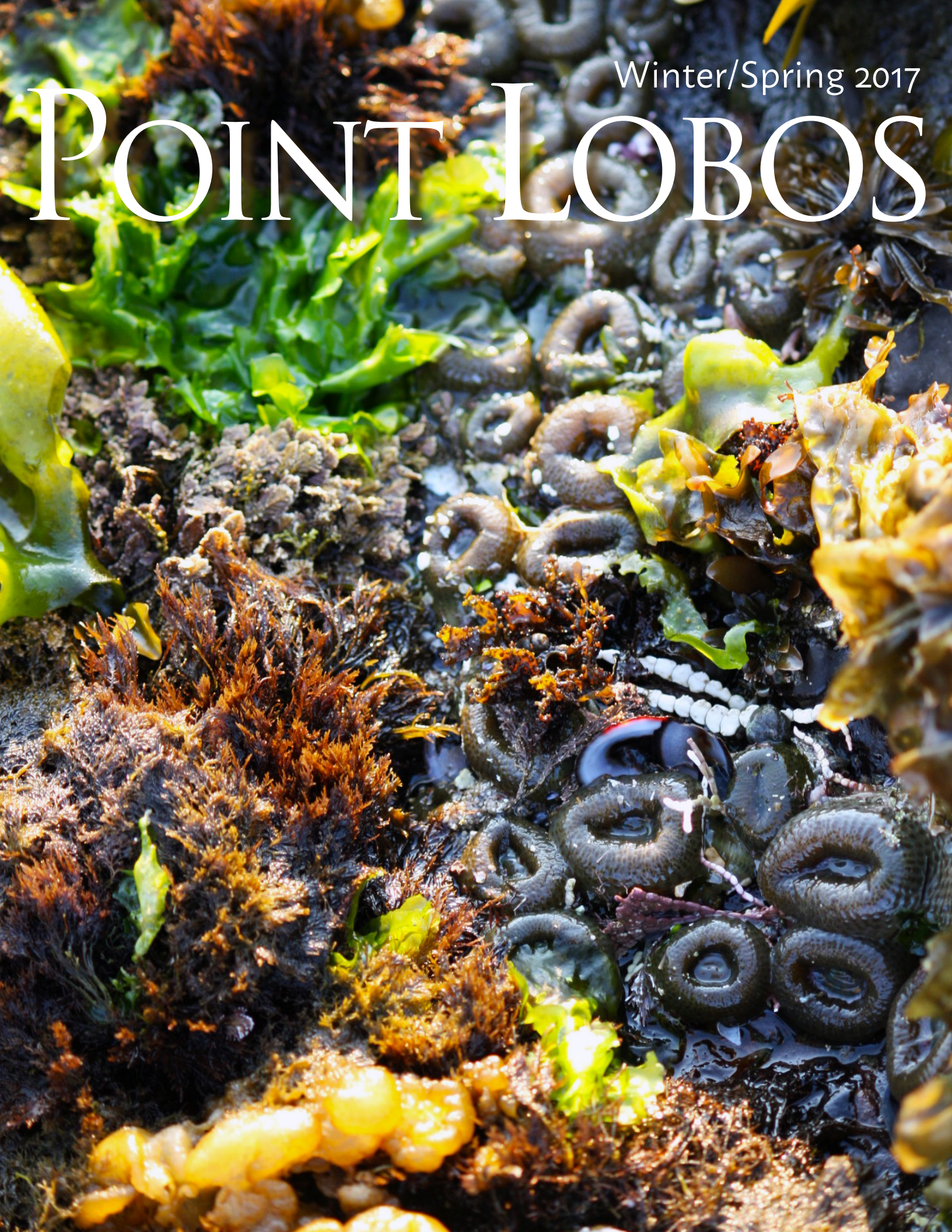


Winter/Spring 2017

# POINT LOBOS







*State Parks Natural Resource Management team installs new symbolic fencing, funded by the Point Lobos Foundation, to protect habitat.*

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## Front Cover

*A wealth of life at Weston Beach. Anemones, Anthopleura elegantissima or aggregating anemone. Top left, green leafy plant, Ulva species or sea lettuce. Upper right, turkish towel, Mastocarpus species. Left and right, yellowish-brown leafy alga, specimens of iridescent algae, Mazzaella species. Bottom left, yellow, sea cauliflower or Leathesia marina. Some feathery pink/gray in middle left below the green leaf, a type of coralline alga, Corallina species.*

*Photo: Point Lobos Foundation*

## Photo Spread, pages 10-11

*Our mission is to protect and nurture Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, to educate and inspire visitors to preserve its unique natural and cultural resources, and to strengthen the network of Carmel Area State Parks. **pointlobos.org***  
 PO Box 221789 | Carmel, CA | 93922 | 866.338.7227



# President's message

by Cynthia Vernon

In mid-January, the Point Lobos Foundation hosted its annual membership meeting. Our focus, thanks to keynote speaker Dr. Elin Kelsey, was “Wild, Contagious Hope” and the theme permeated our entire morning.

Elin shared with us the inspiring research taking place around environmental conservation, effective messaging and hope. She emphasized how very important it is for messages of environmental degradation to be countered by messages of environmental success. Hearing these messages of success has been proven to give us the hope and energy needed to meet these issues head on — rather than a strong desire to hide our heads in the sand.

To that end, I'd like to share with you our reasons to be hopeful. In 2016, your support allowed us to accomplish great things, including the new *Discover Point Lobos* iPad app for children and a successful second year of hiring interns for the natural resources research program to protect flora and fauna at Point Lobos. Your gifts helped us to raise the funds necessary to begin the Sea Lion Point and Sand Hill Trail ADA restoration project, which will start in early February, to bring the trail back to ADA standards and revegetate lost habitat.

Your support enabled us to continue to have a strong presence in regional efforts, like the Carmel Area State Parks General Plan and the Lobos Corona Parklands Project, that tie directly into our mission. Your gifts helped us to replace the roof of the restroom in Whalers Cove,

and add \$20,000 worth of symbolic fencing in the most disturbed areas of Point Lobos to help prevent user-created trails and the loss of habitat.

