

The EXPLORER

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Cabrillo National Monument and
Cabrillo National Monument Foundation*

Visitors: then and now

by Emily Troxell, Editor

This issue is about the experiences of various visitors to Cabrillo National Monument and the San Diego area. As a ranger, I am often at the visitor center information desk. Frequently, men in their 70s come to visit and ask if certain buildings still exist—hoping to find some small, tangible record of their service to our country during WWII. Their memories are clear: they remember the hills, the brush, the lighthouse, their responsibilities, and details of the time they spent here. Some will share these experiences while others may simply be content to return to this place shrouded in intense, lasting memories. The past is remembered both fondly and with sincere

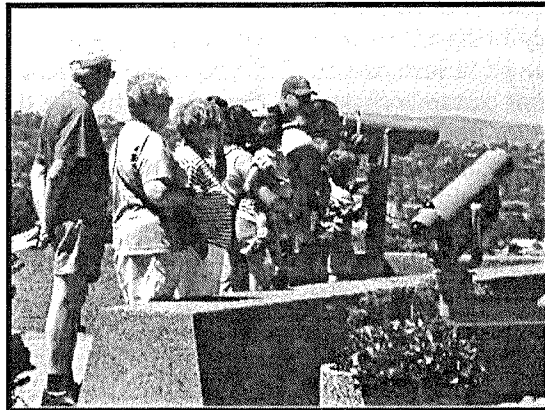
concern for our nation's security. These men have come back to see if a remnant of those times still exists.

Not all impressions result in this fashion. Most occur quickly. As an example, my first visit to Cabrillo National Monument occurred shortly before the administrative complex was built. I had two small children who loved to explore, so we went to the lighthouse. They dashed around, looking at ocean and bay and

then were intrigued as they wandered through the building on the hill. They remember the visit as a delightfully scary place. Impressions such as these require only a fleeting moment to develop but last a lifetime. They often dictate our viewpoint and direct future experiences related to the place or person.

We start this issue with the stories of some of our early visitors, exploring their behavior and reasons for visiting

our fair city and then work our way to the present. What do people see and experience in 2002? As visitors come through our gates today we hope to present a feeling of friendly hospitality, an aware-



ness of our natural world, enough mystery make them explore, listen, and look at the many bits and pieces of interpretative information liberally scattered throughout the park. Our intended impression is one of a harmonious natural order, excitement concerning our many park themes, and a place to find peace and tranquility away from the rush and bustle of city life. An oasis.

From the superintendent

by Terry DiMattio

In this issue of *The Explorer* we are looking at people who have visited San Diego, Point Loma, and Cabrillo National Monument. I know you will enjoy reading about Sebastián Vizcaino, George Vancouver, Richard Henry Dana, and the others who have spent some time here and left us a record of their stay.

Historically our visitors have come from across the United States and all over the world. That is also true of our visitors today. If you examine the sheets from the register of National Park Visitors kept on the information desk, you will see that over 100 countries are listed in the column marked State or Country: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and Vietnam, to name several.

Our visitors—our guests—come from all age groups and all socioeconomic, educational, and religious backgrounds. They bring with them a wide variety of life experiences and points of view. All this certainly makes it a challenge for our staff to relate the many stories of Cabrillo NM effectively to our visitors and to stimulate them to learn about and care for this park.

I like to think that even though our visitors are all unique individuals who come from a wonderfully wide range of culturally and geographically diverse places, they all share some things in common. I believe our visitors are here because they want to be. Someone has told them about Cabrillo NM, or they read about the monument in a book or on a web page and decided that it would be worth their time to come and see the park. I also believe that they are naturally curious and want to learn about this special place, about what is here

and why it is important.

As you know, I believe Cabrillo NM is a wonderful place. It is a small park filled with wonders for those who are curious and willing to take the time to explore it. Provoking our visitors so they take the time to discover what the park has to offer is one of our most important jobs. We do this when we answer their questions at the entrance station, or when we explain why we are removing beautiful exotic vegetation and replacing it with flat-top buckwheat or black sage. We do this when we explain to a child the role that snakes play in the ecology of the coastal sage scrub community and why he should not take home the young king snake he just caught. We also do this when we enthusiastically introduce the tidepool program in the auditorium in a way that excites our visitors' curiosity and we find them later watching an anemone close its tentacles around a wooly sculpin. And we do this when we direct a teacher to the new exhibit on Cabrillo and refer her to *The Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* when she asks about his life in New Spain before the expedition.

Our mission is to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources entrusted to our care by the American people while serving the one million people who visit us each year. If we serve these folks well, if we make them feel welcome and treat them with courtesy and respect no matter where they come from, it will make our task easier to achieve. If we connect with them by relating the park's stories in a way that relates to them personally, to their experiences and values, then they will help us preserve this special place for this generation and those who follow from around the world.



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A distinguished visitor from Spain, 1602 *by Al Wolfing*

In any discussion of bold Spanish explorers, the names of Cortés, Coronado, and Balboa are likely to come up. But while Sebastián Vizcaíno is not nearly so well known, it would be hard to find a figure who better epitomized the energy, tenacity, curiosity, ingenuity, courage and, yes, greed, that made the Spanish masters of a very large part of the New World.



Sebastián Vizcaino was born in Spain in 1548. After distinguishing himself as a soldier in the war with Portugal, he sailed for New Spain, as the Brothers Grimm might say, "to seek his fortune."

By the time of his arrival in 1583, control of New Spain had passed from the hands of the adventurers to those of bureaucrats. The documents detailing Vizcaino's life and business ventures are as plentiful and voluminous as those of Cabrillo's are rare. Copies of contracts, correspondence and ledgers from the period are still available for research, even down to the permit issued to Vizcaino for the personal weapons he brought with him from Europe.

Fortunes were still to be made here in the 1580s, but by that time political savvy was needed as well as courage and ready steel. Vizcaino and some business partners, for instance, were greatly interested in getting a royal license to explore the Gulf of California in search of pearls. That license had already been granted to others, but Vizcaino successfully sued to have it voided on the grounds that the individuals holding that concession had failed to vigorously search for pearl beds, thereby depriving the Spanish Crown of its "fair" share and voiding that contract.

In 1596 Vizcaino captained an ill-fated expedition charged with exploring the northern end of the Gulf of California. Rough weather and hos-

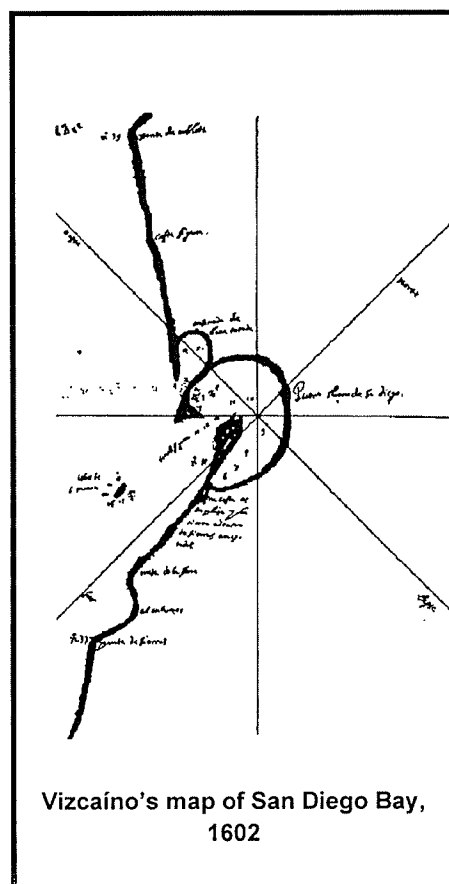
tile Indians forced the early abandonment of the venture but Vizcaino returned to New Spain with his own reputation as a seaman, explorer, and leader greatly enhanced.

By 1602 he had secured the command of a new expedition to explore the coast of Alta California. With two galleons, a frigate and roughly two hundred men, Vizcaino was instructed to make a detailed survey

of the western coastline. Special attention was to be paid to finding a port somewhere in northern California that could provide protection for the ships returning from Asia—the Manila Galleons.

Filled to overflowing with silks, porcelains and spices, these treasure ships would head toward California and try to find some easterly breezes to fill their sails somewhere in the vicinity of 40 degrees north latitude. These winds, however, were uncertain and the trip often took more than six months. By the time such ships reached the West Coast, their supplies of fresh water, as well as their crews, would be exhausted. Finding a harbor where these galleons could be resupplied with water and food, where their crews could be rested, and the ships would be safe from Pacific storms, had become an important goal.

In 1542 contrary winds had delayed Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo so that he had already been at sea for three months before arriving at the harbor he named San Miguel. Vizcaino faced these same winds sixty years later; that, together with the time spent exploring and mapping the Baja coast, meant that he had been six months at sea before arriving at San Miguel—the bay he renamed San Di-



Vizcaino's map of San Diego Bay, 1602

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ego. He was especially grateful for a chance to refill his water casks because fresh water had been especially hard to find in Baja California.

