VOLUME 38 \* NUMBER 1 SPRING \* 2014

# POINT LOBOS



Gray Whale with Tubesnouts, Middle Reef, Whalers Cove
Photo by Clinton Bauder, © 2013



Features	
Conglomerate Ed Clifton	6
The Year the Whales Came Back Kate Spencer	8
Mushroom Madness Anna Patterson	13
Departments	
A Message From the President	3
Augie Louis	
Observations Sparky Starkweather	4
Notes from the Docent Log	14
Memorials, Tributes, and Grants	18
Special Events	20

The Mission Statement of the Point Lobos Foundation is to advance visitors' enjoyment and understanding of Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, to protect its natural environment for future generations, and to strengthen the Monterey County network of coastal California State Parks.



Route 1, Box 221789 Carmel, CA 93922 831-625-1470 www.pointlobos.org

**President** Augie Louis

Vice President
Stella Rabaut

Secretary Bill Eckert

Treasurer John Drum

**Assistant Treasurer** Patty Parker

Directors
Kit Armstrong
Karen Bernstein
Fred Brown
Sharon Hoffman
Jeff Johnson
Elizabeth Martinez
Jay Sinclair
Cynthia Vernon
Cindy Walter

**Docent Administrator** Judd Perry

**Development Coordinator** Tracy Gillette Ricci Docent Coordinator/School Group Coordinator Melissa Gobell

Cooperating Association Liaison Sean James

Development and Communications Director Anna Patterson

Point Lobos Magazine Editorial Director Dida Kutz dida@didakutz.org

**Copyeditor**Charles Schrammel

Image Contributors
Fernando Alizondo
Chuck Bancroft
Clinton Bauder
Delia Bradford
Fred Brown
Ed Clifton
Mary Conway
Kate Cummings
Dave Evans
Dida Kutz
Amos Nachoum

Anna Patterson

Kate Spencer

*About the cover*: Clinton Bauder captured this image during a dive with Allison and Rob Lee. Read the story in the Spring 2013 issue, available online. Scan the QR code below.

Point Lobos Magazine is printed on recycled paper and published four times per year by the Point Lobos Foundation.

Copyright © 2014. All rights reserved. PDF versions available at www.pointlobos.org Or scan this code to vist the archives.



# Message from the President

I am quite honored to take on the role of president of our Foundation. I was introduced to Point Lobos in 1976 while attending UC Berkley. I met Holly Hudson at Cal and later we married. I have learned so much about the history of Point Lobos as part of this extended family with deep roots in this special place. While I have a degree in Conversation of Natural Resources, I have spent most of my working career in real estate. My work with the Foundation over the past three years has allowed me to strengthen my connection with conservation and with Point Lobos. This is joyful work for me.

Augie Louis

I am following in the footsteps of Sandy Hale who now joins a very august group of past presidents. Sandy will remain on the Board of Directors and will be a big help to me. I wish to thank Sandy for all of his leadership. I want to also thank Skip Flohr who has completed his term on the Board. Skip served as President in 2010 and 2011 and continues to be a tireless supporter of our work.

In January we welcomed two new board members. Kit Armstrong worked for many years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is now semi-retired and an active Point Lobos Docent. Cynthia Vernon is the Vice President of Education and Grant Programs at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and serves on the Aquarium's five-person Executive Committee.

We completed 2013 with an absolute flurry of activities and accomplishments, receiving generous gifts from grantors, donors, and our members. Thank you all for your support. Our new and improved website, www.pointlobos.org, is now up and running, so take a moment to check it out. It should make planning your next visit easier and more enjoyable.

Our Annual Meeting held in early January was a gathering full of life and love of Point Lobos. We offered our first Lifetime Achievement Award —The Judd Vandevere Award—to Reid Woodward. Reid is a member of our first Docent training class in 1981. He has been active in virtually every



aspect of Point Lobos over his decades of service. He is a gifted teacher, interpreter of history, and an accomplished watercolor artist. We are fortunate to have Reid, and grateful for the opportunity to acknowledge his contributions with this award.

Our featured speakers at our annual meeting were Ernest Chung, Chairman of the State Parks Commission and Aaron Robertson, Chief Deputy Director of the State Parks Department. They presented an overview of the many new initiatives being worked on within State Parks. The challenges facing our park system have not gone away, but it was inspiring to hear from two key leaders regarding their commitment to strengthen our parks. Foundations such as ours, which are key partnerships, help bridge the challenges. Thank you to Ernest and Aaron for taking the time to be with us.