We continue to support the Point Lobos Docent Program and school programs serving children at the Reserve.

As the first marine reserve in the United States, the underwater landscape of Point Lobos has been protected for more than 50 years and is a shining example of a conservation success. The life depicted in this issue shows us what protection can mean for our ocean, and some of the many fascinating, slimy, strange reasons we have to be hopeful. On April 22, we'll celebrate these protected areas with Underwater Parks Day — an all ages event at Point Lobos that allows visitors a glimpse beneath the waves. I hope to see you there!

We invite you to continue with us as we enter 2017 with hope and expectations of success. Thank you for making this work possible.



*Above: Cynthia Vernon. Cynthia is the president of the Point Lobos Foundation, serves on the board of the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums and is the chief operating officer for the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Left: CSUMB Master's student and natural resources intern, Erika Senyk monitors marine mammal, shorebird and seabird behavior at Point Lobos.*





# Visitors who stay dry miss half the Reserve

What do divers see underwater?  
A hidden world of wonders

by Jerry Loomis

*Beaded anemone, Urticina lofotensis. Photo: Jerry Loomis*

When visitors come to Point Lobos, they marvel at what has been called “the greatest meeting of land and sea in the world.” But where that meeting occurs is a world largely hidden to most of them – the underwater world, the other half of the Reserve.

I began to dive at Point Lobos in 1980, the year I arrived after a five-year assignment at Lake Oroville, a large recreation area in northern California. I was ready for a change.

Supervising Ranger Glen McGowan and I had become part of the State Parks Dive Team the previous year, after going through extensive training at Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Glen transferred to

Point Lobos in May of that year and I arrived in October.

It was a good year. We were both young and full of excitement to be working in a world-class Reserve with numerous trails and 750 pristine underwater acres. We felt blessed to be working in the “crown jewel” of the State Parks system.

Underwater interpretation was a new adventure for State Parks and me. The Point Lobos Ecological Marine Reserve was created in April 1960, making it the first Reserve of its kind in the nation, and the State Parks dive program was just becoming recognized. As State Parks divers, we were responsible for search and rescue, maintenance

and interpretation.

Giant Kelp is still thick in the fall and the water is clear. I remember the sun streaming through the kelp canopy much like it does through the Monterey pines. Cold, nutrient-rich water facilitates an amazing number of colorful invertebrates and fish; the towering kelp forest is both motel and restaurant to countless forms of colorful organisms.

To my amazement, the granitic substrate was densely covered with small plants and animals competing for space. There was not a square inch of bare rock to be found anywhere. The sea otters play a profound role in subtidal ecology; they eat around 25 percent of their body

mass daily, digesting a multitude of invertebrates, including sea urchins, which denude kelp forests.

The docent monthly otter counts vary from 50 to 100 otters in the Reserve at any one time, and so where there are otters, a dense kelp forest results. Where otters are absent, vast areas are often barren of invertebrates and kelp due to uncontrolled urchin grazing.

I have made more than 1,000 dives in California, so I can say that Point Lobos is by far the best dive spot in our state. Only 15 dive teams are allowed per day. The same rules apply underwater as on land, so all life forms are protected and the impact on the Reserve is minimal.

Only Whalers and Bluefish coves are open to diving while the remaining areas are reserved for permitted scientific diving. The water temperature during the spring upwelling period may be as low as 46, but hovers in the low to mid 50's the rest of the year.

I recall visitors coming up and asking, "What did you see down there?" It was that question -- a hard one to fully answer -- that got me excited about telling those interested what they are missing out on. Of course, people love shark stories and I have a few, but I have never seen a great white. I did see a gray whale, which I thought was a shark for a few seconds. After it got within 10 feet of us, we slowly regained our composure. It was just as exciting.



Bat star, *Patiria miniata* with juvenile giant spined sea star, *Pisaster giganteus*, and a sculpin fish. Photo: Jerry Loomis

When asked by divers which areas were the best, I would send them over to outer Bluefish Cove if they had a boat, or to the outer rocks in Whalers Cove if they were swimming. There is a fault zone that runs through

Diving at Point Lobos is limited and reservations may be made up to six months in advance. For details, visit [pointlobos.org](http://pointlobos.org).

Whalers Cove that creates a sand channel, making the swim to outer Whalers possible when the cove is dominated by kelp.

There are walls and pinnacles that are covered by anemones, sponges and colonial tunicates that are marvelous to explore. During the winter, the kelp is knocked down to the holdfast, opening up the coves to greater exploration.

Under Coal Chute Point there is a cave, and off the tip of the point there is a very old anchor. Visibility greatly improves, due to a lack of plankton in the winter, and deteriorates in the spring and summer when upwelling is the strongest. Visibility can be 60 to 100 feet in the dead of winter, or it can be like pea soup in the summer when the plankton is in full bloom.



Lined chiton, *Tonicella lineata*. Photo: Jerry Loomis

I began to love underwater photography, developing a passion for that perfect shot which required lots of bracketing. To interpret the underwater Reserve, I was allowed to build the three-panel interpretive display (funded by the Point Lobos Foundation) that is still by the parking lot at Whalers Cove. My text and images cover a variety of subjects but barely scratch the surface of what is really there. Outside of aquariums, such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium, very little has been done to interpret underwater Reserves for the public. Point Lobos is now unique in that regard. Sponges, nudibranchs, anemones and sea stars are among the animals found in vast numbers nestled on the rocky bottom.

Huge schools of fish swim through the kelp forest for divers to see and enjoy but they go unnoticed by thousands of visitors. I developed a presentation called the Underwater World of Point Lobos that I gave to schools, clubs, docents and organizations all over the Central Coast. I still give that talk from time to time.



I was born to be a Park Ranger and blessed to be a Ranger at Point Lobos. I started my career in the 1970s, retired decades later and now I am a Point Lobos Docent. I have hundreds of memories stemming from situations that occurred above and below the water. Turning in my protective equipment and hanging up my fins did not come easy.