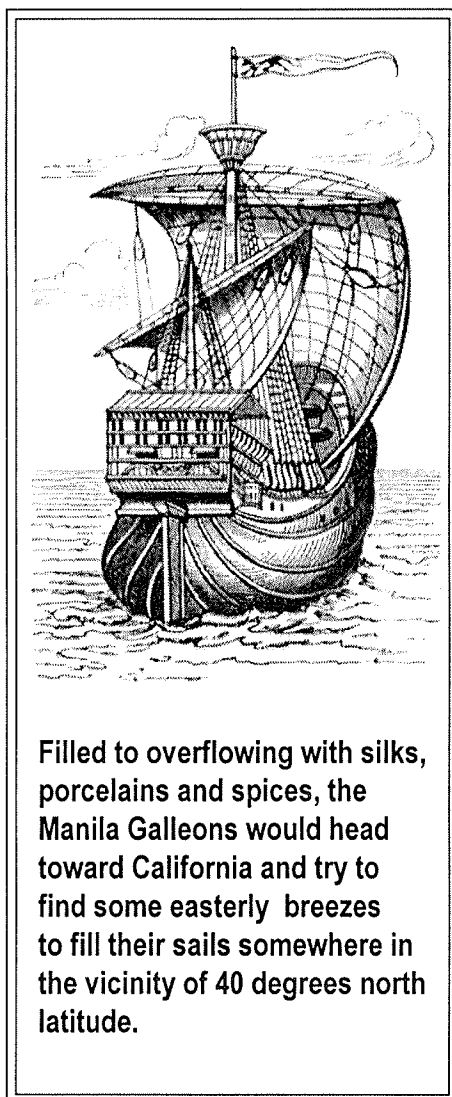
After several days in San Diego, he continued on up the coast for almost a month before coming to Monterey Bay, just south of the modern city of San Francisco. Here, he thought, was a harbor that met all the requirements of the Manila Galleons. It had protection from the prevailing winds (most of the time); it was easily found; the local Indians were not hostile; water, firewood and game were to be found along the shoreline and large trees suitable for replacing spars and masts were available at no great distance.

Here, he was certain, was the harbor that would assure him the recognition and personal fortune he sought. Always ready to address political realities, he named the harbor for Gaspar de Zúñiga y Acevedo, the Conde de Monterey and Viceroy of New Spain.

By this time, however, Vizcaíno and his crew had been at sea for almost seven months. Most were ill with scurvy and, in all probability, intestinal infections picked up from the particularly disgusting (even by sixteenth-century standards) water sources they had been forced to utilize on their way up the Baja peninsula. On December 28, 1602, Vizcaíno sent one of his two galleons back to Acapulco with news of his discovery, carrying almost fifty of his most seriously ill crewmen.

Although all conversation with the Indians of Monterey Bay had been in sign language, Vizcaíno reported that he had been able to learn from them that there was another tribe, one which wore copious gold jewelry, just a short way inland.

On January 4 the remaining galleon and frigate turned north again, and sailed past the mouth of what would prove to be a far better har-



bor than Monterey Bay—San Francisco Bay. Vizcaíno, however, recognized it as the bay mentioned in the log of Sebastián Cermeño several years earlier. Cermeño had not had the opportunity to explore it fully and had not recognized it for the superlative port it was. Rather than lose the winds that favored his voyage northward, Vizcaíno elected to continue his exploration in that direction.

By January 12, in spite of some heavy weather, the expedition had

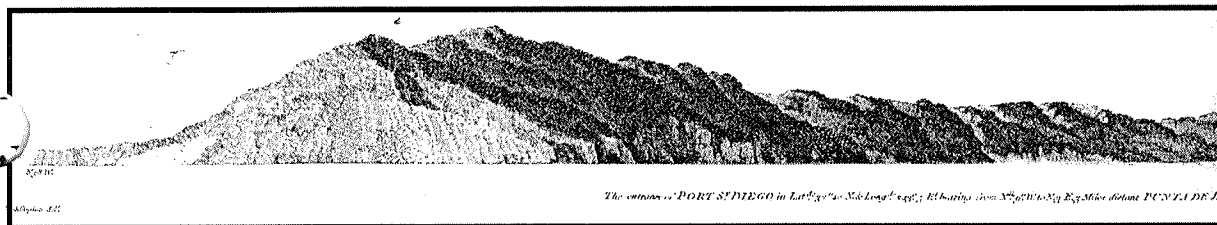
reached Cape Mendocino, but by this time only two members of the galleon's crew were still well enough to climb the rigging. Reluctantly, Vizcaíno turned back toward Acapulco.

Each day, however, their situation became more desperate. By the time they reached Monterey Bay, they had decided not to stop because had they dropped anchor there, they would not have the strength to recover it.

With a brisk southerly wind in their sails, they were able to return to the Isla de Cedros, off Baja, in a fraction of the time it had taken to find their way north. Here, they were certain, they could replenish their water supplies, but hostile Indian blocked them from the one spring they had found. Back on their ship, they had to cut the anchor cable on the lighter of the ships anchors in order to continue their voyage.

Finally, on the Islas de Mazatlán, Vizcaíno and his crew were able to obtain water and some fresh local fruit, which, in a matter of hours, substantially improved their condition. This allowed them to continue south to Acapulco and, despite having lost almost fifty crewmen, to the enthusiastic welcome of his patron, the Conde de Monterey, Viceroy of New Spain.





Drawing of Point Loma from records of the Vancouver expedition, 1793

A spy in the harbor *by Pierce Harris*



During the week of December 7, one of the most capable and thorough intelligence-gathering groups in the world was surveying San Diego's harbor—and they were not Americans. They were agents of a superpower that had engaged in open hostilities in the not too distant past and would again in the near future. Their leader was recording the most minute details of the harbor's defenses, including weapons, fortifications, and military personnel. They had quietly entered the harbor in broad daylight on November 27, and anchored within sight of Ballast Point and the presidio.

But this was not December 7, 1941, and San Diego was not a city in the State of California but a small village in Alta California, a province of New Spain (Mexico) governed by José Joaquín Arrillaga, commander of the presidio at Monterey.

British sea captain George Vancouver seemed uncertain of the legitimacy of Spain's claim to the West Coast; he always referred to California as "New Albion," the name assigned by Francis Drake in 1579. He also named the various places he encountered after English personages, members of his crew, and Spanish people he encountered in Califor-

nia.

Vancouver was equipped with Spanish maps of the coast of California, liberally annotated with his own notes and soundings of ports and channels. Vancouver's little squadron of three ships—the sloop of war *Discovery*, the tender *Chatum* and the supply ship *Daedalus* sailed past Point Loma and entered the harbor on Wednesday the 27th of November, 1793. He noted in the log of *Discovery*: "Point Loma is the southern extremity of a remarkable range of evaluated land that commences from the south side of *Puerto Falso*, and at a distance it has the appearance of being insular, which effect is produced by the low country that connects it with the other mountains." He noted the kelp beds off Point Loma: "It (Point Loma) descends in very steep rocky cliffs to the water side, from whence a bed of weeds extends into the ocean, half a league or 2 miles." He made note of the reef by the present Coast Guard light: "... we steered towards point Loma, through a continuation of the bed of weeds, extending in a southwesterly direction from that point, whence lie some breakers at the distance of a mile." With his usual caution he takes depth soundings and observes the entrance to the harbor is a channel "...across which is a bar. This we passed in 3½ fathoms of water, and, favored with the assistance of the flood tide, turned into the port, where about two in the afternoon, we anchored in 10 fathoms water, fine sandy bottom." Ballast Point is described as a low spit projecting from the cliffs of Point Loma constituting the west point of entry and refers to it as "*ponta de Gurianos*" from his Spanish chart. The little fleet an-

chored in "10 fathoms water, fine sandy bottom..." about one mile from Ballast point and three miles from the Presidio of San Diego. Capt. Vancouver wrote in the log that he had entered the harbor... without having been seen or visited... by the Spanish and sent Lt. Swane to notify the commander of the presidio of their arrival.

Though perhaps unseen, they had been expected by the San Diego garrison. Governor Arrillaga, who was wary and suspicious of Capt. Vancouver, had sent a letter to the commander of the presidio at San Diego. That letter, according to Vancouver "... prohibit(s) our transacting any business in shore, excepting that of procuring wood and water ... and expressed, that when the above supplies were furnished, which was to be done with all possible expedition, that it was expected that we should immediately depart." Despite the orders of Gov. Arrillaga, Lt. Antonio Grajero, commander of the presidio, extended all the courtesies possible without overtly violating the orders of the governor. Vancouver had about 170 men on his three ships, including 15 marines.