One step we are proud of is achieving a smoking ban within Point Lobos. As this dry fall and winter came upon us, we were surprised to learn that smoking was still allowed within the Reserve. The fire danger in our forest and grasslands was extremely high. With the support of our members and visitors, we were able to achieve the smoking ban at least on a temporary basis. Congratulations to everyone involved in these efforts.



# & tservate ons

by Sparky Starkweather, State Park Squerrel

inter is just about over and spring is on the way. Actually, did winter ever really get here? The lack of rainfall has me worried. Not only is there the big question of a prolonged drought; but what happens to all the wonderful wildflowers? Will it be a case of "April showers bring may flowers?" I sure hope so.

I am going to describe several plant species most people might bypass because of the many beautiful blooms along the South Shore and Bird Islands areas. I've noticed specific species already blooming!

The wild red flowering currant barely had time to drop all its leaves and now the blossoms are very

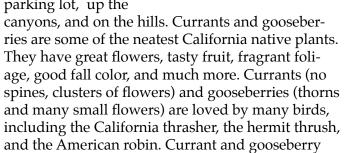


evident. This plant provides early spring nectar for hummingbirds and moths, plus nesting sites for small birds. Quail, robins, finches,

Red Flowering Currant

towhees, woodpeckers, and small mammals consume the berries

Fuchsia-flowering gooseberry is found along the south shore by the Hidden Beach parking lot, up the



flowers are very popular with hummingbirds.

Down by Monastery Beach is a grove of trees leading to the restroom; this is where I find the elderberry. It is also prolific along Carmel Valley Road. I remember

elderberry wine from books by Ray Bradbury. And don't forget elderberry wine as the main ingredient in the movie Arsenic and Old Lace. From the beautiful jumble of yellowish blooms come the blue of the fruit. Yes wine and jams can be made from



Fuchsia-flowering Gooseberry



derful
prolific
bloomer.
Hairy
honeysuckle
is very
evident
around
the
entrance

this won-

station and outer parking lot. Look for the climbing vine and heart-shaped leaves hanging from the pine trees, later in the year the bright red fruit appears and is a favorite of many birds.





Elderberry

Hummingbirds are very attracted to the pink flowers. The berries are edible but can be quite bitter.

Even though they are not native species, wild mustard and wild radish are greening out and buds are noticeable. The Hudson meadows and the meadows at A.M. Allen Ranch will provide lots of color

and nectar for the butterflies soon to appear. Not only will the butterflies benefit but we can as well. Mustard greens are very tasty and the flowers have a nice peppery aftertaste. The bulb of the radish has a really nice bite to it. Please remember you cannot take them in the Reserve.

This has been just a short introduction to the many beautiful flower displays we will see between now and late summer. As you walk trails be sure to carry your copy of Wildflowers of Point Lobos by Art Muto and published by the Point Lobos Foundation. The book is available at the entrance station. And for members of the Point Lobos Foundation the annual wildflower walk at San Jose Creek Canyon will be in May.







Black mustard, left; wild radish, above

POINT LOBOS MAGAZINE All photos by Chuck Bancroft.



# CONGLOMERATE

(kən-glŏm'ə-rāt') (n)

1. A corporation made up of a number of different companies that operate in diversified fields.

The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language

### by Ed Clifton

ost people today recognize the term "conglomerate" only as it applies to the modern business world. For the past 150 years, however, geologists have applied the term to a rock: a mass of pebbles and boulders encased in sandstone. Prominently displayed in the Carmelo Formation at Point Lobos, conglomerate tells a unique story.

The pebbles and small boulders that compose the Carmelo conglomerate range in size from marbles

to basketballs. Their sides are mostly smooth and rounded. Although their colors range from off-white to black, hues of dark gray and firebrick predominate. Many, if not most, display tiny white specks or blebs against a dark matrix. Scrutiny under magnification shows that many of the white specks are either straight-sided crystals or tiny fragments of broken volcanic rock. Volcanic eruptions, some in the middle of the age of dinosaurs



150-200 million years ago, created this rock.

