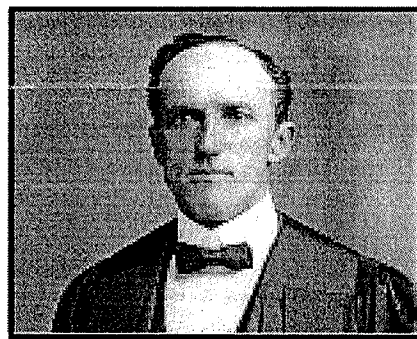


*Newsletter of
Cabrillo National Monument and
Cabrillo National Monument Foundation*

A century of archaeology, conservation, and preservation: the Antiquities Act of 1906

by Patricia Heusner

The Antiquities Act of 1906 has resulted in the preservation of over 123 National Monuments—now that's worth celebrating! This act gives United States presidents authority to declare national monuments on federally managed lands. Most recently, President George W. Bush used the act to establish African Burial Ground National Monument on February 27, 2006. The Antiquities Act protects lands we consider to be scientific or historic treasures; it was made possible by the concern and perseverance of people who loved these places.



Edgar Lee Hewett

During the late 1800s, many archaeological sites in the southwestern U.S. were looted by pot hunters, collectors, and even people simply looking for building materials. Archaeologists, anthropologists, and others who appreciated historic places were distraught at this pillaging, and the thought, "WE MUST DO SOMETHING!" inspired action. The process was neither simple nor swift, but 25 years of persistence and savvy finally succeeded in the creation of this legislation.

One of those persistent and savvy people was an archaeologist named Edgar Lee Hewett. After falling in love with New Mexico,

continued on next page

especially the Pajarito Plateau, Hewett discovered that archaeology was his passion, so he and his wife, Cora Whitford Hewett, moved to Switzerland where he pursued his doctorate degree in archaeology at the University of Geneva. Upon returning to the United States, Hewett became a resource for politicians who championed preservation of archaeological sites. When General Land Office (precursor to the Bureau of Land Management) Commissioner William Afton Richards realized that he needed documentation and expert commentary to support preservation bills before Congress, he called on Hewett's expertise. Hewett wrote his *Memorandum Concerning the Historic and Prehistoric Ruins of Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah, and Their Preservation* in 1904, which concisely demonstrated the need for protection of these areas. He later published a more detailed document, *General View of the Archaeology of the Pueblo Region* to further describe the uniqueness of these lands.

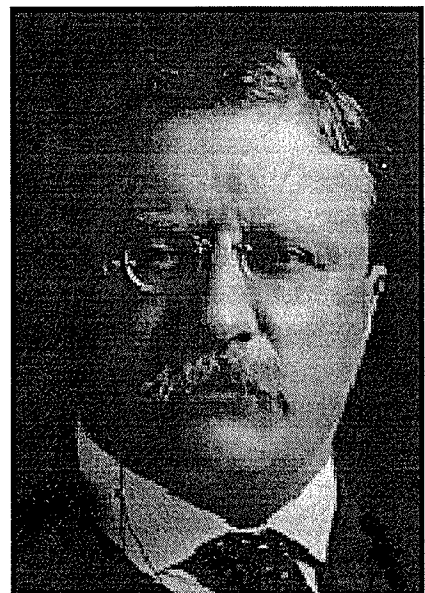
Shortly thereafter, Hewett was appointed secretary of the American Anthropological Association Committee on the Preservation of American Antiquities, and with the help of Congressman John Fletcher Lacey, this team set out to craft a bill to protect the southwest's archaeological heritage.

Hewett brought to the task some special personal qualities: prodigious energy and the ability to use it productively, well developed organizational skills, a superb sense of timing, an ability to identify quickly and define clearly the key elements in a problem, total but diplomatic perseverance in the pursuit of a goal, and a keen insight into the nature of the human condition.

Raymond Harris Thompson in "Edgar Lee Hewett and the Political Process," *Journal of the Southwest*, Summer, 2000, 42(2):271-318

Hewett successfully combined the priorities of various interested parties and removed or reworded points he realized were hindrances for Congress, and thus created the Antiquities Act, which Congress passed on June 8, 1906, and President Theodore Roosevelt signed into law.

Thanks to Hewett's passion and determination, he transformed his love of the Pajarito Plateau into action on behalf of all lands of historic and scientific significance.



