapidly from a volunteer-led organization to an organization where the time requirements and complexity of our tasks require that we have paid employees and a more formal structure.

But volunteers still play critical roles—donating their time as walk leaders, helping with our special events, bringing skills and manpower to our habitat restoration and land stewardship activities, and providing other essential assistance.

This is an exciting time for the Conservancy. Our Board has set challenging goals for the future (see article below), and with the continued generous and dedicated support of our membership, we'll make these goals reality.

Bill Ailor, President

Planning Session Yields Goals for the Future

Since our founding, the Conservancy has held a yearly session to assess our progress, brainstorm ideas, and set goals for the coming year. Our Nature Walks, education programs, photo contest, and other successful projects were created at such sessions. At this year's planning session in August, the Board of Directors set the following major goals:

- **Preserve over 800 acres in the Portuguese Bend area.** Given the recent approval of major funding for land preservation at the state and federal levels, and given our community's heightened interest in preserving open space, we believe the time is right for a major effort.

- **Expand our adult and children's education programs.** Our children's program, which we

provided to over 900 children last year, currently is available only at the third grade level. We will expand the program to grades two through five. We will also enhance our adult programs, providing new opportunities for those who want to become Conservancy docents.

- **Establish the Conservancy as a widely recognized source of expertise in the restoration and management of coastal sage scrub habitat.** We are already providing thousands of native plants to local restoration projects. We will develop systematic and scientifically based restoration criteria for coastal sage scrub habitat and will increase the number of native plants we grow for restoration projects, and we will expand our habitat restoration activities to other

preserved areas.

- **Expand the number of sites with the PV Blue butterfly from one to six.** To assure the survival of this species, we must expand the number of locations where the PV Blue can live and work to develop a stable population of the butterflies at each of these sites.

Over the last 12 years we've met and exceeded our goals, and we will be working hard to achieve those we developed in August.

Our success has been made possible by talented and dedicated volunteers. If you'd like to help us as we move forward, please call our office at (310) 541-7613.



Employee Profile: Arthur Bonner

Arthur Bonner is one of our new employees at the Conservancy's native plant nursery. But that isn't to say he's new to the job. For the past six years, Arthur has been working on rearing the endangered Palos Verdes Blue butterfly and restoring its diminishing habitat.



Like a butterfly, Arthur's life has undergone a transformation. Arthur was born in Florida, and his family moved to the Los Angeles area when he was eight years old. He quickly turned to a life of crime.

Arthur got involved with gangs and by the time he was eighteen, he estimates that his time in juvenile detention totaled three years.

Arthur recognized that if he kept up his current life-style he would end up spending the rest of his life in jail or, worse, dead. He made a decision to change and found his first job with the California Conservation Corps.

The Corps had done some work at the El Segundo Dunes restoring habi-

tat for the El Segundo Blue Butterfly, and Arthur decided to pitch in. Dr. Rudi Mattoni, the leader of the restoration work at El Segundo, recognized Arthur's exemplary and effective work and offered him a job in San Pedro working on the restoration of the recently discovered Palos Verdes

Blue butterfly, which was previously thought to be extinct.

So like the blue butterflies that transform themselves from caterpillar into winged wonders, Arthur has emerged as a leading conservationist on the Peninsula. Over the last six years,

Arthur has helped to expand the native plant nursery, restore several acres at the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP), increase the numbers of PV Blues at the DFSP, and reintroduce the species at the Conservancy's Chandler Preserve.

With Arthur's able assistance, the future looks bright for the butterflies. They now have two homes where they can flutter about, and Arthur has the job of rearing more butterflies so that the Chandler Preserve and the DFSP can reach their full potential.

We are pleased to have Arthur as an employee and thank him for bringing his talents to our new position of Chief Restoration Specialist.

Local Couple Teams to Manage Office

We are pleased to announce that the new position of Office Manager has been filled by the husband-and-wife team of Lisa Dennen and Jack Monks.

Lisa's background includes an MBA, along with work as an economist, business executive and marketing director for computer systems, focusing principally on financial services. Jack's experience includes a number of years in advertising, marketing, research and sales management. More recently, as an attorney, he has worked in legal education, both teaching and administration, and served as President of Western State University.