The elements slowly attack exposed volcanic rock and reduce it to rubble. Fragments of the rock accumulate on the slopes below and eventually work their way downhill until they encounter a creek or river, where they begin a journey toward the sea.

This journey is not continuous. Pebbles lying in a stream bed resist movement by everyday water flow. But during floods, the rushing water sends them downstream in a clattering mass. Rough edges become smooth and pebbles are rounded as they tumble along the stream floor.

The pebbles in the Carmelo Formation paused, some 50-55 million years ago, on a shore in southern California near the head of an ancient submarine canyon. Earthquakes or great storms generated submarine landslides and/or avalanches of sand, mud and water that carried the pebbles down-canyon to their resting place in the ocean's depths. As sand, gravel, and mud continued to accumulate atop the pebbly deposits, the great weight of the overlying deposits caused the sand grains to interlock. Sand became sandstone; gravel became conglomerate.

The journey of the pebbles was not over, however. The grinding motion of the Pacific Plate against the North American plate dislocated a large slice of the continent. Encased in this slice, the conglomerate moved northwestward to what today is Point Lobos. Within the last million years, forces generated by the plate

motions raised the conglomerate to the present sea level, where oceanic waves could assault it. Round cavities in the conglomerate reflect pebbles dislodged from the rock; pebbles thus released now compose the Reserve's gravel beaches.

The Carmelo conglomerate will ultimately succumb to the processes of erosion. But the march of its pebbles is far from complete. That journey will continue into the vast future, to what end we can only imagine.

Ed Clifton, a geologist whose career was spent with the U. S. Geological Survey and Conoco, Inc., has been fascinated by the rocks of Point Lobos since he first saw them nearly 50 years ago. He continues to publish the results of his studies of the Carmelo Formation and to lead field trips for professional geologists and others to examine the magnificent geology at the Reserve.

#### **Photos:**

Facing page: Carmelo Formation conglomerate. Coarse sandstone encases pebbles that are mostly composed of volcanic rock. Colorful lichens brighten the rock surface, which displays cavities left by pebbles that have broken free of the rock.

*This page, above:* A black oystercatcher patrols a conglomerate shoreline at the Reserve.

*This page, below:* Conglomerate dominates much of the Carmelo Formation at Point Lobos.



POINT LOBOS MAGAZINE

Photo by Dida Kutz. Photos by Ed Clifton.

SPRING 2014 7



# THE YEAR THE WHALES CAME BACK

by Kate Spencer

his year's whale sightings were off the charts. The ocean around Point Lobos and Monterey Bay has been almost continuously dotted with the blows of great whales since the beginning of the 2013 feeding season. The three main species here, the gray, blue, and humpback whales, cycled through seamlessly in numbers and behaviors perhaps unseen in a hundred years.

Local whale watchers had the amazing opportunity to observe individual whale personalities emerging from the herd, mothers raising calves, cooperative and antagonistic interactions among species, and killer whales appearing frequently to mix things up. It would take a book to detail all the incredible stories witnessed from land and from boats. Here, with a broad brush, is the feel of the last year.

#### **Blue Whale Bonanza**

Blue whales tend to feed offshore, so in most summers any sighting is a treat.

Strong upwelling currents laid a feast of krill beginning in March for early-arriving humpbacks and a trickle of blues—then suddenly blue whales were everywhere during the entire month of July.

Blues were offshore, near shore, in Monterey Bay, off Carmel Highlands, at Point Lobos, sometimes surface feeding, even gathering in ephemeral groups of up to 12— unusual behavior for a species that feeds alone or in twos.

Spectacularly, a few Risso's dolphins took up the inexplicable sport of blue whale chasing. It's rare to witness the biggest animal on the planet dashing around in a zig-zag explosion of massive



whale power with leaping dolphins in pursuit, yet it happened at least six times last summer.

#### **Anchovies and the Humpback** Whale Time Travel Machine

At the end of July the currents shifted, taking krill off the Central Coast menu. The blue whales and most of the humpbacks left to forage elsewhere, except for a core group of twelve humpbacks that took up residence in front of Moss Landing for the entire month of August.

Then came the surprise of September. Reports of humpbacks moving north up the Big Sur coast were confirmed the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>, when dozens of frisky humpbacks arrived in Carmel Bay. Nobody could have predicted that these 200some whales and the vast mass of anchovies they were following would settle in Monterey Bay in a feeding frenzy that lasted into December.