President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Antiquities Act into law on June 8, 1906

Sources for this article, and great opportunities for further reading:

"A Visionary Act" from Archaeology Magazine at <http://www.archaeology.org/online/features/act1906/>

"Edgar Lee Hewett and the Political Process," by Raymond Harris Thompson, originally published in a Special Issue on the Antiquities Act in the Summer, 2000, issue of the *Journal of the Southwest* 42(2):271-318, now posted courtesy of University of Arizona Press on the National Park Service Archaeology Program website at: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/antiq/index>



Superintendent's Corner

by Terry DiMattio

This issue of The Explorer is dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Antiquities Act. Even though it may not be as widely known as the Wilderness Act or the Endangered Species Act, it is among the more important pieces of conservation legislation passed by the U.S. Congress. Theodore Roosevelt signed the Antiquities Act into law on June 8, 1906. It gave the president the authority to establish out of the public domain, national monuments to protect the historic and scientific heritage of the American people. This simple, one-page act has had far-reaching consequences and has led to the development of some of our most cherished parks, including Cabrillo National Monument.

Many of our great national parks—Acadia, Arches, Bryce Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns, Channel Islands, Death Valley, Denali, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton, Lassen Volcanic, Mesa Verde, Olympic, Wrangell-St. Elias and Zion, to name several—began as national monuments set aside under the authority of the Antiquities Act. Dozens of existing national monuments, including Bandelier, Devil's Tower, Jewel Cave, Pinnacles, Pipe Spring, Fort Pulaski and Wupatki, were also created by presidential proclamation. Almost every president since Teddy Roosevelt, Republican and Democrat alike, has used this act to establish national monuments large and small that have enabled visitors from around the nation to know and appreciate the treasures that belong to them as U.S. citizens.

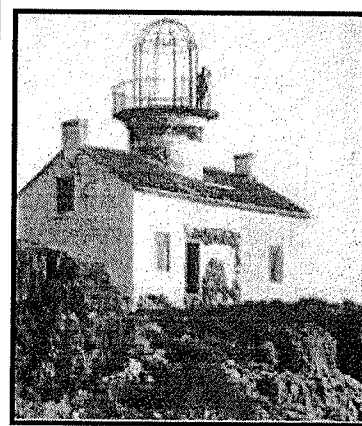
Over the years, many of these national monuments, like

Cabrillo, have grown and evolved and in the process have become touchstones of American culture. Since President Woodrow Wilson created it on October 14, 1913, Cabrillo NM has grown from one-half acre around the dilapidated Old Point Loma Lighthouse, to 160 acres of biologically diverse coastal sage, maritime succulent scrub and southern maritime chaparral and 128 acres of rocky intertidal habitat protected under agreements with the Navy and Army Corps of Engineers. From a small park with virtually no facilities for the public or staff, we now have a modern visitor center, accessible restrooms, an auditorium that seats 130 visitors, permanent interpretive exhibits and an administration building that allows the staff to serve the 900,000 people who visit us each year. We have evolved from primarily telling the story of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo and his voyage of exploration, to educating our visitors about the lighthouses of Point Loma and their role in the development of commerce along the California coast; the Army's defense of San Diego during World Wars I and II; the migration of Pacific gray whales, the ecology of the tidepools and the biologically diverse and threatened terrestrial habitats of the Mediterranean biome. Using exhibits, films, books, and ranger-led activities, we have enabled millions of people over the past 93 years to connect to their natural and cultural heritage.

At the same time, especially over the past three decades, we have been steadily learning more about the natural and historic resources under our care, and preserving this knowledge for those who will follow us. When I



Since President Woodrow Wilson created it on October 14, 1913, Cabrillo NM has grown from one-half acre around the dilapidated Old Point Loma Lighthouse, to 160 acres of biologically diverse coastal sage, maritime succulent scrub and southern maritime chaparral and 128 acres of rocky intertidal habitat



first began as a ranger 32 years ago, we did not know as much as we do today about what lives in the tidepools and on the land and whether the condition of these plants and animals is improving, declining, or remaining the same. Today, through our on-going monitoring of the rocky intertidal

and terrestrial reptiles and amphibians, the periodic survey of native vegetation and bats, and the studies of small mammals, raptors, rare plants and other species being done by outside researchers, we are gaining a better understanding of the life of Point Loma and what its health may be. The reports from these studies and our long-term inventory and monitoring program will help us gauge the vital signs of the marine and terrestrial habitats on the peninsula and determine what should be done to fulfill the promise of the Antiquities Act.