The morning after his arrival in the harbor, Vancouver and two of his lieutenants, with the aid of horses provided by the Spanish, made a visit to the presidio. There he met with Grajero and Lt. Zúñiga who would soon fortify Ballast Point in response to the English visit. From the Presidio Vancouver observed that Point Loma is an island connected to the mainland "...by an isthmus, which is in the

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rainy season flooded...." He also notes that the entrance to the harbor is not visible from the presidio and the harbor near the presidio is too shallow and thus "ineligible excepting for boats, or vessels of a very small draught." Otherwise he records that the harbor "offers an excellent anchorage, and is capable of containing a great number of vessels...." though the value of the port is diminished by the "difficulty, nay almost impossibility of procuring wood and water...." While at the Presidio, Vancouver observed an island at a distance of about 8 leagues at a bearing of "... somewhere about N. 55 W. or N. 60 W¹., from point de la Loma...." The island is shown on his charts as St. Johns or San Juan. This mysterious island is most likely San Clemente, which today appears at the same bearing and seems much closer. Vancouver arrived at the same conclusion and marked it on his charts as "its situation doubtful."

On *Discovery's* charts he recorded San Diego's Longitude as 243° 22' 15" E², and Latitude as 32° 42' 30" N. Vancouver was most exacting in his navigation, and the ship's records reveal that *Discovery* alone carried no less than 12 marine sextants of different makes as well as a chronometer³ for determining longitude.

Here the ship's log records that HMS *Discovery* "... quitted St. Diego" on the 9th of December, 1793, and any observations on San Diego would seem to end. However, one must read the entire three volumes of *A Voyage of discovery to the North Pacific Ocean and Round the world*, for more comments on San Diego are to be found in Chapter IX—some 900 pages into that document—where Vancouver provides what he calls "Brief account of the Spanish settle-

ments of New Albion."

It was here that after "quitting" San Diego and safely at sea that Vancouver recorded the relative assets of the Spanish settlements and evaluated their military defenses in the ship's log. Of San Diego he stated, "At San Diego the soil rapidly loses its fertility..." and that most of the food for the settlement came from the northern missions notably San Juan Capistrano. Of the San Diego presidio he wrote, "The Presidio seemed to be the least of the Spanish establishments.... It is irregularly built, on very uneven ground.... The situation is dreary and lonesome, in the midst of a barren uncultivated country, producing so little herbage,



that excepting in the spring months, their cattle are sent to the distance of twenty or thirty miles for pasturage." He noted that the presidio at San Diego was guarded by a company of sixty men and observed that "With little difficulty San Diego might be rendered a place of considerable strength by establishing a small force at the en-

trance of the port; where, at this time there were neither works, guns, houses or other habitations."

Although he expressed admiration for several Spanish officers and padres he made no secret of his disdain for the Spanish defenses, observing that there were but 11 cannon in San Francisco, 11 in Monterey, two at Santa Barbara and "three small brass cannon" at San Diego's presidio. He reports the Spanish military to be "...well qualified to support themselves against any domestic insurrection but are totally incapable of making any resistance against a foreign invasion." Comparing this with HMS *Discovery* displacing 340 tons and armed with 10 cannon and

10 swivel guns, the armed tender *Chatum* displacing 135 tons, armed with 4 cannon and 6 swivel guns and the supply ship *Daedalus* armed with at least 4 cannons, it is no wonder the governor of Alta California viewed Vancouver's visit with alarm and suspicion. But it would not be a British invasion that would topple the Spanish government in America but rather a revolt from within New Spain eighteen years after Vancouver left San Diego.

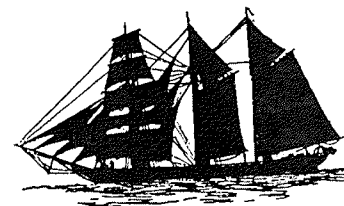
Reference: Vancouver, G., *Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific and Round the World*, New York, DaCapo Press 1967, originally published in London in 1798..

(*The Voyage of Discovery* was actually written from George Vancouver's Logs and notes by his brother, John Vancouver.)

¹ Vancouver's compass was likely a quadratic compass reading 0 to 90 degrees east or west of north and south rather than an azimuth compass that reads 0 to 360 degrees; thus a bearing of 55 to 60 degrees west of north would be a correct bearing for San Clemente Island.

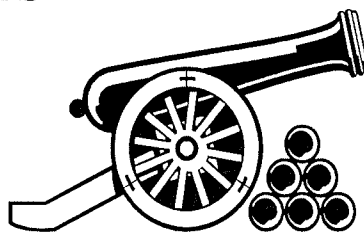
² Here Vancouver is charting his voyage from 0 prime meridian in London, 360 degrees around the world back to London rather than the current practice of dividing the globe into 180-degree hemispheres.

³ The ship's chronometer would have been similar to the one built by Harrison for the Board of Longitude in 1760. The accuracy of the longitude observed is most amazing since the chronometer would have been set to solar noon in January 1791.



Unwelcome visitors

by George Herring



On the morning of March 22, 1803, the little community around San Diego harbor was stirred to life by news that the Yankee trading ship *Lelia Byrd* was preparing to run past the loaded guns of Point Loma. The owners of the ship had crossed paths with the port's commandant, Don Manuel Rodríguez, and needed to weigh anchor or risk having the *Lelia Byrd* and all of her valuable cargo seized as contraband. As the gentle morning breeze gathered in *Lelia Byrd's* sheets, Spanish soldiers raced along the bay shore to man the guns, and civilians ran to claim good vantage points on the walls of Fort Guijarros, or on the hillside above. The only way out for the vessel was through the narrow exit of San Diego Bay, and it was going to be a good show. What ensued is known today as "The Battle of San Diego Bay", an exciting story in the annals of the Yankee trading ships in the Pacific Ocean, and the early commercial shipping history of San Diego Bay.

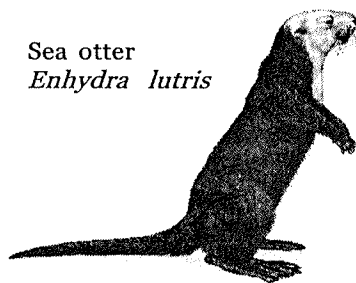
The Yankee Traders and Sea Otter Pelts.

Lelia Byrd's owners, Richard Cleveland and William Shaler, were young New England investors living in adventurous times. A generation before, in 1784, William Shaw had established himself as a legend of the China trade when his Boston based ship, *Empress of China*, became the first American vessel to successfully trade with China, returning with a very profitable load of silks and porcelain. But the risk of pirates, disease, and storms created a high-stakes environment in which only the adventurous could thrive. Yankee traders like Cleveland and Shaler were a brave, cunning, and sometimes ruthless lot who could be noble lords of the sea or conniving scoundrels, as circumstance and profit required. In the late

18th and early 19th century these adventurous merchants were in a position to fully realize the potential of the fur trade at the markets in China.

Among the first to note this potential in the Pacific Northwest was the English explorer George Vancouver, in 1776. He wrote of Northwest Indians being greatly interested in trading the "skins of various animals, such as wolves, foxes, bears, deer, raccoons, polecats, martins, and in particular of the sea otters. . . the fur of these animals is certainly finer than that of any others we know of and, therefore, the discovery of this part of the Continent of North America, where so valuable an article of commerce may be met with, cannot be a matter of indifference." Some of Vancouver's sailors traded trinkets for the pelts to keep warm in the northern latitudes. Later, when the

Sea otter
Enhydra lutris



expedition reached China, they found that the pelts, even worn and infested with vermin, could be traded off handsomely. The sea otter pelts were especially in demand, being worth \$100 at the Macao market.

Word of Vancouver's discovery did not reach the U.S. until 1784, but the timing of this news was certainly opportune for the Yankee trading companies of that period. Russian fur-trading activity with China at that time was limited to overland routes, and British shipping companies were arguing with each other about contractual rights to hunt and trade in the

Pacific. After the American Revolution, economic difficulties in the confederation of former colonies forced New England merchants to look overseas for new markets. A company of Boston merchants headed by Joseph Barrell sent *Columbia* and *Lady Washington* to the Pacific Northwest in 1887 to trade for sea otter pelts, which they sold for a substantial profit in China. The situation improved for Yankee trading vessels after the French Revolution when the on-and-off British embargo of the continent cut European trading vessels off from world markets. This created a great demand for shipping that the Yankee ships, under the neutral flag of the U.S., were prepared to profit from.

Yankee trading ships became a familiar sight all over the Pacific. With New England and European goods in their holds, they would barter and rebarter for copper in Chile, sandalwood in Hawaii, rice in Manila and Java, mother-of-pearl in the Persian Gulf, and pepper, tin, fish maws, and birds' nests in Indonesia, and, most valuable of all, furs from South America, the northwest coast, and California.

The Sea Otter Trade and The Battle of San Diego Bay

Sea otter pelts from California were generally considered inferior to northern pelts, but the demand was so great in China that sea otters were becoming scarce in the northwest by the turn of the nineteenth century. Yankee traders began to ply the ports of California in search of the pelts, but it was a risky trade. Technically foreign ships were not allowed to trade in Spanish colonial ports, but local officials could often be persuaded to look the other way. Cleveland and Shaler's adventures in *Lelia Byrd* are a good illustration of this hazardous undertaking.