Shifting groups of up to twenty humpbacks, surrounded by hundreds of sea lions, made the sea surface a frothing mêlée of whiskers and spouts

and flippers and flukes. Day after day these mixed mobs swam together, disappearing for three to eight minutes, long enough to reach the anchovy mass 300 to 400 feet down, get a few mouthfuls, and start upward. All the groups in a wide area somehow synchronized their dives, leaving the air strangely quiet while they were below, though hydrophones could pick up eerie humpback feeding calls from the depths.

Then the first few sea lions would surface, coughing and splashing as more and more sea lions came up, until the geysers of humpback blows burst out among them. All would catch their breath for two or three minutes and disappear again. The sheer power and biomass of these mammals was like the bison migrations of the Great Plains.

Occasionally fish were at the surface and the whales spent hours continuously lunge-feeding. Enormous jaws surged up toward the sky through shimmers of leaping, panicked anchovies, then snapped shut with the whales' wobbling,





bulbous throat-pouches filled with water and fish. Crowds gathered on the Marina dunes to watch whales gulping on their sides in only 30 feet of water. Visitors even saw surface-feeding from the deck of the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

It was as if we'd been transported to the days before commercial whaling. No one seems to recall a smörgåsbord like this. Even the best whale feeding gatherings in the last decade on Monterey Bay numbered only 100 humpbacks and up to 60 blue whales, and those peaks lasted three days maximum. This year the throng went on for three months—and there are still

some anchovies out there in midwinter, with a few young humpbacks chasing them.

#### **Gray Whales: Great** Numbers and **Great Sightings**

The Point Lobos cliffs are a grandstand on the gray whales' near-shore parade route. This winter's migration is off to a great start after their Arctic summer feeding season. The clear early winter weather (read: drought) made it easy to spot them puffing

south, and high numbers reported in the Baja California breeding lagoons suggest there could be lots of healthy calves going north this spring.

A few lucky whale watching excursions saw southbound newborn gray whales, just hours or days old, swimming clumsily alongside their mothers. Usually they are so shy, and the seas so rough, that newborns slip by undetected. New research suggests almost half of all gray whale calves may be born during the southward migration.

It is more common to see northbound gray whale calves when they are older and larger, as they pass our area from mid-April to mid-May. Watch for them



resting in coves anywhere along the coast, and for the tall black fins of killer whales that come here to hunt them. Also keep an eye out for hungry adult and sub-adult gray whales foraging in very shallow water or in kelp forests. Divers in Pacific Grove caught an incredible underwater video of a gray feeding on its side on the sandy bottom this winter.

#### Watching for the Future

Will the humpbacks return in such numbers next summer? Will the anchovies last or decline, and will the sardine crash affect the whales? Will 2014 be a nearly krill-only year like 2012? Will this winter's mild weather lead to more gray whale calves, and more killer whale sightings, in the spring?

There's no question that humans are changing the whales' world rapidly, with increased shipping, fishing, pollution, oil exploration, marine debris, climate disruption, and ocean acidification. How one year's phenomenal whale sightings fit in with the bigger picture of natural cycles and human influence will probably take years to understand.

We can be sure, though, that more people will be watching the ocean—from Point Lobos, on whale watching boats, and through research programs to see what happens next among the whales.

#### **Tips for Whale Spotting**

A whale's breath, or blow, looks like a puff of steam close to the surface. Glance often at the ocean and soften your focus so that blows and splashes will stand out. On windy days whale breaths get blown away among the whitecaps. A large white boat sitting still is probably whale watching so keep your eyes on it for five minutes or more until the whale surfaces for a series of breaths.

Most blows seen from land December to May are gray whales, and in summer and fall are probably humpbacks. Anything is possible any time, though: even blue whales at the edge of the kelp, Risso's dolphins looking like killer whales, and large humpbacks giving off blows as tall as a blue whale's. A good view of the body and/ or tail is necessary to be positive. Go out on a whale watching boat with a naturalist to get to know these marvelous animals up close.