Lisa and Jack's other team efforts include a dozen years resi-



dence on the Peninsula (where Lisa spent part of her earlier life), membership in the PVPLC and parenting daughter Claire, who starts the sixth grade at Ridgecrest in September, and son Dennen who graduated from Peninsula High in June and commences his studies at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo this fall.

We are very pleased to have the benefit of the combined and varied experiences of Lisa and Jack. They, in turn, have expressed their great pleasure at being able to work here together, as they have long shared a commitment to the goals of the Conservancy.

Table-Sitter Needed

Looking for a way to help the Conservancy that requires only an hour or so per month? Like to meet people? Want something that's easy to do? We have a perfect match!

We need someone to "person"

a table at our monthly Nature Walks; someone who can come to each walk and be at a table with walk flyers and other materials. If you're interested, please contact Anke Raue, our Nature Walk coordinator, at (310) 377-2599.

Propagation Projects Provide Volunteer Possibilities

By Steve Heyn

Once again plant propagation is underway at our native plant nursery down at the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) in San Pedro. If you haven't been to the nursery yet, now is the time to check it out.

Our restoration efforts will be more

tween 500-700 pupae. That is almost the same number of butterflies that was in the initial San Pedro population.

All in all, our efforts have steadily increased as each year we set new, more ambitious goals. As always,

water.

Directions to Lunada Canyon:

From the intersection of Crest Road and Hawthorne Blvd, go north on Hawthorne. Turn left on Verde Ridge Road (just past Hesse Park), head downhill and turn right at El



extensive in 2000-2001. We plan to revegetate twice as many acres as in 1999. This will include six more acres of habitat for the endangered Palos Verdes Blue butterfly, as well as nine acres on the DFSP and Lunada Canyon.

The restoration will include over 40 plant species of the coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, and riparian habitat communities. We will also have more capacity to focus on rare species.

To achieve our restoration goals, we have set the lofty goal of growing 100,000 plants this year, approximately four times the number we grew in the 1999-2000 season. To ensure we reach these numbers, we have substantially increased the capacity of the nursery by expanding the shade cloth area and irrigation system.

In addition to restoring native plants, we will also introduce more PV Blue pupae into the Linden H. Chandler Preserve. Last year 320 pupae were reintroduced to the site; this year we plan to introduce be-

there are lots of opportunities to volunteer in our nursery or on one of our properties.

Volunteer Dates Slated

Volunteer days at DFSP are the first Sunday of the month, excluding any holiday weekends, from 9:00 am to noon. Volunteer days on our Chandler and Lunada Canyon preserves are listed below. Hours are 9:00 to 11:00 am.

November 12	Chandler Preserve
November 19	Lunada Canyon
December 10	Chandler Preserve
January 14	Chandler Preserve
January 28	Lunada Canyon
February 25	Chandler Preserve
March 18	Lunada Canyon

Type of Work: Weed pulling and removal of invasive nonnative plants is most typical. On occasion, we will be planting, seeding and seed collecting as season and circumstances require.

What to wear: Please wear work clothes and boots. It is also a good idea to bring a hat, sun block and

Rodeo. Turn left onto Kings Harbor, drive downhill to Rock Park Drive, a cul de sac to the right. Park on Rock Park or on Kings Harbor. We will meet on Rock Park Drive.

Directions to Chandler Preserve:

Off Palos Verdes Drive North, turn north onto Rolling Hills Road and take a right onto Empty Saddle Road. Drive straight up and into the Empty Saddle Club—we can park just off to the left past the gate. We will meet here and then walk down the horse trail to the right of the entry gate into the preserve.

Directions to the DFSP:

Off Palos Verdes Drive North turn right onto North Gaffey Drive at the Five Points intersection. The second entrance on the right at 3171 is the proper entrance. There should be a guard monitoring the gated entrance to direct you to the appropriate parking area.

Questions: Call our office at (310) 541-7613.

Butterfly-Based Education Program Under Development

By Kathy McGowan

Children are naturally captivated by the concept of saving an endangered species. Teachers are also attracted by the beauty and grace of butterflies and butterfly gardening. The plight of the Palos Verdes Blue butterfly provides a unique opportunity for students and teachers to understand and take action to save an endangered species native to their own environment rather than an intangible species that may exist in a far away rain forest.

Saving the PV Blue requires a multi-pronged approach, including building public support for the butterfly, acquiring sufficient land for habitat, reestablishment of the necessary

food plants on the land and raising sufficient butterfly pupae for reintroduction.