*Jerry Loomis was a State Park Ranger, Diving Control Board member and Docent Coordinator. He trained Rangers and Life Guards to dive, and docents to be interpreters at Point Lobos from 1980 to 2004. His e-mail address is loomis15885@gmail.com.*



*Top right, Wavy top snail, Megastrea undosa, with its shell partly covered with an encrusting coralline alga. Above, Light bulb tunicates, Clavelina huntsmani. Photos: Jerry Loomis*



# From the editor

## Distinguishing fact from fable

by Reg Henry

As I discovered last year, the five months of training to become a Point Lobos Docent covers most everything animal, vegetable and mineral. But in learning a lot, the rookie docent soon realizes that he or she has only dipped a toe into the vast sea of knowledge.

That can lead to moments of uncertainty, sometimes about the very lessons thought to have been learned. My moment of doubt came in the form of a bright young girl, maybe 10 years old, who was visiting Whalers Cabin with her parents.

I had just finished regaling her group with the oft-told story of the Japanese abalone diver who almost drowned but was saved by quick thinking. As the story goes, the diver in his cumbersome suit stumbled into a rocky outcrop underwater, breaking the glass window on his metal helmet. Water poured in and within moments the suit would be too heavy to pull to the surface.

What did the diver do? Why, he took out an abalone from his gathering bag and placed it over the leak. The abalone obliged by making a strong seal, as they do on rocks, and the diver was saved. Brilliant!

At this point, visitors usually beam with astonishment, but this little girl wasn't buying it. She put her hands on her hips and said with attitude: "Is that really true?"

"Well," I said, "I certainly hope so, because I tell the story all the time and

if you can't trust a docent, who can you trust?" (Actually, I didn't say that last bit but I should have.)

Still, her skepticism was reasonable. This story does seem a little too good to be true. Had I crossed the line from being an interpreter to a mythologizer? Fortunately, Kevin Shabram, the docent historian, happened by the cabin later that day and I asked him if the story were true. "Yes, I believe so," he said, "I heard that from an old ex-diver who knew the diver it happened to."

Phew! Just the same, I now find myself questioning other stories too. For example, if you read about the creatures in the Reserve, the reptiles described are not scary. The conventional wisdom is that no poisonous snakes are at Point Lobos and so I have told visiting school kids not to worry about rattlesnakes.

But then I was corrected by another docent. "No rattlesnakes?" she said. "I have seen one here. We know they are in the surrounding hills. Do you think rattlesnakes can't cross the road?" Hmm. Mental note to self: Stop saying never, start saying rarely.

..."If you can't trust a docent, who can you trust?"

The temptation exists to embroider the facts to make for a better story, especially if it is passed on orally. This is often done innocently but a little factoid added here and a little factoid added there is what turns truth into fable. Anyone who has played the kids' game of whispering some secret into the next kid's ear knows what happens when the story goes around the circle -- it becomes something else.

If we docents are ever guilty of this, I am sure it is mostly harmless. And some things you do have to take on trust. We tell visitors that the southern

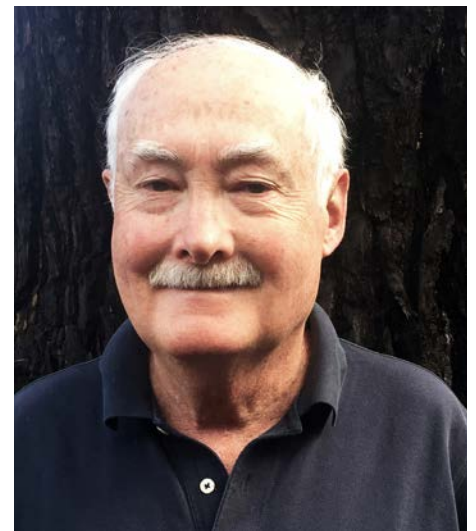
sea otter has 600,000 to 1 million fibers in one square inch of fur compared with 100,000 on the human head (whereupon, I always lift the docent cap atop my vacant scalp and say: "In my case, fewer").

These numbers are incredible, in the literal sense that they defy credibility. However, there's no alternative other than to believe that scientists have painstakingly counted all the hairs. It's not like we can do a recount. I just hope the job wasn't given to a marine lab intern who was bored after the first 100,000 fibers and became distracted by email.

The antidote to these doubts, of course, is knowledge and more knowledge. New docents must learn a minimum number of facts but you soon realize that you can't know too much in this job and your learning never stops. As it happens, this edition of the magazine has reliable features on some of the topics I have touched upon – including diving, sea otters and abalone.

Read on, my friends, so that if a little girl says to you: "Is that really true?" You will be able to say: "Yes, because if a docent says it, it must be so."

*Reg Henry is editor of the Point Lobos Magazine. His e-mail address is [regwriter43@gmail.com](mailto:regwriter43@gmail.com).*



# No winter of our discontent at the Reserve

For when the crowds go,  
different visitors come

by Chuck Bancroft

Spring, summer and fall have their charms at Point Lobos but winter arrived with its own magic. I look forward to the colder months for special visitors, dramatic weather conditions and unique photo opportunities. There are too many winter visitors to name so I'll tease you with just a few.

Some of the most obvious of the local winter species are fungi and mushrooms. While I won't go into much detail about these fungal friends, I will warn you not

to pick any in the Reserve. Like all species, they are fully protected.

Probably the most photographed mushroom is *Amanita muscaria*, the fly agaric. Because of its iconic mushroom shape, it has appeared in children's fairy tales, animated films and video games.

At the base of pine trees look for *Gymnopilus junonius* or Jumbo Gym. They display a spectacular number of caps in a wonderful yellowish honey color. Beware .... they are very poisonous. And you may see a Dyer's polypore (*Phaeolus schweinitzii*) used by many weavers and cloth makers for dyeing wool and other materials.