Captain Kate Spencer takes small groups whale watching and sightseeing at Point Lobos on the 33' Zodiac-style Fast Raft (www.fastraft.com), and was a long-time naturalist for Monterey Bay Whale Watch (www.gowhales.com). See her wildlife artwork at www. katespencer.com



Ready to forage! From left to right: Dan and Jeanne Turner, Augie Louis, Phil Carpenter, Jim and Susan Greene, Kris and Jameson Quist, Werner Ju and Deborah Shoub-Ju, Dave and Gretchen Evans, Chuck Bancroft, photo by Anna Patterson

#### **MUSHROOM MADNESS**

Tach year, the Point Lobos Foundation acknowledges Emembers at the Cypress Grove Steward level and above for their outstanding commitment to Point Lobos with a special event. In February, these members were treated to a day focused on fungi at the beautiful and exclusive Santa Lucia Preserve.

Retired Ranger Chuck Bancroft led a group of foragers in the morning, and Fungus Federation of Santa Cruz Prime Minister, Phil Carpenter, gave an "Introduction to Foraging" presentation. Chris Hauser, Director of Land Stewardship for the Santa Lucia Conservancy, shared

their work with the group. The day finished with delicious mushroom appetizers, an outstanding lunch (prepared by Chef Carlton of the Hacienda) paired with wonderful wines, and a bag of homemade meringue mushrooms for the trip home.

It was a special day, in honor of our most generous supporters, and we had a great time. Special thanks to the Santa Lucia Preserve and the Santa Lucia Conservancy for giving us this unique opportunity. There are additional activities each year for donors of \$1,000 or more. If you are interested in upgrading your donor level to receive an invitation to these events, please contact Anna Patterson at anna@pointlobos.org or 866-338-7227.

From left to right: Carolyn and Fred Brown, Rochelle Dolan, Jeff Johnson, Roger Dolan, photo by Anna Patterson

Into the woods, photo by Dave Evans One of the finds, Hypholoma fasciculare or Sulphur tuft, photo by Dave Evans



# Notes, from the Docent Log

### compiled by Ruthann Donahue

#### Hello, I'm a Human Being.... **Lorna Claerbout** 1/22/14

Last week I had a school walk that I will never forget. I had a very observant and enthusiastic group of students who spotted many beautiful creatures, including a lizard, deer, brush rabbits, pelicans, and numerous gray whales heading south to Baja. The highlight came when we climbed the stairs at the Cypress Grove headland and were greeted by more than a hundred Risso's dolphins and a pod of humpback whales pec slapping and spy-hopping so close that we could look them in the eyes. One little boy looked back at the whales and exclaimed joyously, "Hello, I'm a human being and I'm from Prunedale Elementary School!" When we concluded our walk, one student who had never been to the ocean before said, "I want to stay here forever." Another one said she was going to bring her grandma to Point Lobos. "She loves nature so much she is going to cry." Thanks to the Point Lobos Foundation for supporting these school walks that have such a tremendous impact on the students and their families, as well as the docents who tag along for the exciting ride!



#### **Lasting Impressions Terry Tellup** 1/5/14

Misty, white fog has settled over the Reserve all afternoon. Sunshine breaks at the Information Station in a visitor's smile. When asked if he's been to Point Lobos before, the gentleman beams "Yes! The last time was over 40 years ago when I came on a field trip as a sixth grader." When asked what he remembers of his first encounter, he says, "The tide pools - the starfish, the abalone." He was thrilled to be back and to share this beautiful place with his female companion. It was her first time at the Reserve, and her smile was as large and beautiful as his. I shared that we still have a School Outreach Program and we talked about how a field trip to Point Lobos can have a life-long effect upon children; just as it had upon him. I pointed them in the direction of the tide pools at Weston Beach, but not before encouraging them to consider becoming Point Lobos Docents with the opportunity to lead school walks themselves. The kind gentleman, grateful for today, and a special fieldtrip over four decades ago, thoughtfully tucked the printed card on how to become a docent into his wallet.

#### The Bird Whisperer Tom Clifton 1/16/14

When I closed the Information Station the other day, I heard a scrub jay quietly singing in the cypress behind the pelt exhibit. Generally when we think of jays in the Reserve, we think about loud, brash, even annoying calls. A Steller's jay may fool you with a rendition of a red-shouldered hawk call, but its whisper song will blow you away. Whisper songs are quiet, lilting tunes that jays seem to use when they want something. The songs approach the complexity of the California thrasher, but are much more intimate.