Building public support to save the PV Blue is a first step in expanding our elementary school outreach. Classroom activities would be primarily teacher-led with the PVPLC providing:

- Introductory and ongoing teacher training, including a brainstorming session among the teachers to create opportunities for fourth grade students to share their knowledge with second grade students
- Written and illustrated materials along with suggested classroom references for both grades describing

the life cycle of butterflies in general and the PV Blue specifically

- Kits and guidance for raising a local non-threatened butterfly (e.g., Anise Swallowtail or the Painted Lady) from larval to adult stage
- Optional: seed, soil, pots and guidance for germinating and raising food plants for the PV Blue butterfly to be used for re-vegetating a potential recovery site
- A naturalist-led field trip for fourth graders to the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) to observe the captive breeding operations, see the laboratory, and hike through the exquisite, high-quality habitat on the

Continued on page 10

Photo Contest Winners Announced

Our 10th annual Picture Palos Verdes Photography Contest has completed its second season as "an internet experience," and a good one it was. A total of 43



Grand Prize winner Marilyn Forsythe, left, and People's Choice award winner Jessica Humphrey join PVPLC president Bill Ailor.



"Mystical Palos Verdes" by Marilyn Forsythe

photographs were entered and winners were announced at a reception on September 15 at the Palos Verdes Library in Rolling Hills Estates.

The Grand Prize was won by Marilyn Forsythe for her photograph "Mystical Palos Verdes" shown below. Jessica Humphrey's "Inspiration Point" was voted the most popular by visitors to our web page.

All entries and winners are posted on our web page, www.pvplc.org. A complete list of winners follows.

Seascapes

- Honorable Mention: "Stormy Seas @ Rat Beach," Trish McCoy
 3rd Prize: "Sunsets @ 6:00 pm," Trish McCoy
 2nd Prize: "Lighthouse," Ed Shea
 1st Prize: "Waves Versus Rock," Roger E. Lindenmuth

Landscapes

- 1st Prize: "By the Sea," Jewel (Judy) Scallon
 Plants & Flowers
 3rd Prize: "A Solitary Red Flower," Phyllis Knopke
 2nd Prize: "Homage to Morning Sun," Robert Agli
 1st Prize: "Palos Verdes Wildflowers," Marilyn Forsythe

Wildlife

- 3rd Prize: "Said the Spider to the Fly," Diana Whelan
 2nd Prize: "Guard Duty," Robert Agli
 1st Prize: "Are You Talking to Me?" Marilyn Forsythe

Native Plants

- 1st Prize: "Marching in Unison," Ruth Shigekuni
 Digitally Enhanced
 1st Prize: "A Glowing Hibiscus," Marilyn J. Eden

People's Choice

- "Inspiration Point," Jessica Humphrey

Grand Prize

- "Mystical Palos Verdes," Marilyn Forsythe

Plan Progresses for White Point Nature Preserve

By Loren DeRoy, Project Manager

Shortly after the formal dedication of the 102-acre White Point park as a nature preserve in May, the thirteen member, community based steering committee led by the Conservancy began its work developing the Master Plan for the preserve.

The plan has several major components:

- **Baseline biological study and revegetation plan.** This section was completed by Angelika Brinkman-Busi, who has prepared similar plans for the Linden H Chandler and Lunada Canyon preserves.

- **Plan for visitor flow and orientation.** Landscape designer and committee member Ric Dykzuel has designed this section, which includes plans for park entrances, parking, and interpretive areas.

- **Locations of hiking trails,** including trails for the handicapped, and vista points.

- **Description of historical and cultural resources** of the park and how they will be highlighted.

- **Definition of appropriate hardscape,** such as perimeter fencing, benches, and water fountains

- **Discussion of the limited support facilities required** to accommodate visitors and on-site restoration activities.

The plan is on schedule, and will be submitted for environmental review by November 2000. We hope to have completed the review and approval process by May 2001.

The provisions of the operating agreement only permit the Conservancy to conduct studies and perform necessary research at the site during the first year. Restoration activities will not be permitted until all California Environmental Quality Act requirements have been met and the Master Plan has been approved.

So when will this wonderful community resource be open to the public? Once the Master Plan has been completed, it must be submitted for environmental impact review and approval. Site preparation and implementation of the approved plan is projected to begin in June 2001. If all goes well, the park

could be open to the public by next summer.