Whether they were created by presidential proclamation under the authority of the Antiquities Act or by an individual act of Congress, the national monuments, parks, wild and scenic rivers, seashores, battlefields, recreation areas, and other parks in the national park system embody our historic and scientific legacy. Supported and protected by the American people, the parks strengthen the bond that we have with our nation and the values and principles upon which it was founded. Together they help preserve our heritage for the enjoyment, edification and inspiration of this and future generations. Who would have thought that a simple, one-page act written 100 years ago would have had such a far-reaching effect on our country?

National Monuments designated by United States presidents, under the Antiquities Act

The following monuments were created under authority of the Antiquities Act. Some have since been reclassified by Congress with different titles, such as National Parks. (Joshua Tree and Grand Canyon are examples.) Lands in this list that have remained designated as National Monuments are marked with an asterisk (*).

Many of these places are under

the care of the National Park Service. Others are cared for by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Armed Forces Retirement Home. A few have been transferred by Congress to various federal, state, or local agencies. Perhaps your summer travels will take you to one of these wonderful places!

Theodore Roosevelt

9/24/06 Devils Tower, WY*
12/8/06 El Morro, NM*
12/8/06 Montezuma Castle, AZ*
12/8/06 Petrified Forest, AZ
3/11/07 Chaco Canyon (now Chaco Culture), NM
5/6/07 Cinder Cone (now part of Lassen Volcanic NP), CA
5/6/07 Lassen Peak (now Lassen Volcanic NP), CA
11/16/07 Gila Cliff Dwellings, NM*
12/19/07 Tonto, AZ*
1/9/08 Muir Woods, CA*
1/11/08 Grand Canyon, AZ
1/16/08 Pinnacles, CA*
2/7/08 Jewel Cave, SD*
4/16/08 Natural Bridges, UT*
5/11/08 Lewis and Clark Cavern, MT
9/15/08 Tumacacori, AZ
12/7/08 Wheeler, CO
3/2/09 Mount Olympus (now Olympic NP), WA

William Howard Taft

3/20/09 Navajo, AZ*
7/12/09 Oregon Caves, OR*
7/31/09 Mukuntuweap, UT
9/21/09 Shoshone Cavern, WY
11/1/09 Gran Quivira (now

Salinas Pueblo Missions), NM*

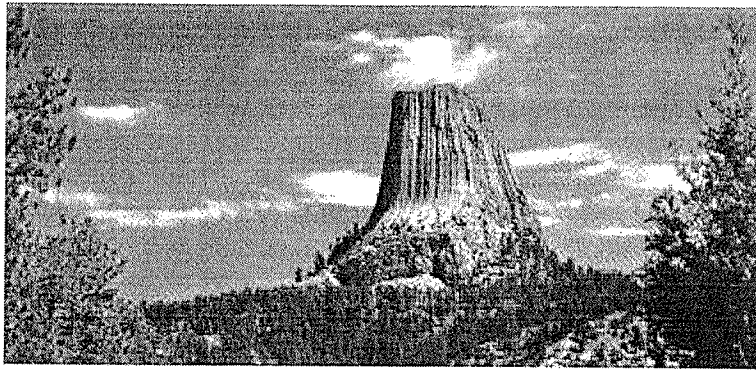
3/23/10 Sitka, AK
5/30/10 Rainbow Bridge, UT*
6/23/10 Big Hole Battlefield, MT
5/24/11 Colorado, CO*
7/6/11 Devils Postpile, CA*

Woodrow Wilson

10/14/13 Cabrillo, CA*
1/31/14 Papago Saguaro, AZ
10/4/15 Dinosaur, UT-CO*
11/30/15 Walnut Canyon, AZ*
2/11/16 Bandelier, NM*
7/8/16 Sieur de Monts (now Acadia NP), ME
8/9/16 Capulin Mountain (now Capulin Volcano), NM*
10/25/16 Old Kasaan, AK
6/29/17 Verendrye, ND
3/18/18 Zion, UT (incorporated Mukuntuweap NM)
8/3/18 Casa Grande (now Casa Grande Ruins), AZ*
9/24/18 Katmai, AK
12/12/19 Scotts Bluff, NE*
12/12/19 Yucca House, CO*

Warren G. Harding

1/24/22 Lehman Caves, NV
10/14/22 Timpanogos Cave, UT*
10/21/22 Fossil Cycad, SD



The First National Monument:
Devil's Tower, Wyoming
September 24, 1906

1/24/23 Aztec Ruin (now Aztec Ruins), NM*
3/2/23 Hovenweep, UT-CO*
3/2/23 Mound City Group, OH
5/31/23 Pipe Spring, AZ*
6/8/23 Bryce Canyon, UT