In 1801, confident that they could talk their way into trading arrangements with Spanish colonial authorities, Cleveland and Shaler bought the *Lelia Byrd* as a fur-trading vessel in Hamburg. She was a Virginia-built brig of about 175 tons, which they loaded with goods from all over Europe, for trading in the Pacific. Their

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journey would eventually take them to San Diego, but not before they had a few other adventures along the way.

In February of 1802 *Lelia Byrd* reached Valparaíso, Chile, by way of the Indian Ocean, and she soon ran into trouble. Spanish officials threatened to confiscate the ship and cargo after Cleveland and Shaler attempted to trade for contraband goods without permission. They were eventually allowed to leave, after which the partners deemed it prudent to head north in search of more amenable officials to trade with. In July they dropped anchor off of San Blas, Mexico, but quarrels between the port officials stymied trade efforts for a time. Eventually, however, *Lelia Byrd* left with sixteen hundred sea otter skins in her hold, recently arrived from California. These skins were enough to cover the cost of the expedition—if Shaler and Cleveland ever arrived safely to China.

Lelia Byrd sailed next to San Diego, where it was rumored a number of sea otter pelts were available. Unfortunately for Cleveland and Shaler, a few days before they arrived, the Yankee trading vessel *Alexander*, under the command of a captain Brown, had traded with soldiers and residents of the town for pelts. Brown did not, however, go through commandant Rodríguez, who subsequently had his men board the ship and seize the pelts and some of the cargo before the *Alexander* was allowed to leave.

When *Lelia Byrd* arrived, the commandant boarded the ship with a show of pomp and confidence, and placed a guard on board. The confiscated pelts from *Alexander*, and others, were meanwhile still in the possession of Rodríguez. Cleveland later wrote, "These skins we made every

effort to obtain from him; and there is no doubt that he would have been as well pleased as we should have been to purchase them, if the transaction had been practicable without being known to the people."

Frustrated at not gaining access to those skins, Cleveland and Shaler quietly inquired in town if others might be available. There were. On the night of March 21, 1803, after a vague excuse to the guards on board, two boats quietly slipped away from *Lelia Byrd* to pick up contraband pelts, but only one boat returned. The next morning it was discovered that the boat's crew had been captured by Don Manuel Rodríguez, and were staked to the beach. "As a preliminary step," Cleveland wrote, "the guard on board were disarmed and made to go below; then I went with four men, each with a brace of loaded

pistols, to the rescue of those on shore." The crew was rescued without bloodshed, but *Lelia Byrd* was in great danger, and would have to slip past the guns at Fort Guijarros to escape, or risk being seized and fleeced as *Alexander* had been.

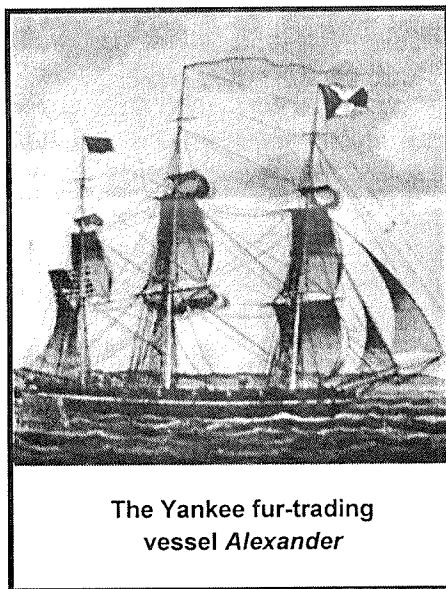
Cleveland and Shaler opted to make a break for it. Cleveland wrote, "While making our preparations, we

perceived that all was bustle and animation on shore; both horse and foot were flocking to the fort. Our six three-pounders, which were all brought on the side of the ship bearing on the fort, and our fifteen men were all our force, with which to resist a battery of six nine-pounders, and, at least, an hundred men. As soon as our sails were loosed and we began to heave up the anchor, a gun without shot was discharged from the battery, and the Spanish flag hoisted . . . In the hope of preventing their firing, we caused the guard in their uniforms to stand along in the most exposed and conspicuous station;

but it had no effect, not even when so near the fort that they must have been heard imploring them to desist firing, and seen to fall with their face to the deck, at every renewed discharge of the cannon. We had been subjected to a cannonade of three quarters of an hour, without returning a shot, and fortunately, with injury only to our rigging and sails. When we arrived abreast the fort, several shot struck our hull, one being between wind and water, which was temporarily stopped by a wad of oakum. We now opened fire, and, at the first broadside, saw a number, probably those of who came to see the fun, scampering away up the hill at the back of the fort. Our second broadside seemed to have caused the complete abandonment of their guns, as they never were fired afterward."

It is hard to know how accurate Cleveland's report is, but the end result was that *Lelia Byrd* cleared Point Loma and, after placing the Spanish guards on shore, headed out to sea to continue her trading adventures. Don Manuel was no doubt frustrated by events, but he did, however, still possess a small fortune in sea otter pelts which he likely made use of at another time. Meanwhile, *Lelia Byrd* plied the Pacific for two more years and Cleveland and Shaler realized very substantial profits in Macao. Cleveland returned home to enjoy a comfortable life on the \$70,000 in profit he acquired after an investment of \$2,000, while Shaler continued to sail and trade in the world's ports a bit longer.

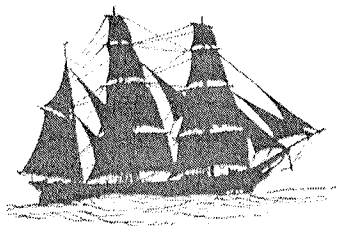
Lelia Byrd's engagement with Fort Guijarros is an exciting lead chapter in the history of San Diego Bay as a commercial port, but such incidents were not uncommon throughout the Californias. The most notable of these encounters was five years later off the coast of Santa Barbara. The Yankee trading ship *Mercury* was captured by a Spanish vessel named *Flora*. According to its owner, the cargo was distributed among the officers of the ship, the Spanish commandant at Santa Barbara, and *Mercury's* own crew to quiet them down.



The Yankee fur-trading vessel *Alexander*

To get around such risks, many American captains entered into agreements with Russian officials in Alaska to use Aleut sea otter hunters, in exchange for a cut of the profits, in California waters during the winter. It was illegal to hunt in Spanish waters, but Spanish officials had little power to stop such activities outside their ports, and the hunting continued. Eventually, however, the desire of Californios to trade with foreign vessels overcame Spanish, and later Mexican, opposition; by Richard Henry Dana's time, New England-based ships trading for pelts and cattle hides were relatively common in San Diego Bay.

The events in San Diego that led up to the *Leila Byrd* incident are interesting in and of themselves, but in a larger context they tell us much of the context of which the bay's early history is a part. It was inevitable that some day the West Coast, and the bay, would become an integral part of the growing trade that now characterizes the Pacific Rim. From its very beginning it has held the potential for mutual gain, and for conflict, as the "Battle of San Diego Bay" illustrates.



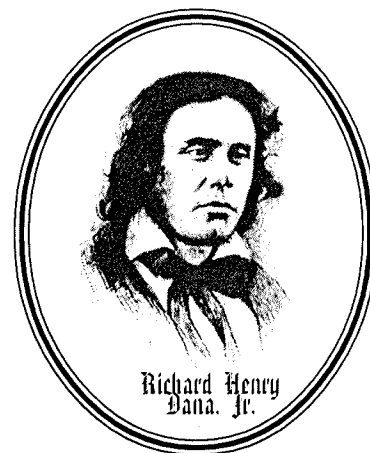
Visitors to the "dusty Mexican pueblo of San Diego"

by Carol Knipper

Glossy travel photos of 21st-century San Diego showing multitudes of happy visitors, stunning scenery, and a glittering skyline of buildings emblematic of a thriving economy belie the humble beginning of San Diego. The narratives of Richard Henry Dana Jr. and Captain Auguste Bernard Duhaut-Cilly describe an industrious, often bleak but heartening time when San Diego was a dusty pueblo within the territory newly won by Mexico over Spain and yet less than a quarter of a century from becoming a part of the expanding United States.

Richard Henry Dana, Jr. arrived in San Diego on the Boston brig *Pilgrim* when a new era for this frontier was beginning. The account of his life as a sailor on the California coast, made famous in his only book, *Two Years Before the Mast*, gives readers a glimpse into the harsh life of a sailor and the often dreary view of life in the Mexican territory of California.

Dana arrived in California on a wave of political change in this part of the world. Gone were the thriving missions meant to colonize the West Coast and Christianize the natives. Thirty years before his arrival the missions in California were thriving and Mission San Diego was busy with cattle raising and agricultural production. Never meant to be a permanent institution, the missions had the responsibility for the Indian's conver-



sion and education, his well-being and his discipline, and his preparation for freedom and citizenship. The labor gained from the newly converted natives contributed greatly to the success and productivity of the missions. By the late 1790s Mission San Diego was at its peak. Mission population rose to 1405 and the land area encompassed 50,000 acres, with 20,000 sheep, 10,000 cattle, and 1250 horses. But by 1821 Mexico had won its independence from Spain, and secularization—converting church property back to private ownership—was taking place. By the time Dana arrived in 1835 the mission system had collapsed and the new Mexican government was expanding its influence.