#### Awesome Time at the MINT Van **Alexanne Mills** 1/19/14

Mickey McGuire and I enjoyed a great time at the MINT van yesterday. Hoards of visitors were treated to a gorgeous day complete with a multitude of gray whales, a raft of otters in our scope just off the Bird Island parking lot, and amazing kids. Jan Klinefelter had opened up the van before us and had assembled two tables full of treasures. I had a delightful, gifted six-year-old educating me about everything: migration, anatomy and physiology, camouflage, and more. Soon after he left a 10-year-old girl came along to discuss the habits of the pinnipeds! I fervently hope and expect that these youngsters and many more like them will be our future leaders. It would be great to be able to follow along as they make their way through life.

Ed. Note: The MINT (Mobile Interpretation) electric van was purchased by PLF in order to bring Reserve interpretation to Bird Island visitors. The van is regularly driven to the site and set up by Docents who are trained in the operation of the electric vehicle.

#### So, How Old is He? Celie Placzek 11/11/20

An Information Station visitor came up asked if we knew how old the deer was - that is, the skull of a deer in our display. "No, I don't have a clue,"

I told the man with an impish smile. "Let's take a look," he said. So I lifted the delicate skull off the shelf. "Here," he said, flipping it over and pointing to the teeth. "See these last molars? They're like our wisdom teeth and in a deer they don't appear until the animal is two years old." Now that's pretty cool stuff, I thought. He went on to say, "Look at the gum line – or where it was- and how it has receded. This gives you more information about the deer's age." Finally, one last fact he offered was how much the teeth are

ground down, which is partly a function of eating and how much grit or sand the deer takes in while foraging. What a fine morning this was, immersed in deer dentition. It made me forget how cold I was.

#### **Tooth Talking Follow-up** Fernando Elizondo 12/11/13

As docents, we admire the wonders of the questioning and energetic young minds on school walks...and we hope to be prepared for their questions. As our group neared the end of a school walk with all seeming normal, hands were shooting up eagerly to ask questions and make comments. An arm from the back of the pack quickly went up, and Joyce moved toward the front of the line with her arm clenching a small object. As she approached, she calmly opened her hand and unveiled her prized possession: A TOOTH. "I lost my tooth and my mouth is bleeding." Certainly a first for me on the trail, and there was nothing from my docent training as to what to do. To add to the harbor seal births, I have now experienced the birth of a new tooth!

#### **First-hand Advice Carol Bloner** 1/13/2014

Visitors are great ambassadors. It was lovely in the Reserve today: sunny, comfortably warm, and close to empty compared to the multitudes who visited over the holidays. My husband and I were standing at the Cypress Grove and North Shore trailheads deciding which to walk when a

visitor, who by his accent I judged to be from South America, literally ran over to us. Not recognizing my green docent jacket for what it is, he exhorted us to walk Cypress Grove trail, proclaiming it to be the most beautiful walk he ever took. We thanked him and walked Cypress Grove trail. He was right.

the current and past Docent Administrators might prefer disarray), a confusion of guinea fowl, and a dazzle of zebra. A dazzle of docents has a certain ring to it...However, following W.C. Fields' suggestion, "If you can't dazzle them with brilliance...," I am going to suggest a baffle of docents.



#### A Corp? Tom Clifton 11/29/2019

I was recently asked to opine on a discussion that started with docents Stephanie Kaku and Nelson Balcar. Apparently, they were at the Information Station when a number of docents appeared. So the question was asked, what do you call a group of docents? Is it a mob of docents, or perhaps a congress or murder like baboons or crows? After a little research, I found a site that provides many group references for various animals. From this list three jumped out at me: an array of hedgehogs (though

#### Point Lobos Catch and Release Tom Clifton 11/21/2014

Point Lobos is a wonderful place, but you can spend too much time here. One of the ways you can tell you are spending too much time at the Reserve is that you start getting roped into questionable ventures. For example, two weeks ago, Paul Reps and I found ourselves wrestling a 180 lb. elephant seal into a transport crate on a narrow stairway on the south end of Gibson Beach, while most of the Marine Mammal Rescue crew watched and offered advice. To be fair, one member of the



crew was holding the seal's head so it couldn't reach back and bite us, which I especially appreciated being closer to the mouth than Paul, who had his own issues, being at the tail end. Once in the crate, it took all of us to haul the seal the rest of the way up the stairs and into the rescue truck.