Another seasonal visitor is the Pacific gray whale. They pass through, heading south to the warm lagoons of Baja, Mexico just after Thanksgiving and return back north with calves in early spring. Many are the days when groups of visitors oooh and aaah at the sight of these long-distance travelers as they make their way from the Arctic and Bering seas to Baja and back — an annual 12,000-mile round trip.

And, of course, we celebrate the return of monarch butterflies, which are regulars at Natural Bridges State Beach park in Santa Cruz, the Monarch Sanctuary in Pacific Grove and here at Point Lobos.







Facing page, Bonaparte's gull. Above left, *Amanita muscaria*, the fly agaric. Above right, Heermann's gulls. Photos: Chuck Bancroft

We have seen many monarchs flying and I've photographed the caterpillar, chrysalis and newly-emerged butterfly this past October in a friend's yard. With seeds from the Monarch Sanctuary, she grew her own butterfly weed plant. Sure enough, a monarch came to stay and produced several caterpillars and a successful new butterfly.

Although numbers have been down these past few years, I still walk over Whalers Knoll searching for clusters of monarchs. The walk is energizing, it is quiet with few other visitors and has spectacular old trees and views along the way.

For those of you who want a unique experience, try to identify the different gulls here for the winter. Some 15 different species spend winter here. The real challenge is to identify birds from different years. A first-year, second-year, or even a third- and fourth-year bird can look so different. I've almost given up hope of being a real gull person. I take the photograph and then rely on the experts in the area to help me with the identification.

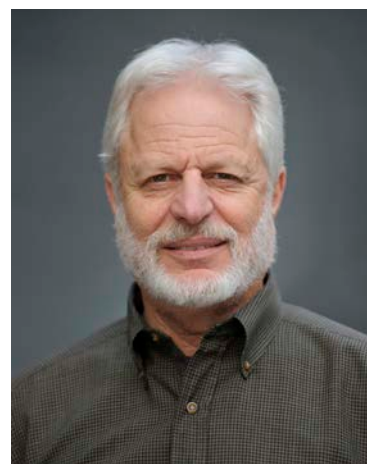
The most identifiable gulls at Point Lobos hang out in Whalers Cove. The Heermann's gull is a very distinctive slate-gray color with a red bill. The Bonaparte's gulls I have seen are usually single birds. They are small for a gull, delicate-looking and acrobatic in flight. We see the non-breeding birds without the black head, but in their winter plumage all the gulls have a black dot at the side of the head behind the eye.

The mew gull is another smaller and delicate looking gull. Look for the large eye and a thin, small, unmarked yellow bill. The California gull can be seen year-round but they are in much greater numbers during the winter. Look for greenish-yellow or gray-green legs and a yellowish bill with black and red spots.

Don't frustrate yourself with trying to identify the younger birds just yet. To really learn and study birds, take a walk with our birding docents, join your local Audubon Society and go on outings with the experts. Start with one bird and then just keep adding to your growing list. It's a lifetime of joy and exploration.

One of the joys at Point Lobos is that it changes from season to season. With the exception of the busy Christmas and New Year period, the human visitors in winter are fewer but what they find is that nature has sent its own remarkable visitors.

*Chuck Bancroft spent 31 of his 35-year career as a State Parks Ranger at Point Lobos. These days photography, nature walks and programs for members of the Point Lobos Foundation keep him busy.*















# Life on the half shell

Everybody — and every sea otter — is interested in the abalone

by Trudy Reeves

Most visitors to Point Lobos see only remnants of the abalone that were once abundant here. The abalone exhibits in the front room of Whalers Cabin museum capture visitors' imaginations. The occasional iridescent shell on a beach beckons as found treasure, not to be collected. The sparkly bits of shell embedded in and along the trails, some discarded from ancient campfires on scenic bluffs and others left behind by a commercial harvesting, drying and canning operation in the early 1900's, tell the tale of how abalone once supported human life at Point Lobos.

The large intact shells on display in front of Whalers Cabin raise questions about the living, breathing creature that once lived inside. What happened to the abalone? Where are they now? How do they live? And why are they such expensive delicacies that most of us have never tasted?

Wild abalone survive immersed in a constantly flowing environment of waves and currents, pummeled by debris, while clinging to rocks, literally for dear life. Non-divers can view these amazing creatures at low tide in the intertidal zone as they move gracefully along rock ledges. Once disturbed, an abalone immediately pulls its shell down tight on the rock surface using its muscular foot as a strong suction cup. Predators must learn how to pop them loose before this happens.

Abalones are giant marine snails. Similar to slow-moving garden snails that feast on terrestrial plants, the adult abalone crawls along on its single muscular foot beneath its shell armor, feeding mostly on red and brown algae, especially kelp. At Point Lobos, the adult abalone's primary natural predator is the southern sea otter.

In the late 1800's to early 1900's when the otters neared extinction, abalones flourished. During that time, the huge abalone population, along with other kelp-feeders previously kept in check by the otters, decimated the kelp forest at Point Lobos. The combination of commercial harvesting, depleted





food sources, and the return of the otters eventually resulted in fewer abalone and regeneration of the kelp forest.

Of the more than 50 species of abalone in the world, two species, red and black abalone, are frequently observed in the waters off the shores of Point Lobos. The largest of all abalone species is the red abalone, which initially grow about an inch per year from tiny larval specks to large adults with ear-shaped, 8 to 12-inch-long, thick, bumpy shells. Adult black abalone tend to be smaller with slightly thinner shells.

The hard outer shells of both species are lined with iridescent tiled layers of calcium carbonate, prized as “mother-of-pearl.” Respiratory holes near the edge of the shells serve not only as breathing vents, but the water passing through also carries waste and either sperm or eggs.

Because abalone reproduce by distributing sperm and eggs into sea water for fertilization, known as broadcast spawning, males and females must live near each other. A single adult female can release millions of eggs at one time, yet the survival rate for young wild abalone is less than 1 percent.

Over-harvesting by commercial fishermen and sport divers has had devastating effects on the fragile balance within colonies and total population numbers. Today, commercial harvesting of wild abalone is banned in the United States. Restrictions on sport fishing apply north of the San Francisco Bay and all collecting is banned south to the Mexican border.