Under the new Mexican rule, international trade restrictions were all but eliminated and commercial ventures along the Mexican coast of California were welcomed. In 1827 there were 33 ships on the coast, of which 12 were American, 10 English, three Russian, two French, and perhaps one German. There were only three

Mexican vessels. The trade was in hides, coined "California banknotes," and tallow was a valuable by-product of the hide trade. It was during this period that the



Hide houses at La Playa William Meyers

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brig *Pilgrim* sailed up and down the coast of southern California collecting hides. It may seem shocking to us now to think of San Diego as a somewhat dilapidated, unpeopled, dreary place but Dana's frank observations record the scene of early 18th century San Diego:

"At sunset on the second day, we had a large and well wooded headland directly before us, behind which lay the little harbor of San Diego.... Everyone was anxious to get a view of the new place. A chain of high hills, beginning at the point, protected the harbor on the north and west and ran off into the interior as far as the eye could reach. On the other sides, the land was low and green but without trees...there was no town in sight. The first place we went to be the old ruinous presidio, which stands on a rising ground near the village, which it overlooks.... The small settlement lay directly below the fort.... This town is not more than half as large as Monterey, or Santa Barbara, and has little or no business.

"From the presidio we rode off in the direction of the mission, which we were told was three miles distant. The country was rather sandy, and there was nothing for miles which could be called a tree, but the grass grew green and rank, and there were many bushes and thickets, and the soil is said to be good....The mission was built of mud, or rather of the unburnt bricks of the country and plaster.... Entering the gateway, we drove into the open square where the stillness of death reigned..."

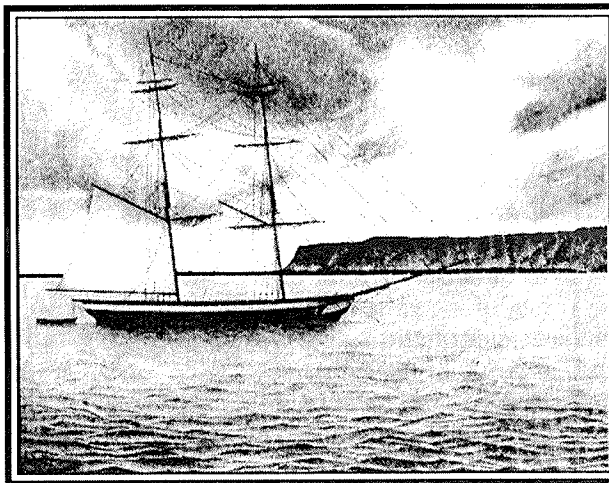
But even Dana had to concede that it was a land rich in wildlife: "Hares and rabbits...were abundant.... Bears and wolves are numerous in the upper parts of the coast and in the interior."

Amid the hard labor of hide production, San Diego took on an international flavor as sailors drawn to San Diego by happenstance and employment became comrades. "We spent

many evenings...where, amid the Babel of English, Spanish, French, Indian and Kanaka, we found some words that we could understand in common."

The noteworthy account of little-known Captain Duhaut-Cilly, a Frenchman who in 1827 traveled to California in his vessel *Le Heros* to peddle goods to the Mexican ports, gives us another picture of life in the San Diego area during the Mexican period. Although he had a less-than-glowing impression of San Diego, his account in *A voyage to California, the Sandwich Islands and Around the World 1826-1829* Duhaut-Cilly chronicles his observations on the landscape, mission life, and customs of the natives and Spanish and Mexican descendants.

"Of all the places we had visited



since our coming to California, ... San Diego was the saddest. It (the presidio) is built upon the slope of a barren hill, and has no regular form." Another astonishment to Duhaut-Cilly was the rough and often uncouth nature of frontier mission life:

"The good fathers were about to dine, and they invited me to sit down with them. All they offered me was not presented in a manner to excite one's appetite; and as Fray Vicente vainly urged me to eat, Fray Fernando exclaimed: 'It is singular; it must be

that the air at the mission is not kind to strangers: I never see one of them do honor to our table.' And while saying these words, he was arranging a salad of cold mutton, with onions, pimento and oil from the mission, the odor of which was nauseating; and, having no knife, he tore the meat with his fingers and even with his teeth, mixing the whole by handfuls in a nicked plate, where were still seen some remnants of the supper of the evening before."

Duhaut-Cilly also recorded his hunting trip on Point Loma. He was astonished at the abundance of small game and quail. He was told of organized hunts in which as many as 200-300 Indians, armed with curved throwing sticks, would form a line of battle from the steep mountain bluff to the shore, and, advancing abreast, drive rabbits and hares before them, forcing them into gullies or against walls or into impenetrable thickets. It was "...a general massacre..." as only a few of the creatures were able to escape.

Point Loma still juts out into the Pacific and its slopes are still covered in brush. Rabbits still make their home here—now in peace. San Diego is a shock of development that would make it unrecognizable to 19th century travelers. But it was these early attempts at colonization, industrialization, and international camaraderie that San Diego, through the works of Dana and Duhaut-Cilly became known to the world. And many generations after Duhaut-Cilly we can still agree with his assessment of San Diego harbor as "certainly the finest in all California."

Among the many visitors to Point Loma we must include the many men and women who were stationed here in the military. Through his diligent and scholarly research, Howard Overton, former chief ranger at Cabrillo NM, has made a lot of important contributions to our knowledge and interpretation of Point Loma's military history. He recorded the reminiscences of many men who served at Fort Rosecrans in the World War II era.

Dogs of Fort Rosecrans

by Howard Overton

For officers, the US Army of 1939 was an army of polo ponies, long golf games, and, in foreign countries, cheap domestic help. At the Army and Navy Club, officers gathered each year on the lawn to listen to the Army-Navy football game. It was an army where attendance at the Commanding Officer's wife's tea party would not be missed because it could impact a career. The US Army of 1939 was a garrison army long entrenched. Pay for enlisted men in 1939 army was \$20.00 a month for corporals and \$18.00 dollars a month for privates. Corporals, although they slept next to new privates, would not deign to talk to them and violate an unspoken hierarchy.

In the 1930s, Fort Rosecrans, though technically still a US Army base, had been virtually abandoned. A reporter visiting the site in 1933 found a commissioned officer, eighteen enlisted men, and a dog named Bozo. But by 1940, 15,000 men were stationed there.

Enlisted men had a variety of things to do when not on duty. But \$18.00 a month didn't go very far—even in 1939. There was a bowling alley near the PX. They could go into town for a beer at a bar that catered to the soldiers. But one thing this new army had in common with the garrison soldiers was their love of dogs.

In the 1940s a variety of dogs lived at the Fort. Colonel Peter Hill Ottosen had Rex, an Airedale. Ottosen's dog had free roam on the base and quite often went to the en-

listed men's housing area. As one enlisted man remembers, "We had some humorous things like when Colonel Ottosen had one of those big Airedales. The old boy came in drunk (one night) and so they got his dog. I don't know how they done it. But they put this dog in this guy's bunk and when he came in—of course he's drunk—and he tried to get into his bunk and said, "Oh, excuse me." Every bunk he tried to get into was full. I think he wound up sleeping on the floor. That dog lay in his bunk all night and he slept on the floor."

Other dogs also lived with soldiers. Sergeant Ralph Boatman remembers Red, one of the more popular dogs: "Hell, yes, I knew him. Those damn guys'd give him beer on payday and he'd get drunk as he could. Hell yes, I was the Sergeant of the guard; you had to walk him at the top and we had to go up there and check on him, you know, going up that road. And he was crazy as hell about rabbits. And I had him up there in the front seat one night I was going up there and he jumped out of the damn truck...He jumped out and hurt his leg and we had to take him to the vet and have him patched up. And them damn guys would feed him. They didn't cause as much trouble until all these people started coming in and kids down there drinking beer and they found out the dog drank beer and he'd sit down there and get so damn drunk he couldn't walk. You see, I was first sergeant then. You know, you get money for books and magazines and all that stuff. And he



A reporter visiting Fort Rosecrans in 1933 found a commissioned officer, eighteen enlisted men, and a dog named Bozo.

was getting paid out of that thing. I mean we had to get medicine for him. We charged it to the company.

Well, the I.G. (Inspector General) come down there and he wanted to know why we was spending this money on that dog. So the company commander, a captain, he said, 'Well, that dog is just as much of this company as these soldiers are.' He told him that, see. He was going to hook him. We had it in our records, you know. If we had to go to the doctor or get a special medicine or whatever, it was in the record. There weren't nobody fooling around with it."

Another group of enthusiastic visitors, the inveterate birders, can be found at Cabrillo NM and neighboring sites every morning throughout the year. Point Loma has long been a prime spot for birdwatching, and Volunteer Claude Edwards has been our expert guide and teacher for many years.