Ed Note: Elephant seal visits to Point Lobos are becoming noticeably more frequent. We wonder how an elephant seal rookery impact the ecological balance in China Cove, Gibson Beach, and Weston Beach?

#### Weston Beach Wonders Paul Reps 2/7/14

Can you imagine having Weston Beach all to yourself? I did for one hour and, with a pretty low tide, I saw some things for the first time! Two red sea stars, black turban snails, crabs, anemone, and just about everything in our new tide pool brochure, including a sea star that was suffering from the wasting disease. And then people saw me in my jacket, and I retraced my steps for a second hour. Visitors were as mesmerized as I was. Rain came and went and not one person left

as they were entranced by the world beneath the water. A little girl asked me if she could take a small sea star home, and I asked her, "If you take it home, who will get to see it next?" She smiled and said,"WOW! I didn't think of that! Thanks, it's good to have you taking care of them! Do you feed them, too?" Another wonderful day at the Reserve!

#### Neither Rain Nor.... Ruthann Donahue 2/6/2014

Gorgeous day—rain, at last! So much restorative water that visitors to Whalers Cabin postponed visits for another day. The free time allowed more in-depth conversation with docents-in-training Manus Donahue and Matt Ferraro. Eager to test their growing skills, we watched as four intrepid hikers marched up the hill and into the cabin. Docents! Lyle Brumfield, Tom Dolan, Greg Crawford, and a guest (docent recruit?) visited long enough to dry slightly and then headed out across the cove. Moments later we spotted their distinctive profiles on top of Granite Peak. Great dedication to the Reserve—although they did prefer than we not photograph one of them (not to be named here) with a large black umbrella.

POINT LOBOS MAGAZINE

A docent baffle. Photo by Tom Clifton.

Tidepool photo by Mary Conway.

SPRING 2014 17

## Memorials, Tributes, and Grants

OCTOBER 16, 2013 through JANUARY 15, 2014

# THE SISTER ANNA VOSS MEMORIAL FUND

Use of donations made to the Sister Anna Voss Memorial Fund, and the income generated by it, is restricted to the education and direct support of the Point Lobos Docent Program and the school education outreach programs relating to Point Lobos State Natural Reserve.

Robert and Maribel Andonian David and Caroline Appling Kit Armstrong Maryann Capriola Antone and Carolyn Damas Fernando Elizondo Mary Forbord Dick and Claire Gorman Bruce and Elaine Holiday Henry Imwalle Jon Jennings Werner Ju and Deborah Shoub-Ju Gisele Kapuscinski Dr's, Zamzow and Karl Wayne and Phyllis Kelley Jan Klinefelter Cindy Mattos Chris Miller Marie and Donald Murphy Barbara Nowinski Dan and Pat O'Donnell Judd and Sharon Perry Bob and Kathy Petty Celie Placzek Marty and Dennis Renault Kenneth and Sally Ann Sikes Joseph and Georgia Stern Lawrence D. Swank Carl and Carol Voss Stella Rabaut and Donald Williamson Evelyn Wolbrinck Jeannie Young Karen Zamzow

#### **GRANTS**

Community Foundation for Monterey County, to partner in the purchase of a new, electric interpretive vehicle

**McGraw-Hill Company,** to support a volunteer trail day at Sea Lion Point

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation, to support public education about our Marine Protected Areas during Underwater Parks Day

Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District, for preliminary studies on the Lace Lichen trail

The Robert and Jean Taylor Fund of the Rochester Area Community Foundation for general use

#### **MEMORIALS**

In memory of **Donald Dommer**Victoria Lamm
Richard and Susan McNeilly

*In memory of* **Dr. George Haltiner** Mary Haltiner

*In memory of* **Sheila Lillian Krieger** Robyn Krieger

In memory of **Kurt Loesch**William and Connie Dallman
Paul Finnegan

In memory of Jim McCammon
Fred and Carol Bloner
Jeffrey and Lucy Campen
Jon Jennings
Werner Ju and Deborah Shoub-Ju
Rich and Ruth Max
Mike and Cathy O'Neil
Alexandria Storm
Don and Ann Trout
Andrea Weiss

*In memory of* **Carrie Mehdi**The Carrie Mehdi Foundation

*In memory of* **Lynne Pennington Miles**Susan Miles Miller

#### **MEMORIALS (Continued)**

*In memory of* **Barry Miller** Susan Miller

*In memory of* **Elizabeth Polt** Renata Polt Schmitt

*In memory of* **Claire Reordan** Nancy Spear

*In memory of* **Jud Vandevere** Barbara Rainer

*In memory of* **Mary Whisler** William Booker

*In memory of* **Ruth Young** G.E. Young, Jr.