Abalone farms now supply restaurants and home cooks, replacing banned commercial fishing of wild abalone. Locally, the Monterey Aba-

lone Company raises abalone in mesh cages under the Commercial Wharf in an open water operation.

Smaller than those once harvested in their natural habitat, farmed red abalone take about four years to reach market size of 3½ to 4 inches. Their delicate taste is somewhere between a scallop and a calamari steak. Farmed abalone are featured on the Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood Watch list as a sustainable, ocean-friendly choice. Abalone in its natural state is one tough muscle, but with a little pounding and garlic butter, it can be transformed into a tasty morsel!

The wild abalone population worldwide continues to decline. Although contributing factors include disease and natural predation, one of the primary threats is illegal harvesting encouraged by black market prices. The state Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates that more than 250,000 abalone are taken illegally off the California coast annually, even though it spends more resources protecting abalone than any other animal. You can be part of the solution by supporting sustainable abalone farming as a consumer, and by reporting suspected abalone poaching to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (888-334-2258) or by going to <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Enforcement/CalTIP> for how to text or report online.

*Trudy Reeves is a writer, certified California Naturalist and a Point Lobos Docent. Her e-mail address is [trudyreeves@gmail.com](mailto:trudyreeves@gmail.com).*



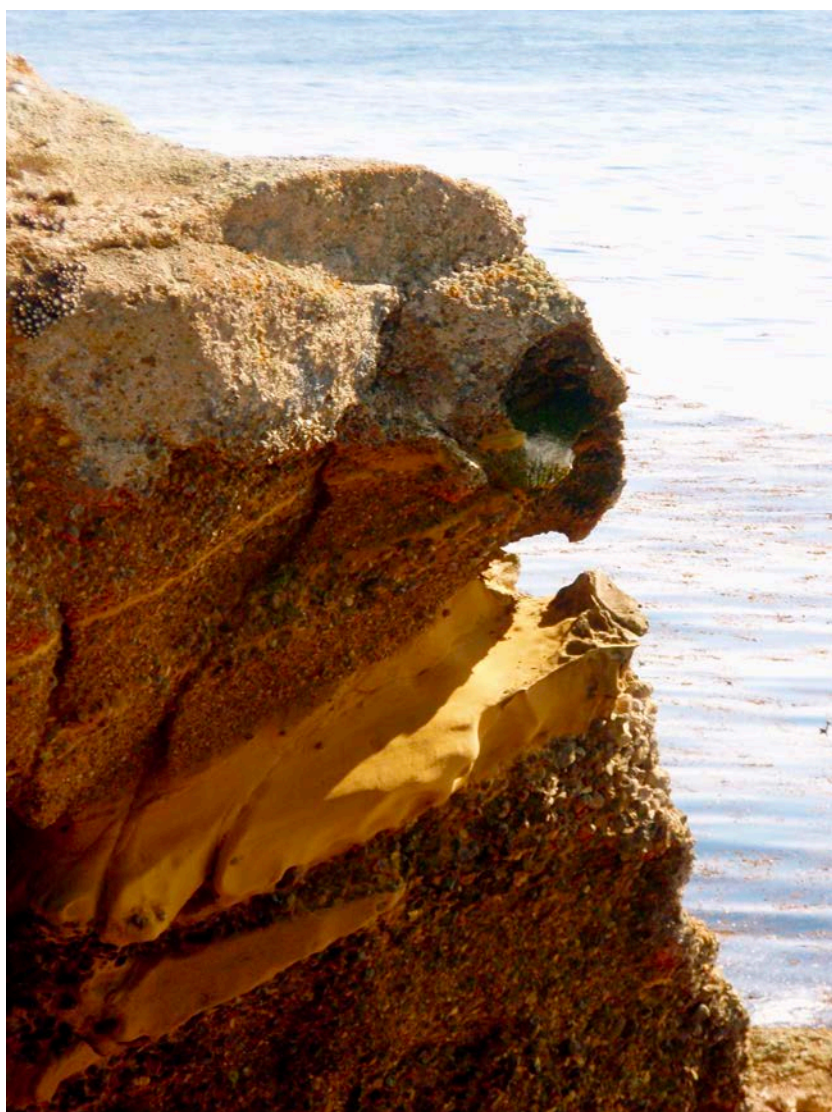
*Above, abalone shells in front of the Whalers Cabin. Photo: Trudy Reeves. Facing page top, Red abalone, *Haliotis rufescens*. Image: Jerry Loomis. Facing page bottom, Red abalone in Moss Cove tidepool. Photo: Mary Conway.*



# Notes from the docent log

Compiled by Ruthann Donahue

On my recent trail watch, the view at Sea Lion Point took on a new perspective. Pareidolia is a psychological phenomenon involving a stimulus wherein the mind perceives a familiar pattern of something where none actually exists. What do you see? Deborah Ju responded, "I so clearly see a face which looks Native American to me." Carol Greenstreet noted, "I always call the rock Montezuma, thinking that it looks like a Native American with an elegant Aztec headdress." Fred Brown added, "Proof positive that our shores were visited by the ancient Polynesian peoples. This is their warrior chief, Pareidolia lowano. Mesmerized by the passing whales, he was turned to stone, to ever watch the heart-shaped spouts drift by." *Alexanne Mills, 10/8/2016*



I had the pleasure of giving a guided walk to a group from the First Nation Futures Program (<http://www.fnfp.org/>), a joint educational partnership with Stanford University and First Nations institutions from Hawaii, Alaska and New Zealand. Wonderful group and very appreciative of Point Lobos. At the end of our walk, they surprised me by singing some traditional songs, including a Maori song from New Zealand and a Hawaiian song. It was inspiring to stand on the edge of the Pacific at Point Lobos listening to these beautiful songs. We all live in different places but we are connected by the same ocean. *Kevin Shabram, 10/30/2016*