Calvin Coolidge

10/25/23 Carlsbad Cave (now Carlsbad Caverns NP), NM
4/18/24 Chiricahua, AZ*
5/2/24 Craters of the Moon, ID*
10/15/24 Castle Pinckney, SC
10/15/24 Fort Marion (now Castillo de San Marcos), FL*
10/15/24 Fort Matanzas, FL*
10/15/24 Fort Pulaski, GA*
10/15/24 Statue of Liberty, NY*
12/9/24 Wupatki, AZ*
2/26/25 Glacier Bay, AK
2/26/25 Meriwether Lewis, TN
9/5/25 Father Millet Cross, NY
11/21/25 Lava Beds, CA*

Herbert Hoover

4/12/29 Arches, UT
5/11/29 Holy Cross, CO
5/26/30 Sunset Crater (now Sunset Crater Volcano), AZ*
3/17/32 Great Sand Dunes, CO*
12/22/32 Grand Canyon, AZ
1/18/33 White Sands, NM*
2/11/33 Death Valley, CA-NV
3/1/33 Saguaro, AZ
3/3/33 Black Canyon of the Gunnison, CO

Franklin D. Roosevelt

4/26/33 Channel Islands, CA
8/22/33 Cedar Breaks, UT*
6/14/34 Ocmulgee, GA*+
1/4/35 Fort Jefferson (now Dry

Tortugas NP), FL
8/10/36 Joshua Tree, CA
1/22/37 Zion, UT
4/13/37 Organ Pipe Cactus, AZ*
8/2/37 Capitol Reef, UT
7/16/38 Fort Laramie, WY
5/17/39 Santa Rosa Island, FL
7/24/39 Tuzigoot, AZ*
3/15/43 Jackson Hole, WY

Harry S. Truman

3/22/46 Custer Battlefield (now Little Bighorn Battlefield), MT
10/25/49 Effigy Mounds, IA*

Dwight D. Eisenhower

7/14/56 Edison Laboratory (now Edison NHS), NJ
1/18/61 Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, MD-WV

John F. Kennedy

5/11/61 Russell Cave, AL*
12/28/61 Buck Island Reef, VI*

Lyndon B. Johnson

1/20/69 Marble Canyon, AZ

Jimmy Carter

12/1/78 Admiralty Island, AK*
12/1/78 Aniakchak, AK*
12/1/78 Becharof, AK
12/1/78 Bering Land Bridge, AK
12/1/78 Cape Krusenstern, AK*
12/1/78 Denali, AK
12/1/78 Gates of the Arctic, AK
12/1/78 Kenai Fjords, AK
12/1/78 Kobuk Valley, AK
12/1/78 Lake Clark, AK
12/1/78 Misty Fjords, AK*
12/1/78 Noatak, AK
12/1/78 Wrangell-St. Elias, AK
12/1/78 Yukon-Charley, AK
12/1/78 Yukon Flats, AK

William J. Clinton

9/18/96 Grand Staircase-Escalante, UT*
1/11/00 Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, AZ*
1/11/00 Agua Fria National Monument, AZ*
1/11/00 California Coastal National Monument, CA*
4/15/00 Giant Sequoia*
6/09/00 Hanford Reach, WA*
6/09/00 Ironwood Forest, AZ*
6/09/00 Canyons of the Ancients, CO*
6/09/00 Cascade-Siskiyou, OR*
7/07/00 President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home, DC*
11/9/00 Vermillion Cliffs, AZ*
1/17/01 Carrizo Plain, CA*
1/17/01 Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks, NM*
1/17/01 Pompeys Pillar, MT*
1/17/01 Sonoran Desert National Monument, AZ*
1/17/01 Upper Missouri River Breaks, MT*
1/17/01 Virgin Islands Coral Reef, VI*
1/20/01 Governors Island-Castle Williams and Fort Jay, NY*



George W. Bush

2/27/06 African Burial Ground, New York City

Glacier Bay: from national monument to national park

by Laura Congdon

Alaska to many people is a far-off place that's cold and inhospitable for most of the year. Well, some of that holds true, but only a small part. Alaska's size can be equated to one-fifth the area of the continental United States. It covers a wide range of latitudes similar to the range covered by the continental US. At any given time, one area of the state will be hot and/or dry, while another area is wet and cold. There are rainforests, deserts, plains, and mountains all within this state. So to sum up Alaska in one phrase alone would be like describing the meaning of life in one word.