New Point Loma bird list is on the way.

By Claude G. Edwards.

I have some great news to share. Work on the long-awaited new and improved birdlist for Cabrillo National Monument and Point Loma has resumed, and is soon to be completed. Although it has been more than two years in the making, the final stage of its compilation, formatting, and publishing is expected to take place this fall, and be made available for public circulation shortly thereafter. I am very thankful for kind and persistent urging from Emily Troxell. She has been teaming with Jim Nauman to arrange the birds on the list in their correct taxonomic order and to determine an appropriate size for publication.

The list comprises more than 300 species of birds that have been observed and recorded on, over, and around Point Loma from at least the early 1970s.

The Point Loma area stretches from the Coast Guard lighthouse on the south to a line formed by Point Loma Avenue and Cañon Street to the north.

The significant birding localities within this area are Cabrillo National Monument, including its Bayside Hiking Trail and Pacific coast rocky shore

and tidepools, Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma Nazarene University, suburban residential neighborhoods and gardens adjacent to the college, the southern portion of the Sunset Cliffs and Sunset Cliffs Park, and Shelter Island. Nearby waters of San Diego Bay and the Pacific Ocean, out to approxi-

mately one mile, are also included.

This version of the bird list will include notations about the seasonal occurrence of the birds that have been found, as well as relative abundance in terms of "how likely is an observer to find a particular species?" rather than suggesting abundance of individuals. This is a

new concept that will take some getting used to, and some bird-watchers may find this style perplexing.

And don't forget, I lead beginner-level public bird walks at Cabrillo Monument once each month on the third Saturday, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. We meet in front of the Visitor Center. Come join us.



Point Loma on Record

The record of life is ongoing. It is seen and not so easily seen. The cemetery: most travelers (tourists) and survivors don't miss it. I like the record I find at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. It places life in perspective. Point Loma is surrounded by water. The National Cemetery is perpetuated by life and surrounded by the record of death. The columbarium wall overlooking the Sub Base Point Loma is gathering visitors to view death's record. It is white: Washington's Vietnam wall is black.

Statues, statues. Point Loma has statues: physical forms cast into bronze, as a prelude and an ending. Cabrillo stands tall, a life as a continuation, a prelude, and an ending. Cabrillo stands tall, a life long ended but a memory promoted to any that follow. Point Loma's Shelter Island has statues: records of men who left the harbor to find fish: some died but a statue holds the memory. The statue: a small girl squats to play on Shelter Island next to the playground: she is there in memory of all the children who may have been there and will be there.

The record is here. It is etched in stone, bronze and brass. Names and events to be seen. It only takes a brief look: Stephen Mather, Gliders, Cabrillo, and the Point Loma Lighthouse are memorialized in brass, bronze, and stone at Cabrillo National Monument.

Gray whales as a statue? Yes, a bronze cow and calf with an inscription in Braille and contemporary lettering as a record of life's presence.

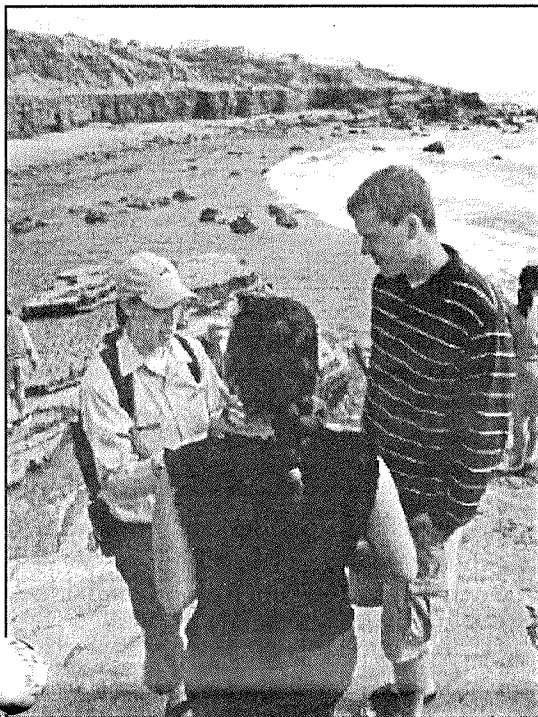
The record plays on. It is the road. We, tourists/ travelers, need to be players. We need to take time for our enjoyment, our events, and our life.

Yes, the record is here at Cabrillo. It plays well if we look and see with our mind's eye. Yes, the record plays! Life goes on!

Joe Wilson

Intertidal visitor interaction

 Carol A. Martin



“Aw, I got my feet wet!” This is one of the most often heard comments from a tidepool visitor. Sometimes slipping off a wet rock, or stepping into a standing pool of water causes wet feet. Jumping from rock to rock and landing short of the mark also causes soggy feet. The always-eventful standing at the edge of dry sand or rock with your back to the ocean will also end in wet feet. Often those of us working in the tidepool area hear: “Hey watch this! It squirts water when I poke it!” or “We are from the midwest and have never been to the tidepools before. This is a great place!” “Where did all that oil in the water come from?” “What is all that brown stuff in the water?” “Look how polluted the water is!” Upon discovering our luxuriant kelp forest, many first-time visitors are very surprised to find they are wearing a form of kelp as an emulsifier on their face or eat it in ice cream! “Look at all the shells moving!” “I found a hermit crab!” “This is so much fun!” “Where can I find a

starfish?” “Why aren’t the tidepools open during longer hours?” “Why does this area close at five?” “Why isn’t the tide the same everyday?” “It is beautiful here!”

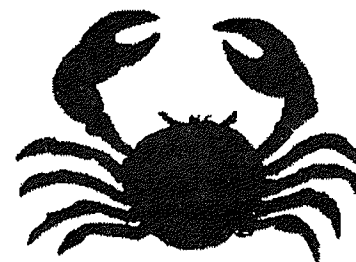
In 2001, 346 visitors to the intertidal area of Cabrillo National Monument were surveyed. The results are reflected in the following paragraphs. According to the survey more than half of the visitors to the tidepool area are from outside San Diego County and most are traveling in a group with family or friends. About 70% of these people are between the ages of 20-50 years. The length of time most visitors spend exploring the tidepool area ranges from 30 minutes to 2 hours. Of the 346 surveys taken, about 45% are first-time visitors to the intertidal area.

Only 12% have seen the tidepool slide presentation prior to entering the tidepool area. The good news is that 98% of those surveyed approve of our closing off part of the intertidal area from visitors to allow for recovery of plant and animal species.

The main reason mentioned for coming to the tidepools was to explore. Next came studying and learning about marine life, followed by the experience of solitude and relaxation. Visitors were asked what makes their exploration time in the tidepools enjoyable. The most common answer was the ability to roam freely and explore at their own pace. Most people appreciated having a park ranger or volunteer in the intertidal area to help answer questions and provide interpretative programs. They were also asked to comment on negative perceptions: the most common answers were overcrowding and garbage.

The tidepool visitors we interact with come from all backgrounds and

regions of the world. It is a great experience to be able to provide information and help educate folks about the wonders of this special area. Almost everyone enjoys his or her experience at the tidepools. Quite a few have never put their toe in the Pacific Ocean before. I like to watch the expressions and hear the exclamations of everyone seeing the tidepools for the first time. To see the expression on their face as they discover a wooly sculpin or a hermit crab is a delightful experience. My hope is that there is another park ranger in the making out there: the little one who is fascinated by every new discovery and wants to know more about every creature. A connection is made; as the parents give a smile of approval for precious time their child has just spent interacting with a ranger or volunteer. Who knows what path each little one will take. Hopefully it will be down the path to help protect the earth. In order to protect ecosystems from destruction we must continue to educate visitors about plants, animals and the total environment. It is becoming more important to learn how to interact with less impact on these ecosystems and recognize how fragile they are in order to protect them from endangerment and/or extinction.



Volunteers of summer

By Lynn Moss

Although most of us think of summer as a time for vacations, family visits, reading, swimming, or surfing, there are a number of volunteers who also spend a good part of their summers working at Cabrillo. There are hundreds of jobs that must be done regardless of the season.

The library needs books catalogued, and the Old Point Loma Lighthouse needs interpretative historians to talk with visitors and volunteers to clean and care for the living quarters and the elegant Fresnel lens. Folks walk trails and pick up litter as well as continue the constant efforts to plant and care for native vegetation while removing the non-native interlopers. All sorts of resource management tasks continue throughout the seasons, and volunteers are needed to assist our marine biologist with her tidepool research studies.