As I was walking past China Cove on Friday, I glanced at Bird Island's lunar landscape and thought that lugging my scope out here when there's nothing to see is one crazy idea! It's November, I reminded myself, and cormorants won't be here for a long time. But before I knew it, Mother Nature came to my rescue together with a curious young man from China who brought his parents. He asked what I was looking at. Offshore, a good distance out, I pointed to a lone otter resting in the kelp. He googled the word otter in Chinese for his interested parents. While he was using the scope, I asked what his parents were saying. "They're telling me what to do, of course," he laughed. Using a scope for the first time, the parents each had a chance to see for themselves. Astonishment! After many thanks plus photos, they walked off down the trail with what I hope will be a fond memory of discovery. *Celie Placzek, 11/19/2016*

*Photo: Alexanne Mills*





*Above, a pod of Risso's dolphins. Photo: Dave Evans*

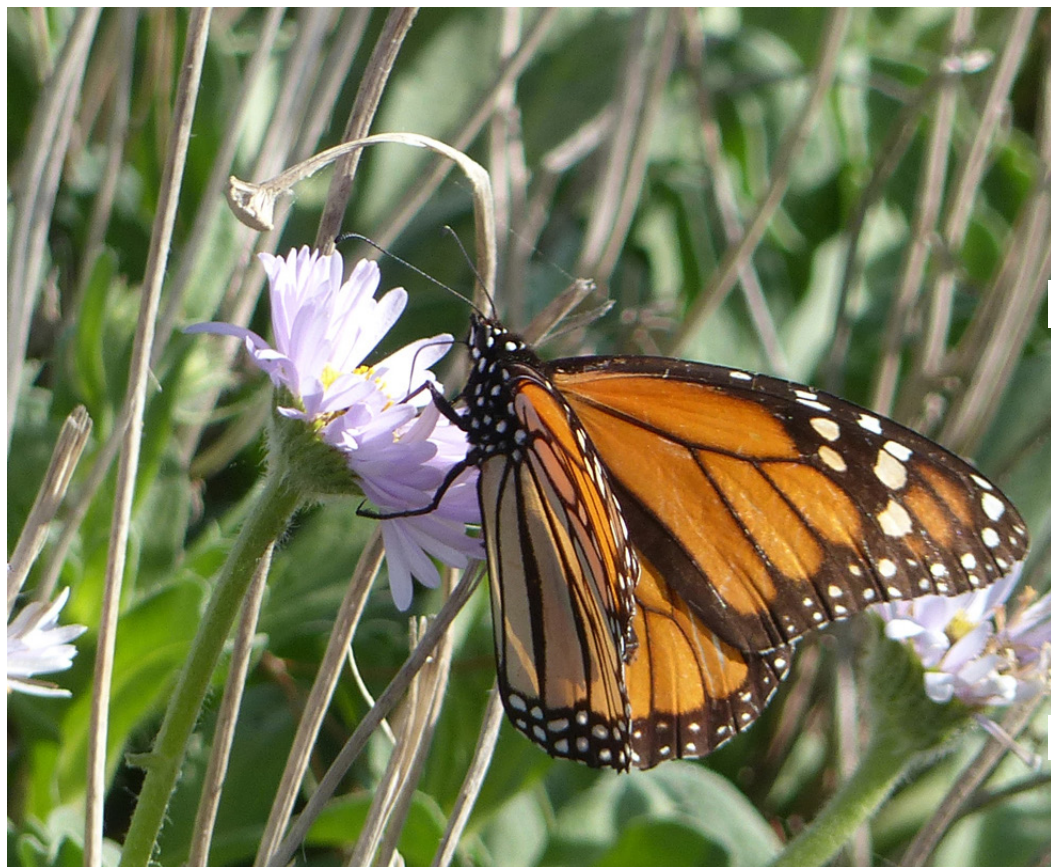
Don't know if it was the prayers of St. Catherine of Siena school kids or maybe the Easy Access team depositing some squid in the Risso's dolphins' Swiss account, but a pod of more than 10 Risso's swam laps off South Shore for a couple of hours this morning. The kids first spotted the pod swimming north just offshore from Piney Woods. Round and round they swam giving the Easy Access team an incredible sight. One dolphin even seemed to be giving directions with some fluke slaps. No hunting appeared to be going on, but occasionally they just hovered in one place for a few minutes. There were at least four juveniles in the pod, so maybe some "home schooling" was going on? Regardless, a school walk to remember and a great addition to an Easy Access day. (Easy Access provides guides along the three ADA-accessible trails.)  
*Dave Evans, 10/5/2016*

When the powers-that-be decide to close the Reserve, like at the beginning of this week for three days, I feel secretly miffed. "Oh come on, really?" the angry child in me complains. "Could the storm be causing all that much trouble?" Well, I'm here to say that today, after seeing the amount of riprap along each beach and in each cove, and after seeing downed trees in the forest and trails pockmarked with puddles, even that cranky child within admitted .... our Rangers know best.  
*Celie Placzek, 1/12/2017*



The Whalers Cabin museum was a happening place today. Kim Fraser and I spotted a bat flying back and forth the cabin length about five times and coming closer to us each time. I found myself trying to hide behind her and I laughed at my instinct to save myself! Next a visitor from Hastings, England, arrived. He had visited 10 years ago and counted Point Lobos as a favorite spot. In the guest book he wrote, "This is probably my favorite museum in the world!" High praise from someone well-traveled ... but I am also remembering he did call the cabin museum "cute." Finally, I pointed out what I thought was a kingfisher on the top of the rocks near the cabin, and Kish Kishore confirmed the sighting by setting up a scope just in time to see the bird soar across the cove and return with a fish that was quickly swallowed as he landed on the rock. I left marveling again at our wonderful world that is Point Lobos and our docent crew!

*Barbara Grace, 10/9/2016*



Monarchs have been fluttering on the breeze at Point Lobos over the last month but sadly, for the third year in a row, no monarch clusters were found. By contrast, the statewide Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count recorded 117 monarchs in 2012 and 486 in 2013, mostly on Whalers Knoll. Monarchs move around quite a bit depending on the weather and food resources so maybe we have unspotted settlements. Has anyone seen clusters of monarchs elsewhere in Point Lobos?