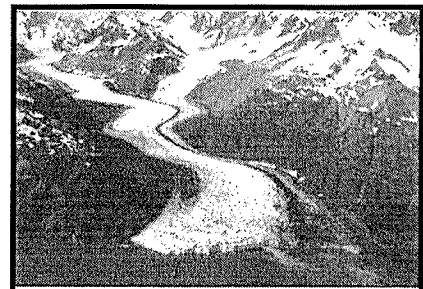
Alaska is our country's last frontier to explore and is a microcosm from which to learn about what our homes here in California used to look like on and off for hundreds of thousands of years. Glaciers are a timeless product of a global climate flux that has occurred for longer than we are capable of knowing. They are moving masses of condensed snow that carve out land and push out sea.

John Muir, someone Californians know quite well, went to Alaska in 1879 to find evidence to support a theory that the Yosemite Valley was carved out by ice. At that time, people believed that a great cataclysmic event had caused the valley to fall and create the 3000-foot walled splendor that we see today. Muir found what he was looking for in the glaciers of what is now called Glacier Bay National Park. As a result of articles in which he wrote about Glacier Bay, the area became a tourist attraction in the late 1800s. A huge earthquake rocked the

area in 1899, the great glaciers broke apart into the ocean, and the area was no longer navigable for decades after.

However, in 1916, a man named William Cooper made it into the Bay in search of not ice, but plants. As the great glaciers began to melt, barren rock was left in their wake. Given a few years, the wind blew and the birds flew by and seeds started to grow. What Dr. Cooper discovered was that Glacier Bay was a laboratory in which scientists could study the renewal of life after the icy bulldozers retreated. After many trips to the area, he decided to ask for help in protecting Glacier Bay. With the help of the Ecological Society of America, he caught the eye of President Calvin Coolidge.

With the stroke of a pen, a



Glacier Bay National Monument was set aside in 1925 through the means of a wonderful tool: the Antiquities Act.

Congress, this Act allows American Presidents unilaterally make expedient strides towards land preservation.

In 1980, through the amazing foresight of President Jimmy Carter, Glacier Bay was made into a national park by the Alaska National Interest Lands



timeless place beyond description became part of America's national park system. Glacier Bay National Monument was set aside in 1925 through the means of a wonderful tool, the Antiquities Act. Without the hassle of going through what could be years of debate in

Conservation Act, otherwise known as ANILCA. ANILCA established 10 of the 17 National Park units in Alaska.

If you haven't gone to Alaska yet, you must!

Muir Woods National Monument: a place of quiet solitude, inspiration and rejuvenation

by Karl Pierce

From April 1995 until November 1998, I was the Interpretation Site Supervisor at the Presidio of San Francisco, part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. It was a very busy time at the Presidio, as we were in the midst of a transition from the oldest continually occupied Army base to national park area. There was great interest from the public, the news media and Congress as this was also the time of the creation of the Presidio Trust, a federal, public-benefit trust, the closure of the interim Presidio Project Office, staffed by NPS employees and friends on the two floors above our offices and visitor center, and the laying of the foundation for much of what the

defenses, lighthouses and the U.S. lifesaving service) plus others such as early Army aviation history, Civil War, Mexican American War, Spanish American War, Philippine-American War, Indian Wars, the U.S. Cavalry's (including the famed Buffalo Soldiers) role in early western national parks, the 1915 Pan Pacific International Exposition, and the 1906 Earthquake. There were robust, active Education and Volunteers-In-Parks programs, ranger-led interpretive programs, the Presidio Visitor Center and the Presidio Army Museum. We were very much in the spotlight and it was a wonderful and exciting time of tremendous growth and change, both for the Presidio as well as for myself, with

restoration of Crissy Field and creation of the Crissy Field Center, March For Parks events, development of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the San Francisco Bay Trail, both of which go through the Presidio, the completion of the Anza National Historic Trail, whose northern terminus is located at the Presidio, partnership with the National Japanese-American Historical Society to tell the story of the WWII internment of Japanese-American citizens as well as the creation of the Military Intelligence Service Language School (forerunner of the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA) at Crissy Field, excavation of the early Spanish Presidio, Buffalo Soldier

living-history encampments, the silver anniversary of Golden Gate NRA, frequent visits by members of Congress and other political and civic leaders, and Department of the Interior and NPS leadership, and a steady stream of interns and Americorps/NCCC members. It was also a very hectic time.