#### **TRIBUTES**

*In honor of* **Fred Brown**Lorin and Karen Letendre

*In honor of* **Mat Fuzie** Anonymous

*In honor of* **Mary Gale** Mary Forbord

In honor of **David Hally** Leslie Barrow Doris Barrow John Hally

*In honor of* **Jeff Johnson** Stanley and Nadine Clark

*In honor of* **John Kiliany**Jerry and Madelaine Kiliany

*In honor of* **Paul Reps** Alexandria Wiercigroch

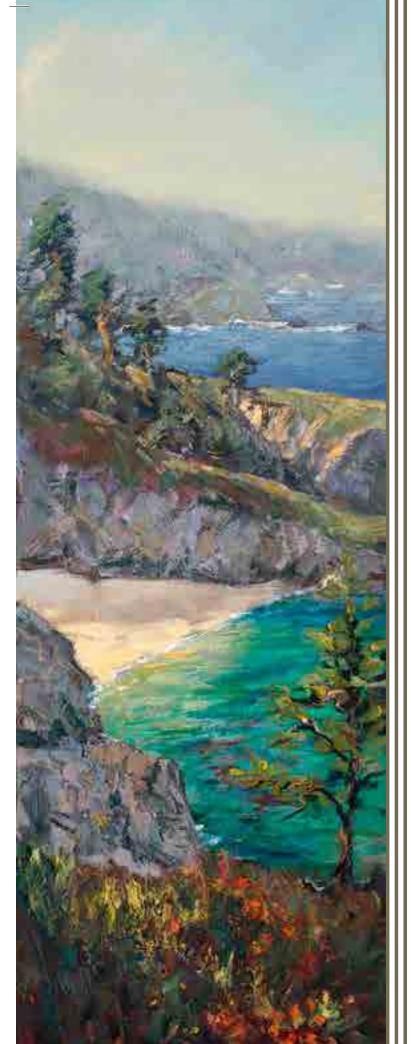
*In honor of* **Matt and Leah Rolando** Rolando Vieta

*In honor of* **Deborah Shoub-Ju** Helen Ju

*In honor of* **John Steinhart** Daniel Steinhart

In honor of **Peg Winston** Priscilla C. Campbell

*In honor of* **Howard C. Worrell** Fernando Elizondo



"We don't inherit the earth from our ancestors. We borrow it from our children."

David Brower

What's your legacy? A planned gift to the Point Lobos Foundation can meet your charitable and financial goals and help protect Point Lobos into the future. Contact Anna Patterson, Development Director, at 866-338-7227 or anna@pointlobos.org for more information.

Painting by Delia Bradford, deliabradford.com



Route 1, Box 221789 Carmel, CA 93923 831-625-1470 NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT
NO. 35
CARMEL
CALIFORNIA

Members of the Point Lobos Foundation receive invitations to special events, a subscription to the Point Lobos magazine, and a 20% discount on merchandise. Memberships are 100% tax-deductible.

Return the enclosed envelope to join us today, or scan the code below to sign up for our e-newsletter.





Docent Nelson Balcar tide pools with members at an event in 2013, photo by Anna Patterson

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MEMBERS**

#### New Member Walk

Friday, April 4 | Time TBD Point Lobos State Natural Reserve Guided exploration of Point Lobos with a focus on seal pupping. This is an event for new members.

## "The Point Lobos 9-Miler" Big Sur International Marathon

Sunday, April 27 | 7:45 am start time Foundation members receive a \$10 registration discount. Highway 1 is closed to traffic and the walk/run route goes directly through Point Lobos. Members contact tracy@ pointlobos.org for discount code. Race info at bsim.org.

#### Wildflowers, Wildlife, Wine & Lunch

Saturday, May 17 | 10 am - 1 pm San Jose Creek, Carmel

An invitation-only event for our members at the Gray Whale level and above. Includes a private, guided tour of San Jose Creek Canyon's wildflowers.