I decided to see what some of the volunteers are doing this summer. Donald Hayes, currently completing his medical residency, spends time off (when does he sleep?) doing resource management, including watering the new native plant growth so that it will survive the especially dry summer. Liz Ireland, who spends winters tidepooling, is now learning the costumed interpretation for the lighthouse. Neota Bradley uses her journalism degree to write articles for the "Cabrillo Journal," works in the li-

brary, and takes time to walk the trails picking up litter. (Neota said that during some very warm months of summer she tends to stay off the trails to avoid snakes.) Linda Masys has been librarian for the photo/slide/negative collection at Cabrillo since 1995. Each item in the collection is described and scanned into a computerized database program designed by

her husband. She now has completed an impressive 15,000 entries, with many more to follow. "Lighthouse Linda" also trains new lighthouse docents and dresses in period costumes in order to sit in the cozy kitchen providing visitors with information about life at the lighthouse over the years and magically taking them back to the

or cutting herself. But her responsibilities quickly become more demanding when she "encapsulates the litharge." Kim covers the original lead-based putty (litharge) of the 19th and early 20th centuries that keeps each prism in focus with a non-lead based putty which she then tediously paints. It's a time-consuming job, and few would give it the care and effort she does. She also has "kitchen duty" in the lighthouse two to three times a month to share her invaluable knowledge with visitors.

It is inspiring to watch these caring volunteers as they go about their work sharing their knowledge with the public and painstakingly making sure our history is carefully preserved. They will tell you they love what they do, and they clearly do.

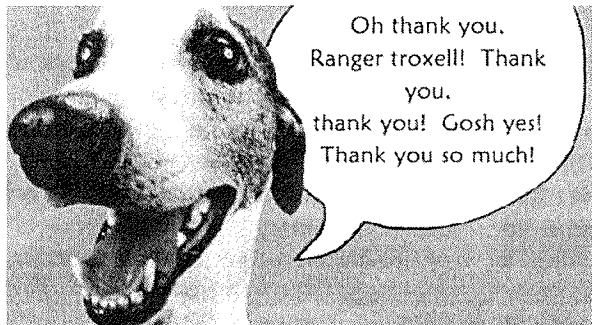


1880s.

Volunteer Kim "Fresnel" Fahlen, has become, among other things, "the keeper of the light!" Some duties sound relatively simple but require special training. For example, she uses a special solution on linen cloths and wears white gloves when removing dust and dirt from each prism of the lens to avoid scratching the lens

A lasting experience for our young visitors

by Emily Troxell



middle of June. This is a major commitment of park resources to our children.

While we work very hard to make sure that interesting material on each topic is presented to the classes, it is always revealing to see what the children remember. Often the class members will write thank-you

Last year, more than ten thousand children took part in the educational programs presented by rangers here at the park.

who saw the slide presentation "Steps to the Sea," took part in the ranger program about Cabrillo and then visited the intertidal area:

As I mentioned in my introduction to this issue, I am often the ranger sitting at the information desk to greet visitors. There I often have a chance to listen to people remember earlier times and their experiences in our park. Many came here as children and still clearly remember climbing the steps to the tower of the Old Point Loma Lighthouse to look out over the landscape. Others remember exploring the military history installations that are part of our park, while others simply remember water on both sides and being able to see great distances. These visits are highlights in the lives of these people, and they are here again looking for a memorable experience. This clearly indicates the importance of our contacts with the children of our community and places a great responsibility on our rangers to prepare well for the coming year's educational programs.

Last year more than ten thousand children took part in educational programs presented by rangers here at the park. Many parents participated, too, bringing the children to the park and acting as chaperones. Each class is scheduled for one of the curriculum-based educational programs. Choices are: The Story of Cabrillo, Chaparral Supermarket (depicting life of the Kumeyaay people), The Intertidal Zone, or Life in the Old Point Loma Lighthouse. Programs are scheduled from October through the

notes containing impressions of their experience. These letters identify the things that the children found memorable. When the letters show a lack of understanding concerning their program, it is a clear indication that we need to make immediate changes to make the programs more child friendly.

The letter below is from a boy

Dear Ranger
Thank you for letting us come to Cabrillo.
We learned lots of things.
I loved seeing the sword, especially when you let my mother show us how it was used. Have you ever shot the crossbow? I bet it was heavy and hard to handle. We didn't see any whales, but I guess they are not around. The ranger told us they were her during the winter. We loved the lady that was sitting in the lighthouse kitchen. People sure wore lots of clothing then. I learned that children wrote on chalkboards instead of paper. Was there ever so much fog that they needed a new Point Loma Lighthouse?
I learned a lot from the movie like if you take some thing home like a shell it will mess up Nature and that sea urchins close up when you touch them. I accidentally slipped on some mossy rocks. I also saw kelp and barnacles, and sea anemones, and a baby lobster. I liked the rocks. They were fun to jump on. I saw barnacle homes too. They looked like volcanoes.
Thank you for everything. I had a wonderful time.

Sincerely
[Fourth Grade Student]

By the Numbers

by Carol Ann Vallee

“Welcome to Cabrillo National Monument. It's a five-dollar entrance fee and your receipt is valid for seven days.”

And so goes the life of a fee collector. Sure, you may think I live a life of luxury, sitting outside soaking up the sun watching cottontail clouds roll by. The sun glistens off the deep blue ocean as sailboats push piles of sparkling diamonds aside with their bow. The harsh reality strikes at 3:00pm on the fourth of July. My brain begins to simmer under my snug straw hat while the steaming sun pours into the west window of the entrance station. I am faced with a line of automobiles that extends into eternity. A bevy of bicyclists whizzes past me, the large red stop sign, and a flashing red light at warp speed. As I turn to politely yell at them to come

back and pay the required entrance fee, I notice a gaggle of runners entering the park illegally, all the while laughing and pointing at the “Do Not Enter” sign. Ah yes, this is what I consider pure pleasure. Okay, so it is not always as stressful as that, but being the third busiest national monument does have its' share of hectic moments.

What's that you asked? Oh, yes, we really are the third busiest national monument. On average, we annually provide visitor services to 1.1 million people. We have been keeping track and recording visitation numbers since 1979 when rangers installed a sensor on the exit road of the park. Every time a vehicle exits the park, it triggers the sensor. Currently, this information is transmitted to a small box in the entrance station. Every morning after enjoying a delightful mug of hot chocolate topped with a dollop of whipped cream, we open the entrance station and record the information onto a daily traffic count sheet. At the end of each month, we take these numbers and input them into the National Park Service's Public Use Statistics website. The website

magically computes these numbers and turns them into our monthly and yearly visitation statistics.

An immense amount of statistical data related to park visitation, age, and money generation is contained within the site. Anybody who is able to access the Internet is free to explore the website. (The address is www2.nature.nps.gov/stats). It is quite interesting to see the trends of different parks; some are obviously not year round parks as is Cabrillo National Monument. You can view statistics of an individual park or you can compare and contrast a group of park sites. You can view a specific year or all 22 of them. You may even decide to use this site to view a park's visitation during certain months in order to plan a visit during a slow season. Just remember that the park may be slow for a reason. Possibly due to perilous park conditions or inclement weather!

So, get ready to add a bookmark in your “favorites” folder and, “Welcome to the National Park Services Public Use Statistics homepage. There is no entrance fee and you stay as long as you like!”

Today's visitors: where do they come from and what do they have to say? *by Marcy Marquez*

Who visits Cabrillo National Monument? All in all, Cabrillo National Monument receives about 1.1 million people per year. As rangers, we strive to connect each of them to the monument and the National Park Service, and try to promote understanding about the necessity of preserving this resource for future generations.

Our visitors come from all over the world! Major cities, small towns, nooks and crannies that many of us have never heard of. So far, no one has admitted they are from different planets, galaxies, and so on, although “Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo” visits the park from time to time. (He is scheduled to visit on September 29th of this

year.) Most foreign visitors are from Europe and Asia. We do have visitors that are truly dedicated to Cabrillo NM who visit daily, weekly, or annually. What intrigues me most is that many people who have lived in San Diego County for longer than I have been alive (by the way, not very long at all) are finding the park for the first time.

During these hot summer months many visitors try to beat the heat in their home towns and cool down at Cabrillo. Where do they come from? Anywhere hot!! Our Register of National Park Visitors has shown that many visitors beat the heat from Arizona and other areas in California. It's quite interesting that when these people arrive and find foggy, cloudy but cool weather they ask, “So is our

entrance fee waived for today?” I politely smile and say, “Let me call the sun for you and ask if it will come out anytime soon.” We all laugh and carry on with our day.

Cabrillo's visitors often record their impressions in our register. Most of their comments are positive: “What an incredible view” “Well-managed park.” “Wow!” “Cool.” “Keep up the good work” However, there are some comments that spark my dedication to the service and the park: “There should be a café and bar here. A restaurant would be great.” “Why do we have to pay \$5 to park?” Next time around, I hope I will be able to connect with these people and answer their questions as to “why we do things the way we do.”



Cabrillo people

 *Chris Anderson*

As we head into summer, we welcome not only warm weather, sunny skies, crowded beaches, and rolling blackouts, but also three new staff members. And we say goodbye to a long-time friend of Cabrillo NM. Please give a warm welcome to **Bob Munson, Sandy Cumming and Tiffany Luas.**

Bob comes to us from the "Grand Canyon" state. For most of his life, Bob has called the Verde Valley home. He is an admitted history fanatic and has been so since childhood. Bob's thirst for historical knowledge lead him to Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff where he earned both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in History, Archeology and Land Research. He also served 10 years in the Army National Guard and 4 years in the Navy. He has traveled extensively around the world, but says his favorite vacation destination is Spain. He spent a whole summer traveling in Spain and fell in love with the history and culture.