*Nancy Bryson, 11/22/2016*



Some of the birds that winter over at Point Lobos have started to arrive. After hearing them around the house in Monterey, I finally spotted some golden-crowned sparrows down on the South Shore near Bird Island. Then on the morning of otter count there were at least four blue-gray gnatcatchers in the scrub at Sea Lion Point. Earlier I spied a hermit thrush making an appearance behind Whalers Cabin. Grebes are appearing in Whalers Cove, but I am still awaiting the osprey and yellow-rumped warblers.

*Tom Clifton, 10/16/2016*

*Above, Monarch butterfly. Photo: Rick Pettit. Left, Gnatcatcher. Photo: Tom Clifton. At right, volunteers (thank you Defense Language Institute), docents and friends brave the weather at the 2016 Moonlight Walk. Photos: John Drum*







# Acknowledgements

Memorials, tributes and grants  
September 1, 2016- December 31, 2016

## MEMORIALS

In memory of Colin Barton  
Barbara Mroz

In memory of Martha Bennetts  
Dr. John Bennetts

In memory of Matthew Bernhisel  
David Bernhisel

In memory of Lahman Leon Bower, Jr.  
Marjorie and Joseph Longo

In memory of Stephanie Drum  
John Drum

In memory of Tom Fordham  
Jean C. Eckert

In memory of Mitzi Francis  
Dean Francis

In memory of James Frincke  
Leslie and Laurie Chatham

In memory of Betty Hinkley  
David Hinkley

In memory of David B. Keister  
Ruth Anne Keister

In memory of Theo R. Klein, Jr.  
The Klein Family

In memory of Nancy Kocher  
Edward Kocher

In memory of Sheila Lillian Krieger  
Robyn Krieger

In memory of Henry Kuroiwa  
Harriet C. Kuroiwa

In memory of Dick Lehrberg  
Catherine Lehrberg

In memory of Carrie Medhi  
Carrie Medhi Foundation

In memory of Lynne Miles  
Susan and Jim Greene

In memory of James D. Niebbel  
Cammy Torgenrud

In memory of Judd Perry  
Maria Penner

In memory of Shirley Rosenberg  
Saul Rosenberg

In memory of Ed C. Sullivan  
Stephanie Shepherd

In memory of Mary Williams  
Dr. Ralph Williams

## TRIBUTES

In honor of Fred Brown  
Lorin and Karen Letendre

In honor of Phillip Butler and Barbara Baldock  
Timothy Smith

In honor of "Parker" Brown  
Terry and Christine Kirk

In honor of early Chinese American pioneers and their fishing villages  
Anonymous

In celebration of Ryan and Lauren Fletcher and Erik and Emily Kaestner  
Peter and Patricia Fletcher

In honor of Hope and Sandy Hale  
Sarah Godfrey

In honor of David Hally  
Doris Barrow and Mike Hally

In honor of Katie Jahns  
Matt Nellans

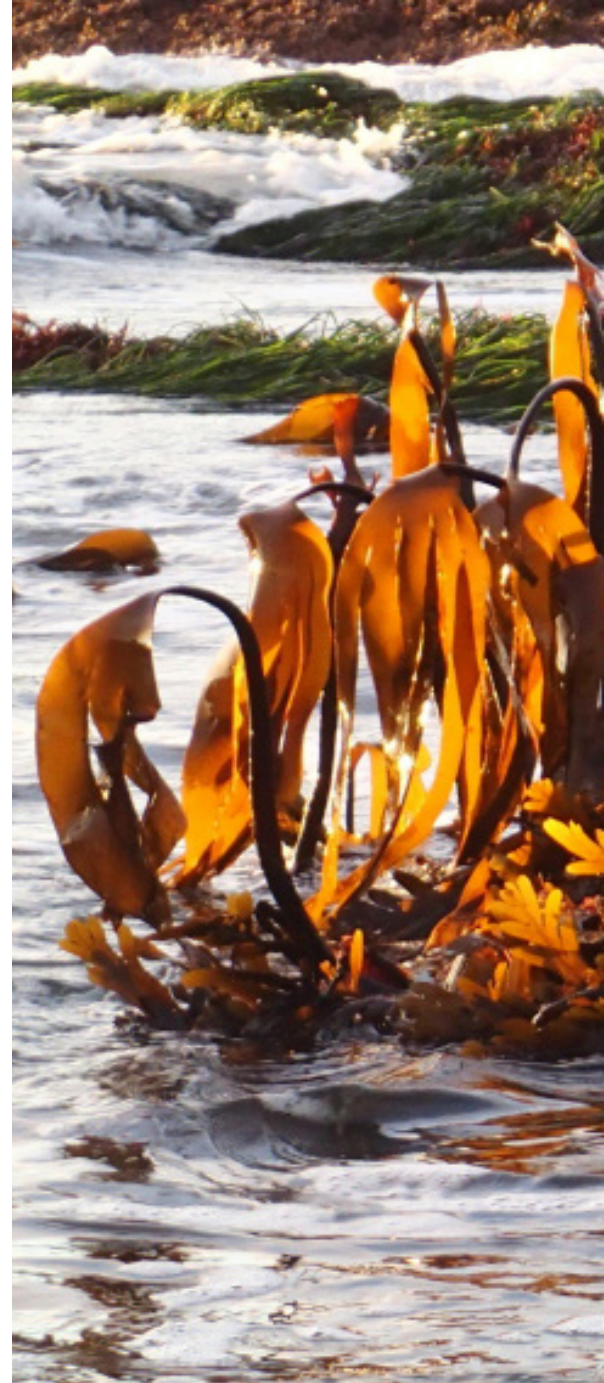
For the birthday of Jane Johnen  
Joseph Johnen

In honor of Wayne Kelley  
Bill and Barbara Deasy

In honor of Jill Lee  
Katherine Hobbs

In honor of Sharon Markham  
Patrick J. Timmons

In honor of Markus McMahon  
Jayanti Addleman



In appreciation of a docent-led walk  
Recovery Center Alumni Board

In honor of Jean Reilly  
Annis and Nick Kukulan

In honor of Louis and Betty Silvestri  
Alan and Sandra Silvestri





*Laminaria in the sun, Laminaria setchelli, Weston Beach. Photo, Mary Conway*

#### SISTER ANNA VOSS FUND

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.