Muir Woods is a 295 acre stand of old growth coast redwood forest. It was



Presidio is becoming and will become (Star Trek aficionados will recognize it as the home of Star Fleet Academy).

My staff and operation were very similar to Cabrillo NM, with some similar interpretive themes (Spanish exploration and colonization, ecology, coast

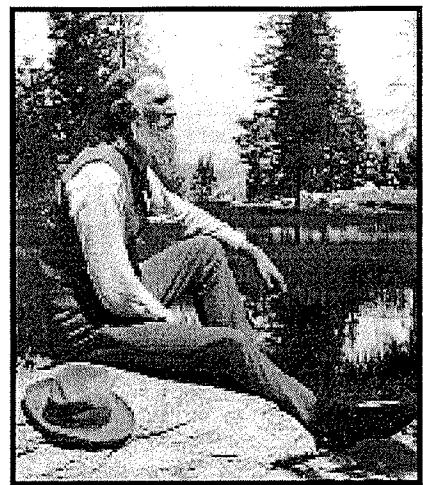
development of the Site Stewards Program (a melding of the Education, Volunteers-In-Parks, Internship and Natural Resources Programs, and Park Partners to operate the Presidio Greenhouse and restore native habitat while providing training for high school and middle school students), the

purchased by Congressman William Kent and his wife, Elizabeth Thatcher Kent, in 1905, and they donated 295 acres to the federal government in 1907 to prevent a local water company from damming Redwood Creek. The Kents originally purchased 611 acres of land for \$45,000 to

protect it from logging, and they would later donate even more land. Wouldn't we all like to acquire land in San Diego for that amount now? President Theodore Roosevelt, using the authority granted to him by the Antiquities Act, created Muir Woods National Monument by proclamation on January 9, 1908, making it the nation's seventh national monument and the first from land donated by a private individual. Roosevelt had originally wanted to name the new monument after William Kent, but Kent persuaded the president to name it instead after John Muir, the founder and first president of the Sierra Club, who lived across the San Francisco Bay in Martinez from 1890 until his death in 1914. Muir Woods has a colorful history going back as far as human inhabitation of the area itself. It is located within the territorial lands of the Coast Miwok Indians, who lived off of plants, animals, and stones found there. During the late 1890s, the exclusive Bohemian Club erected a 70-foot statue of Daibutsu Buddha there and considered purchasing part to erect their summer encampment. They opted, instead for the Russian River area as they deemed Muir Woods too damp and cold. By the late 1920s, the lath-and-plaster statue had melted away. Ben Johnson could be called the first "ranger" there. Johnson was a Marin resident and had a cabin in "Sequoia Canyon," now Muir Woods. By the 1890s, he was a warden of the Mt. Tamalpais Sportsmen's Club, and when the Kents purchased the property, they retained Johnson as caretaker. From 1933 until 1941, up to 200 members of the Civilian Conservation Corps found work in and around Muir Woods, working out of a camp there. With the completion of the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937, visitation to the park tripled to 180,000, now that San Francisco residents could

more easily reach the monument without taking the ferry. However, the ferry is still a very pleasant way to make the excursion from San Francisco to Sausalito, and a bus and connecting shuttle may be taken to Muir Woods from San Francisco or Sausalito on weekends and holidays between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Today, nearly 2 million people visit Muir Woods National Monument each year. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died just before he was to have opened the first United Nations Conference in the spring of 1945. U.N. delegates present at that conference to draft and sign the U.N. charter gathered in the Cathedral Grove of Muir Woods to commemorate Roosevelt and placed a plaque there in his honor.

On days that were particularly stressful and draining, or when traffic got particularly bad, I would take that little excursion and walk trails in the quiet solitude of those ancient redwoods, the tallest living organism. Entering the monument, I would begin a personal journey, taking in the moist, musty smells of damp soil and California Bay Laurel; awe-inspiring sights of redwoods, big leaf maple, Douglas fir, ferns, chipmunks and Steller's jays; and sounds of calls from unseen birds, water rolling over rocks, my shoes hitting the paved trail, and dew dripping on the damp floor of the cool, quiet, majestic forest cathedral. The cares of the world would fall away; the pressures and demands of a day at the Presidio would be removed. Away from horns, snail-crawl stop-and-go traffic, telephones and deadlines, the hustle and bustle of urban life would disappear, transporting me, transforming me, decompressing me, calming me, rejuvenating me, remaking me. Leaving Muir Woods at closing, I would often return to my commute after much of the traffic had passed, ready to face the world again.