Bob was able to turn his passion for history into a 26-year career with the Arizona State Park System. After being retired for only twelve months, he applied for the historian position at Cabrillo NM. You may recognize Bob from the past six Cabrillo Festivals, where he volunteered his time with the living-history encampment. He is a solid believer in using living history as an interpretative technique. He thinks the best way to really learn and understand a concept is to get actively involved. His job here at Cabrillo is fourfold and includes being an archivist, curator, historian, and interpreter.

The park's newest Visitor Use Assistant, Sandy, hails from the "Old Dominion State" AKA Virginia. Her father was a biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service so the family

moved around quite a bit. Sandy has lived in Virginia, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts, but has called Los Angeles home for the past 15 years. She moved to L.A. to attend Master's College, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in English. She then worked for social services as a behavior specialist. After nine years, Sandy was ready for a change, so she moved to San Diego to attend National University. There she earned a Master's degree in Public Administration. Since childhood, Sandy has wanted to be a park ranger and eventually hopes to become an administrator for



the government.

When she's not at work, you can find Sandy enjoying a good dish of fettuccine Alfredo, riding motorcycles, woodworking or securing her place as the biggest Washington Redskins fan. She also enjoys traveling and says her favorite vacation getaway is Embo, Scotland.

Tiffany Luas is the newest member of the resource science division. She is a native of the "Golden State," La Mirada serving as her childhood stomping grounds. Tiffany attended California State Disneyland, oops . . . I mean Cal State Fullerton. There she earned a degree in biology and after graduation worked in a laboratory on the CSUF campus. While attending CSUF, Tiffany had the opportunity to spend some time studying with our great neighbors to the north. She spent a year at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. This year abroad not only allowed Tiffany to explore eastern Canada, but also to

perfect her French. While at McGill, she also spent time honing her ice hockey skills. Tiffany is the first to admit that she fell in love with Montreal and now calls it her second home. When asked about her future, she admits she is not sure. Her interests lie in marine ecology and conservation. She would like to possibly even get involved with writing marine conservation policy. Tiffany's official job title is Biological Technician and this is her first job with the National Park Service. Her duties will include working with the herpetology, small mammal and bat surveys, GIS, and assisting Bonnie with intertidal monitoring.

When not chasing lizards, snakes, or bats around the park, Tiffany can be found hiking, scuba diving, playing ice hockey, rooting for her favorite hockey team, the Los Angeles Kings or enjoying the finest vegetarian fares. One of her long-term life goals is to travel to and explore every continent on earth.

Besides welcoming these new employees, Cabrillo also says goodbye to Interpreter and VIP Coordinator, Mary Beth Vygrala, who retired after twenty-two years with the National Park Service. Mary Beth started her NPS career at Boston National Historical Park. In her career, she has worked at Minuteman National Historical Park, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Shenandoah National Park, George Washington Birthplace National Monument, Death Valley National Park, Great Basin National Park, Fort Stanwix National Monument and Cabrillo National Monument. We wish Mary Beth the best of luck in the future and hope she remembers to stop by and say hello once in a while.



Cabrillo National Monument Foundation

Meet our administrative staff



Karen Eccles
Executive Director



Karen Tisdale
*Administrative
Assistant*



Bobbi Hill
Bookstore Manager

We had a wonderful turnout at the member preview event for the new Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo and the Age of Exploration exhibit. The exhibit is very well done and the end result of a lot of hard work. The junior ranger program and the book we published, *"The Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo,"* tie in with the new exhibit to better tell the story of Cabrillo National Monument. The support of our members has helped the Foundation support worthy projects such as the new exhibit and we hope everyone who hasn't seen it yet will visit us soon.

This is the time of year we start putting the budget together for our next fiscal year which begins October 1st. Owing to decline in travel and visitation and the current economic status, the Foundation's revenues are down approximately 10% from the last fiscal year. Because our mission is to support Cabrillo National Monu-

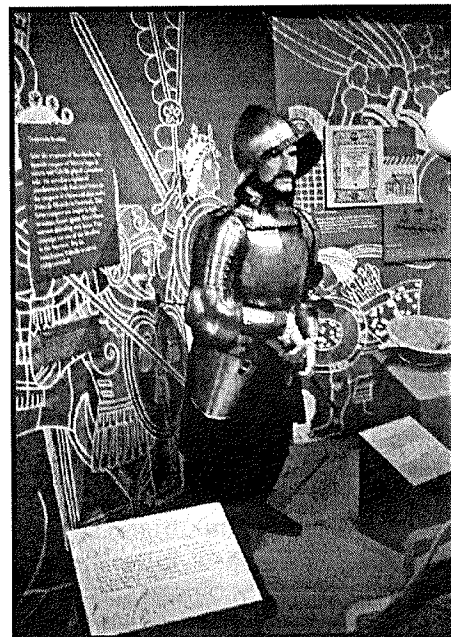
ment, it's always difficult when we have to decide between the park's needs and our own. On the other hand, inefficient equipment is a time waster, and certain budget expenses are necessary to help increase our revenues when they are declining. Thus, we would greatly appreciate donations of materials or skills. Please call if you see something you could help with. By contributing in this way, we are able to pass along more funding to the park.

Our current needs include:

- A new computer and printer
- carpet to replace the old one in the CNMF office (288) square feet)
- Carpet installation
- Shrinkwrap machine.

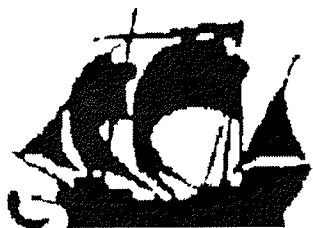
As always, many thanks to all of our members for your continuing support.

Karen Eccles,
Executive Director



CNMF members can be proud that their Foundation played a major role in development of the long-awaited remodeling of the museum in the visitor center. The totally redesigned exhibit space depicts the Age of Spanish Exploration, centering on the 1542 expedition of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo. The Foundation contributed \$60,000 to the planning phase of the project. An exclusive preview of the exhibit for CNMF members was held on June 25. The official ribbon-cutting and opening of the exhibit to the public on June 27 was timed to coincide with the 460th anniversary of departure of the Cabrillo expedition from Navidad, Mexico.

We encourage you to visit the park soon to view this attractive and informative exhibit.



Make a Lasting Legacy

The CNMF Endowment Fund, established in 1997 with the San Diego Foundation, is another way you can support the endeavors of Cabrillo National Monument. Interested donors can call (619) 222-4747 or log onto www.sdfoundation.org for more information.



Once again, America's Finest City Half Marathon will begin at Cabrillo National Monument at 7AM on Sunday, August 18. Cabrillo National Monument Foundation is fortunate and highly honored to be the beneficiary of this annual event.

As always, we are most grateful to Neil Finn Sports Management, Inc. for continuing support of the Foundation.

To add to your reading about people who have visited Point Loma, as you've done in this edition of *The Explorer*, the bookstore in the Visitor Center has a number of books to enjoy:

- *San Diego Originals*, Theodore Fuller. Profiles of the movers and shakers of California's first community.
- *Black Pioneers In San Diego. 1880-1920*, Madyun and Malone. Forty years in the history of African-Americans in San Diego.
- *A Harbor Worth Defending*, Barry Joyce. A Military History of Point Loma.
- *San Diego: Perfecting Paradise*, Roger Showley. The history of the development of San Diego.
- *Quest for Empire*, Cutter and Engstrand. Spanish Settlement in the Southwest.
- *Antigua California*, Harry Crosby. Mission and Colony on the Peninsular Frontier, 1697-1768.
- *The Impact of European Exploration and Settlement on Local Native Americans*. A collection of seminar papers published by CNMF in 1986.



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Emily Troxell, Editor
Jim Nauman, Production

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CALENDAR

August 18, 2002

• America's Finest City Half Marathon will begin at CNM. CNMF is the event's nonprofit beneficiary.

August 25, 2002

• Annual Membership Meeting
CNMF canvas bags will be available for sale to members only!

• National Park Service Anniversary:
Old Point Loma Lighthouse tower will be open to the public and cake will be served in the Visitor Center.

September 29, 2002-

• Cabrillo Festival

October 14-

• Cabrillo National Monument Anniversary

November 15, 2002-

• Old Point Loma Lighthouse Anniversary

Invitations will be sent to members for Fall 2002 Birdwalk and Annual Moonwalk event.

New Members

Renee Beyers
Charles Convis
Lynn Dellenbarger
J.P. Embry
Marilyn Eriksen
William and Thalia Evenson
Berta Harris
Don and Barbara Lydy
Mike Morton
Sharon Roberts
Cynthia Steiger





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