How can you become active and support the White Point Nature Preserve? The community has been successful in cleaning up the site and removing invasive, nonnative plants at the regularly scheduled volunteer cleanup days. These volunteer hours have also been instrumental in providing the matching requirement for grant funds. So please volunteer your time, it makes a difference!

Who should you call for questions or concerns regarding the site? During the planning phase, the City of Los Angeles retains responsibility for maintenance

and security at the site. If there is a maintenance or nuisance complaint or concern, the proper authority to call is the 24-hour Park Ranger number: 323-913-7390. If there is an emergency requiring immediate police response, dial 911. If you have general questions regarding the status of the planning process, call the PVPLC at 310-541-7613.

The steering committee meets the third Monday of the month at 4:00 pm at Peck Park, meeting room A. All steering committee meetings are open to the public. If you have questions, please call the Conservancy's office (310-541-7613)



More than 250 participants shared a beautiful morning hiking on the recently preserved White Point Nature Preserve site in October. This was the first time in 40 years that the property has been open for such an event.



White Point project leader Loren DeRoy shares a moment with Scouts.

Our Eagles And Hawks

by Joseph K. Slap

Here on our Peninsula, we have seen bald eagles during their migration, and we've seen many local hawks, red-tailed and red-shouldered. Those birds and other predator birds such as owls, kites, falcons, and vultures, are often referred to as raptors. The osprey, more common in Florida, is a bird that preys on fish by fishing for them, which people also do.

Some of the bird raptors have special names that are not commonly known. For example, a buteo is a large soaring hawk with broad wings which uses rodents as its main prey; an accipiter is a moderate-sized hawk with relatively short wings but with a long tail.

Some of the physical features of raptors have special characteristics. In the next few paragraphs are a few examples.

The toes and talons of many are different from those of others. An osprey's sharp points are its tools for grabbing and holding a fish. Large eagles, such as golden eagles, have



not only strong talons but toes that are thick and sufficiently powerful to allow the bird to lift a mammal as the eagle flies away from its capturing of that mammal.

The rear toe of many a raptor, pointed in the opposite direction of the front toes, can be brought forward with its talon to form a capturing and retaining combination, and when pressed into the prey, the combination of all talons is fatal.

Raptors' beaks can be used to thrust into prey, as well as to aid in its eating. Some beaks are so powerful that they can even break bones.

The weight of a raptor's eyes relative to its entire body weight is much higher than that of a human. If my eyes' weight relative to my entire body's weight, for instance, was of the same proportion as that of a raptor, then each one of my eyes would weigh more than two pounds, making it difficult for me to hold my head up.

A bald eagle has wingtips that

Continued on page 9

Nature Center Offers Special Programs

All programs are held at the George F Canyon Nature Center, located at the southwest corner of the Palos Verdes Drive North at the intersection of Palos Verdes Drive East.

Adult Interpretive Trail Walk

What: Walk 1.5 miles round trip and discover the beauty and natural history of one of the Peninsula's finest natural areas. Learn the flora and fauna of Coastal Sage Scrub and Riparian Woodland.

When: First Saturday of each month; 10:00 a.m. to noon

Who: Appropriate for adults and children 12 years and older

Fee: \$2.00 donation per person supports the Nature Center

Birds of the Canyon

What: Join an experienced birder in search of feathered friends here at George F Canyon. Learn local common birds; introduction to birding as a hobby; use of field

guides and binoculars; interesting bird biology and natural history.

When: Third Saturday of each month; 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Who: Appropriate for adults and children 8 years and older

Fee: \$2.00 donation per adult supports the Nature Center

Pre-registration is required!

Children's Nature Discovery Walks

What: Children five years and older get a special opportunity to experience nature up close and personal! Short walks with hands-on experiences/activities make this fun and educational! Each day has a different theme.

When: Second and last Saturday of each month; 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Who: Appropriate for children 5 to 11 years old

Fee: \$2.00 donation per child supports the Nature Center

Pre-registration is required!

Canyon Night Hike

What: Venture into the darkness and discover mysteries of the night. Learn about nocturnal animal life and test your senses at night.

When: Nov. 10, 7 p.m.

Who: Appropriate for adults and children 8 years and older

Fee: \$2.00 donation per person supports the Nature Center

Pre-registration is required five days in advance!