Come to the woods, for here is rest. There is no repose like that of the green deep woods. Here grow the wallflower and the violet. The squirrel will come and sit upon your knee, the logcock will wake you in the morning. Sleep in forgetfulness of all ill. Of all the upness accessible to mortals, there is no upness comparable to the mountains.

John Muir

To learn more about this natural wonder, please visit www.nps.gov/muwo/ or call 415-388-2595.

Avian Newcomers

by Claude G. Edwards
Volunteer, CNM

Within the past year two distinctive species of birds have made their way to Point Loma for the first time, with the possibility of becoming established on a regular basis. They originate from opposite sides of the globe, and their arrival is directly or indirectly the result of human actions.

One is the Eurasian collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), a native of continental Europe and the Middle East. Its arrival to the San Diego area was anticipated by reports of its appearance elsewhere in southern California, and from far-flung places across the United States (National Audubon Society, 2000).

It was first observed in San Diego County in 2002, at a park



Collared dove www.bbc.co.uk/nature

on the southeast edge of San Diego Bay (Evans, 2006). This is a hardy and adaptable species that has a penchant for expanding its population and range into areas enhanced by human activities such as agriculture, suburban development, and community parks.

Eurasian collared-doves are slightly but noticeably larger in size, and also heavier-bodied, than our native Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*). They have a relatively longer and much wider-tipped tail than do Mourning

Doves, best noted in flight. Collared-doves also have a narrow black bar on the back of the neck while Mourning Doves have black spots on their wings.

Within San Diego County, collared-doves have been found at different places in and around the town of Borrego Springs, as well as in Ramona, Encinitas, at Emory Cove on San Diego Bay, and at several locations within the Tijuana River Valley (Evans, 2006).

As of Spring 2006, this species was reported from Point Loma by several different observers, including dispersing individuals near the Old Lighthouse, and also on the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. A more interesting sighting was one carrying nesting material at the west end of Harbor Island. It is reasonable to predict that Eurasian collared-doves will eventually become established and more regularly noted in our region.

The second 'avian newcomer' to our area is the black-throated magpie jay (*Calocitta formosa*), a spectacular cousin of our familiar western scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) and common raven (*Corvus corax*). Magpie jays naturally occur in arid to tropical forests in the western part of Mexico. However, depending on different references, they range southward to Costa Rica (possibly as a different but related species) (Howell & Webb, 1995 and Stiles & Skutch, 1989).

Although magpie jays wander widely within their range, they are not migratory, and their presence in the San Diego area is the direct result of accidental escape from captivity. They are kept and sold as cage birds just over the border



Black-throated magpie jay

in Tijuana, Mexico. Coincidentally, they are most frequently and consistently reported from throughout the Tijuana River Valley, on the U.S. side.

Black-throated magpie jays are large and gaudy compared to North American magpies (Genus *Pica*) and other native members of their family, Corvidae. They are blue and black above and black and white below. They are instantly recognizable by their large size, distinctive shape, and a long and flexible tail (Howell & Webb, 1995).

They average 25 to 30 inches in length, compared to 20 to 25 inches for common raven and 11 to 12 inches for scrub-jay. Their overall size is accentuated by a tapered and white-tipped tail that can be more than half their length. At the other end, magpie jays sport a conspicuous crest of generally recurved feathers which can be raised and lowered in an expressive manner.

Magpie jays form small groups that cover large areas in search of food and cover, and this is the likely reason they have been

Continued on page 10

widely reported. Sightings have come from places like suburban Imperial Beach, industrial Otay Mesa, Bonita, and east to Jamul. Adventurous individuals have been found as far as Leucadia, San Marcos, and even Camp Pendleton (Evans, 2006). Wow!

In 2000, a magpie jay was seen flying past the Old Lighthouse, possibly the first on Point Loma. A photograph of that bird is pinned up in the CNM staff lunchroom. The appearance of another individual in April, 2006, really caused a stir among local birders, and was related to me by several National Park Service staff. It was seen in trees around the Coast Guard Lighthouse and north to the Sewage Treatment Plant.

This bird may be a harbinger of future visits by magpie jays to Point Loma, but it is unlikely to become a regular visitor. Currently, the local population has not increased in number to a point where breeding pairs have established themselves outside of the Tijuana River Valley.

