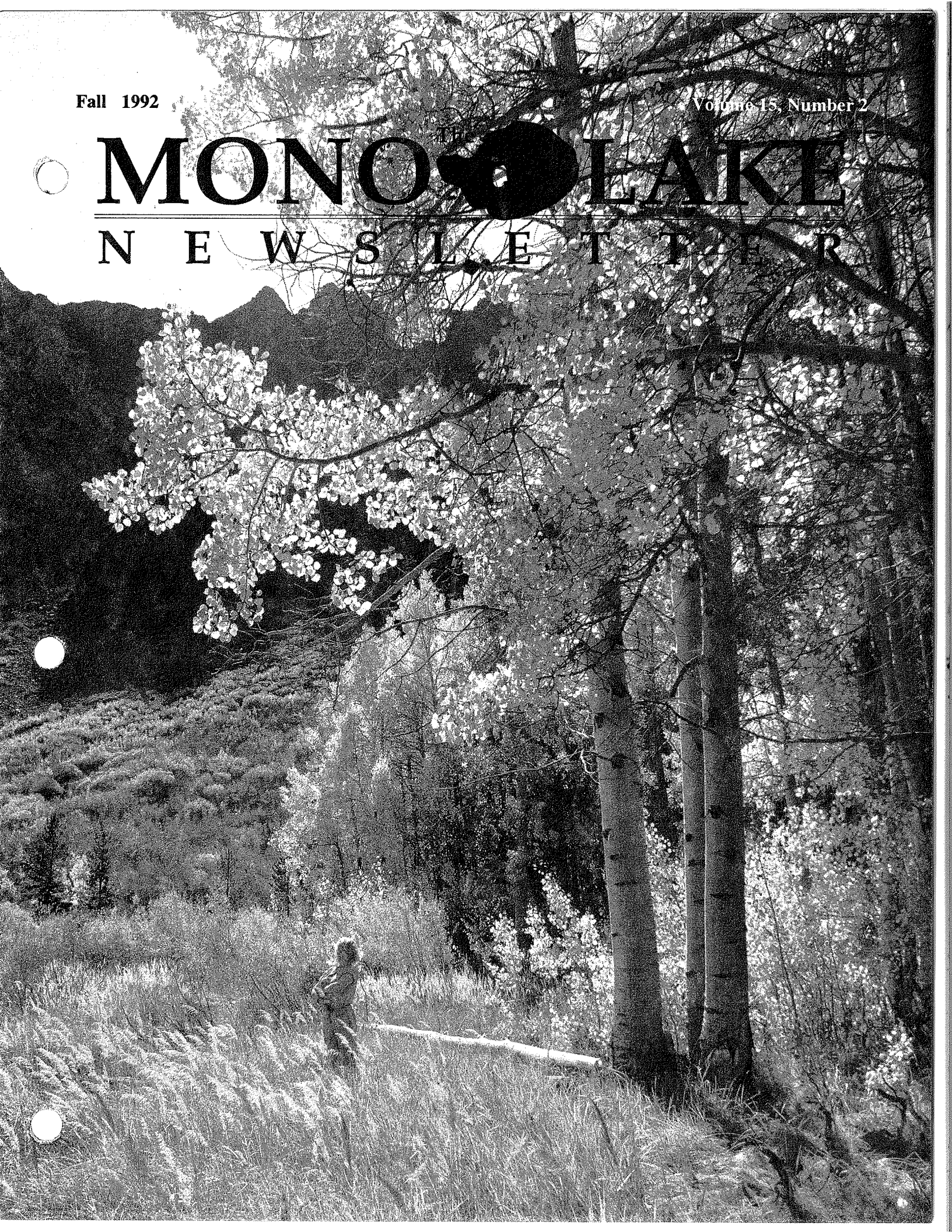


Fall 1992

Volume 15, Number 2

MONO LAKE

NEWSLETTER



THE MONO LAKE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

Martha Davis Executive Director
Sally Gaines and Ed Grosswiler Co-chairs
Dave Phillips Treasurer
Tom Soto Secretary

MONO LAKE INFORMATION CENTER

P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541
(619) 647-6595

John Cain Science Associate
Richard Knepp Sales Manager
Elaine Light Mail and Membership Coordinator
Ilene Mandelbaum Associate Director
Geoffrey McQuilkin Programs Coordinator
Sally Miller Eastern Sierra Representative
Gary Nelson Volunteer Librarian
Shannon Nelson Information Center Manager
Helen Constantine, Melissa Kauffman,
Bryan Massey, Patrick Mitchell Interns