Haiku Corner: The Peninsula from Another Perspective

by Jorg Raue

Continued from page 8

spread when it's flying, and that spreading aids the flying and gliding of the eagle. An owl's wings are downy because as a night predator it wants to be very quiet in flight, and those wings don't make noise. The wings of some other predators are pointy to reduce friction when flying, just as a dolphin's shape and skin surface reduce its friction in the water.

In a number of years during the final two decades of the twentieth century, the number of raptors has decreased significantly. The losses have been due to a number of causes, including for example: human killings; fatal injuries from impacts with power lines (broken wings or electrocution); poisoning from certain pesticides such as DDT; habitat loss; eggshell breakage from any of a number of factors, etc.

The banning of DDT and certain other insecticides, plus the increase in people who want habitat protection and other environmental safety features, plus reduction or elimination in killings, has fortunately reduced the losses of our raptors and other birds in most recent years.

Our P.V.P. Land Conservancy, plus the P.V./South Bay Audubon Society, and the members and supporters of both organizations, are wonderful representatives of those

In his book, "The Haiku Handbook," William J. Higginson clearly describes the craft of haiku:

"Our first route to experience is through the senses. Our experiences give rise to emotion. Our language captures this experience very well, for when we talk of 'feelings' or say that something has 'touched' us, we apply to our inner mental state words that literally mean having a physical sensation of the world around us.

"We store our experiences in the mind as mental images. In the context of haiku, the word 'image' means words which name objects or actions that cause sensations from which we form mental images.

"Vivid, clear writing gives the reader clear images, which allow the reader to picture what the writer's words show, to hear what they sound, to feel what they touch. If a writer captures the images of an experience that produced emotion, then the reader--if comprehending and sympathetic--will have a similar emotion based on experiencing the images produced by the writer. The haiku is the quintessence of this kind of writing."

The following haiku portray images that anyone familiar with the

Palos Verdes Peninsula can experience:

little hummingbird
lightly dancing in the air
red flower waiting

Charlene Dolim

the pelican fleet
sails by at cliffside level,
brings wishes to join

Barbara Peirce

evening flicks her tongue
across this shore's-lip of sand
to caress my ear

Jess Morton

Vicente Light House —
sleek, white, majestic, lonely;
light beaming safety

Jorg Raue

If you felt emotion in reading these haiku, please let me know so I may pass your comments on, or if you have composed a haiku about any natural aspect of our Peninsula, please feel free to submit it for possible publication in Haiku Corner. My E-mail address is: raue@home.com, or mail to the PVPLC office.

concerned with preserving the world's open spaces and habitats and species.

We, as co-residents of this planet

want to help other residents to survive. So, let's all cheer and support the organizations that work with that goal!

Help save open space!

Your tax-deductible donation helps us save natural areas on the Peninsula.

Donors will receive *Open Spaces*, and be acknowledged therein, unless anonymity is requested.

- Patron (\$1000) Sustainer (\$500) Sponsor (\$100) Supporter (\$50) Regular (\$35)
- Student (\$10) Other donation _____ **Make checks payable to PVPLC.**
- Please send information on volunteer opportunities.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Please mail to: PVPLC, PO Box 3427, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274



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Our mailing label contains useful information about your donation status. On the top line after your name is the date when your last donation was received by the Conservancy. If the top line contains the word "List," according to our records, you have not yet contributed. Please make your 2000 commitment to preserving open space now--we need your help!

Continued from page 6

property

- For second graders, suggested classroom art projects, vocabulary worksheets and children's literature to assist the teachers in integrating the butterfly studies across the curriculum

- Updates on the progress of research and captive breeding at the DFSP via our website

The PVPLC would also like to provide plants and expert guidance to establish native plant gardens at each of the school sites we serve. These gardens will complement all of our life science study units and provide additional opportunity for hands-on experience through planting and care of the garden.

By selecting plants that attract butterflies, each school's native garden can provide a convenient field laboratory for classes studying butterflies.

And for teachers and students who wish to pursue more ambitious study and/or additional stewardship either during or after school, the garden can become a field laboratory for study of plant reproduction through the gathering of seeds and cuttings for germination and propagation.

If you have any funding leads or are interested in becoming involved with our education programs, please feel free to contact Kathy McGowan or John Nieto at the PVPLC offices, (310) 541-7613 extension #4.



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