Like the collared-dove, magpie jays seem to approve of the weather, vegetation, and food opportunities available in and around San Diego—and you can't blame them!

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Cabrillo People

by Patricia Heusner

After nearly eight years at Cabrillo National Monument, our marine biologist, Bonnie Becker, will be heading for the Northwest this summer as she prepares for her new position at the University of Washington, Tacoma. As Assistant Professor of Marine Ecology, she will spend part of her time teaching courses such as General Ecology, Marine Ecology, Conservation Biology, and Environmental Justice. The other component of her job will involve research, including the rocky intertidal areas of Puget Sound and Olympic National Park!

Her husband, Peter, will also teach at the university; his courses include Environmental Science and Oceanography.

Bonnie leaves us with many important accomplishments, including development of the Tidepool Committee with Rangers Mark Long and Carol Knipper. The Tidepool Committee has created communication among the divisions of resource science, interpretation, resource management, and the TPERP (Tidepool Protection, Education, and Resource Preservation) volunteers to improve the way we study and care for the rocky intertidal. Additionally, she and Ranger Chris Anderson instituted the annual TPERP conference in 1999, which provides TPERPS with training by experts in the science, protection, and interpretation of the intertidal area. Bonnie is very enthusiastic about the success of both the Tidepool Committee and TPERP conferences, and in turn, their support for preservation of the tidepools!

Bonnie recently completed the summary of 15 years of rocky intertidal monitoring. What she learned most from the summary is that the tidepools are very complicated! What seems to be a crash and rebound is sometimes a natural cycle, and we still don't know the story behind the decline of California mussels in our area. Bonnie suggests that everyone read the executive summary of the report, which will soon be available on the monument's website (www.nps.gov/cabr).

When I asked Bonnie about her favorite memories of Cabrillo National Monument, she emphatically answered, "The volunteers are the best part of working at Cabrillo! I am amazed at how committed they are to the monument and at their professionalism. They bring an incredible set of skills to the monument."

We're delighted to have worked with Bonnie and benefited from her willingness to share her knowledge, ambitious attitude, dedication to excellence in her work, and friendly spirit. We wish her much success and fulfillment in her new position!





Cabrillo National Monument Foundation

The Star Party on March 2nd with the San Diego Astronomy Association was a lot of fun! We got close-up looks at Saturn, the moon, and many stars. The presentation beforehand in the auditorium was filled with fascinating and amazing information. We will probably try to have another one next winter, so if you missed this one, you'll get another chance to view the night sky from Cabrillo National Monument.

On May 13th, we enjoyed a presentation by James Lightner, author of San Diego County Native Plants. His photographs referenced unusual wildflowers of Point Loma; then Rangers Patricia Heusner and Marcy Marquez led an interpretive walk on the Bayside Trail. James's book is available in the Visitor Center bookstore.

The Old Point Loma Lighthouse book project is still moving forward. We have decided on a cover, the editing is almost completed, a preliminary layout is expected any day for review, and printing bids are being solicited. Once we know how much it will cost to print and have a preliminary layout to show what the book will look like, we will be able to seek the additional funding necessary to get the book published. With the text in the book being updated and the format completely redesigned, this book will serve its purpose for many years to come. Donors who have given \$100.00 or more to this project will have their names printed in the book and it isn't too late to contribute if you would like to be a part of this worthy project.

Please remember gift CNMF memberships for graduates, Father's Day, anniversaries, birthdays, or just because membership helps support the great programs and projects at Cabrillo National Monument and the recipient will enjoy the benefits.



Please visit our website:
www.CNMF.org

Calendar

Bird Walks with Claude Edwards
3rd Saturday of every month
(except December)

August 25, 2006
CNMF Annual Meeting
NPS 90th Birthday

October 6, 2006
Moonwalk

New Members

We welcome the following new Cabrillo National Monument Foundation members:

Karen Alanis
Scott Broward
Dallas and Mary Campbell
Jon Coats
Linda Ererbart
Lorri Frangkiser
E.F. Gilliland
Thomas Gochenour
Marie Gonzalez
Louis and Vicki Greco
Marcia Green
Patricia Heusner
Lorna Holberg
Kathleen Kalab
Kimberly Kruger
Dick Lareau
Daniel and Yvonne Larsen
Laura McQuerry
Susan Sharp
James Spotts
Craig Stoughton
Mary Toomey
Marvin Zigman

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 contact us at (619) 222-4747 or by e-mail at CNMFKaren@aol.com



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