In memory of David and Caroline Appling  
Henry Imwalle  
Carl and Carol Voss

In honor of Jeff Johnson and Sharyn Siebert  
Gordana Stjepanovic and Michael Phelps

In honor of Don McDougall  
Allan and Mindy Berkowitz  
Nancy Newman  
Margie Pomerantz  
Michael Strutin

In celebration of the Parodi Family and  
Stella de Mare in Carmel  
Perry J. Gray

In memory of Leon "Jack" Pingel  
Helen Pingel

#### GRANTS

Terry Layne Fund of the Community  
Foundation for Monterey County  
*for restoration of Sea Lion Point and the  
Sand Hill Trail*

Richard Grand Foundation  
*for continued natural resources research*

Monterey Peninsula Foundation  
*for restoration of Sea Lion Point and the S  
and Hill Trail*

Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop  
*for restoration of Sea Lion Point and the  
Sand Hill Trail*





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# Puzzle

By Ann Pendleton

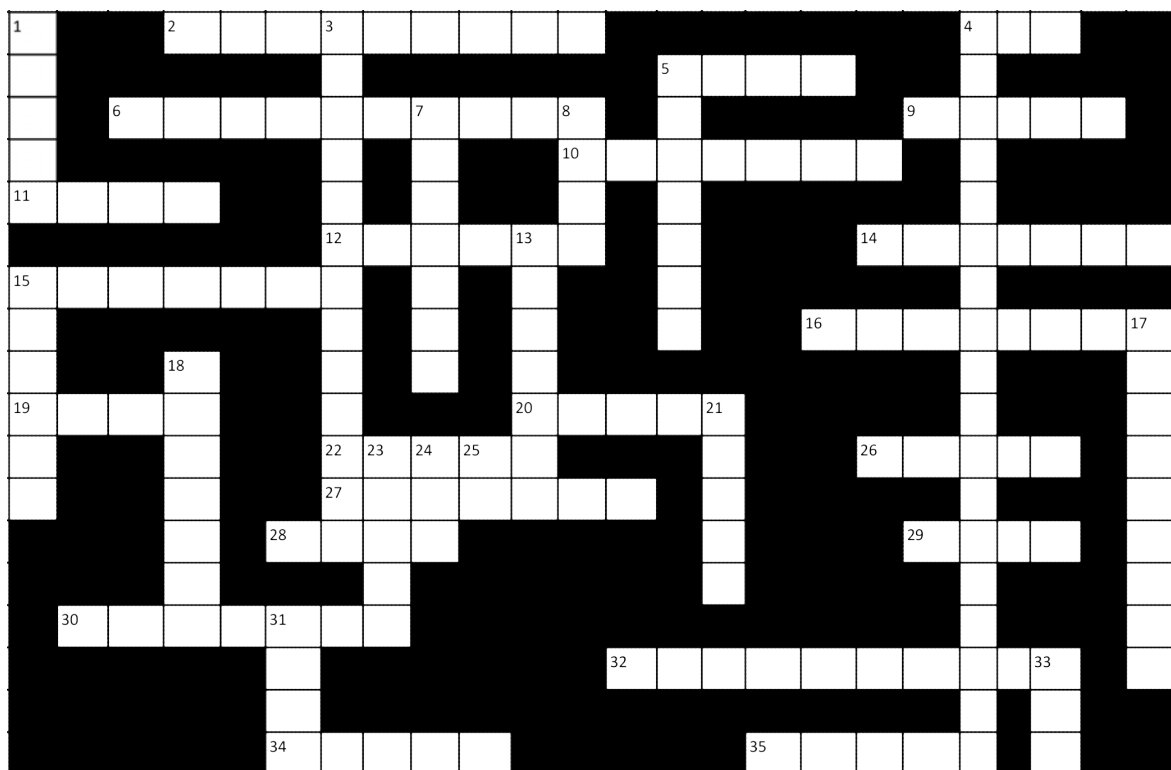


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## Across

- 2** Prize of a beach-comber  
**4** Fancy looking kelp  
**5** What coyotes leave behind  
**6** Known for "bottling"  
**9** The otters made me \_\_\_\_\_ out loud  
**10** Harvested out of Whalers Cove  
**11** The wettest forest at Point Lobos  
**12** Preferred nesting site of many birds  
**14** Spotted shark  
**15** Quiet sea bird  
**16** The sound of waves colliding into rocks  
**19** What all Point Lobos Docents are  
**20** Could be Guilemot Island  
**22** Earth's largest surface  
**26** Point Lobos has 2 types of these white birds  
**27** Ocean going animals  
**28** One enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ while at Point Lobos  
**29** Formerly rock



- 30** Mollusk found on rocks at Point Lobos  
**32** What you might get while tide pooling  
**34** The \_\_\_\_\_ made the diver disoriented  
**35** Known to be part of a raft

## Down

- 1** An important predator  
**3** One of Point Lobos guests favorite tools  
**4** Commonly heard before seen  
**5** Bird that is always ready for lunch  
**7** The animal that Point Lobos is named after  
**8** Point Lobos is made up of \_\_\_\_\_, sea and air

- 13** Hazardous to sea life  
**15** Enjoyed at a table in Point Lobos  
**17** Shore bird pigeon  
**18** Underwater "tree"  
**21** Point Lobos can have strong \_\_\_\_\_ currents  
**23** A unit we all have in common  
**24** Imaginary dwellers of cypress tree hallows  
**25** Famous black and white photographer... initials  
**31** Fish roe  
**33** What covers most of the earth's surface?  
*Answers at [www.pointlobos.org/crossword](http://www.pointlobos.org/crossword).*