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

1207 W. Magnolia, Suite D, Burbank, CA 91506
(818) 972-2025

Stacy Brown Business Manager
Martha Davis Executive Director
Lori Formicola Development Director
Betsy Reifsnider Associate Director
Kathi Richards Bookkeeping Assistant
Tina Sanders Development Coordinator
Bob Schlichting Publications Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Todd Berens, Santa Ana
Sally Gaines (Co-chair), Lee Vining
Ed Grosswiler (Co-chair), Portland, Oregon
Dian M. Grueneich, Oakland
Barbara Blake Levine, Los Angeles
David Phillips, San Francisco
Phil Pister, Bishop
Genny Smith, Mammoth Lakes
Tom Soto, Santa Monica

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Grace de Laet, San Francisco
Helen Green, Berkeley

CORPORATE COUNSEL

John Paul Hollinrake, Attorney-at-Law
P.O. Box 743
Sonora, CA 95370; (209) 586-6210

MONO LAKE FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Banta, Lee Vining
Bob Binnewies, New York
Lauren Davis, Lee Vining
Mary Hanson, Swall Meadows
Mead Hargis, Logan, Utah
Andrea Lawrence, Mammoth Lakes
Dave Marquart (Chair), Lee Vining
Jim Sano, San Rafael
Genny Smith, Mammoth Lakes

Patagonia Continues To Support Committee

This issue of the Mono Lake Newsletter features the Committee's 1993 Gift Catalog, produced with the help of Patagonia, the Ventura-based mountaineering and clothing manufacturer.

Since 1984, Patagonia has given money each year to a number of environmental groups. With the recession, however, the firm had less cash available last year for contributions. But when the Mono Lake Committee came to them asking not for money but advice, Libby Ellis in their Environmental Charities division quickly arranged for assistance.

First, Patagonia sent a five-person team to Lee Vining to analyze our retail store and advise on the upcoming remodel of our headquarters. Then Kitty Botke of their art department designed the new Mono Lake T-shirt that is featured on page 2 of the catalog. The catalog itself was designed by Patagonia's Alicia Carman, who generously and skillfully helped with layout and production.

Thanks to them all for their generous donations of time and talent.

Appreciation also goes to the Committee sales manager Rick Knepp who helped take catalog photographs, and to Rick and Geoff McQuilkin, who helped with copywriting.

This issue's cover shows the Fall splendor of aspens in Mono's Lundy Canyon. It was taken by Publications Editor Bob Schlichting.

IN THIS ISSUE

Thoughts on Creek Restoration	III
Lake Views: AB 444 Funds: Going, Going ...?	IV
Legal Update: DWP Loses in Court, Again and Again ...	V
PBS Show "California's Gold" Visits Mono Lake	V
Volunteers Needed For Center Remodel in Lee Vining	VI
Consider It A Vacation?	VI
Lake Level Watch: Dropping Lake Helps Feed Coyotes	VII
Bird Observatory Studies Mono's Mysterious Gulls	VIII
1993 Winter Mono Lake Committee Gift Catalog	
San Francisco Hosts Wine Cellar Drawing	IX
Gifts Honor Bike-A-Thon Tom Lyons	X
Memorial Established for Peter Fisher	X
MLC Staff Hellos and Goodbyes	XI

The Mono Lake Committee is a non-profit citizens' group dedicated to saving Mono Lake from excessive diversion of water from its tributary streams. We seek a solution that will meet the real water needs of Los Angeles and leave our children a living, healthy and beautiful lake.

The Mono Lake Newsletter, published quarterly, is a publication of the Mono Lake Committee. Material contained in this newsletter may be quoted or reproduced for review, news reporting, educational purposes or related non-profit uses. Reproduction or quotation for other purposes may be approved upon written application. Copyright © 1992, the Mono Lake Committee.

This newsletter is partially funded by a grant from the Mono Lake Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to studying and protecting the Mono Lake watershed. The Mono Lake Committee is a lobbying organization and greatly needs your direct contribution. However, if you wish to make a tax deductible contribution to the effort to save Mono Lake, please write your check to the "Mono Lake Foundation."

Thoughts on Creek Restoration

by Geoffrey McQuilkin

*"Ah to be alive
on a mid-September morn . . .
Rustle and shimmer of icy creek waters
stones turn underfoot, small and hard as toes"*
-- Gary Snyder

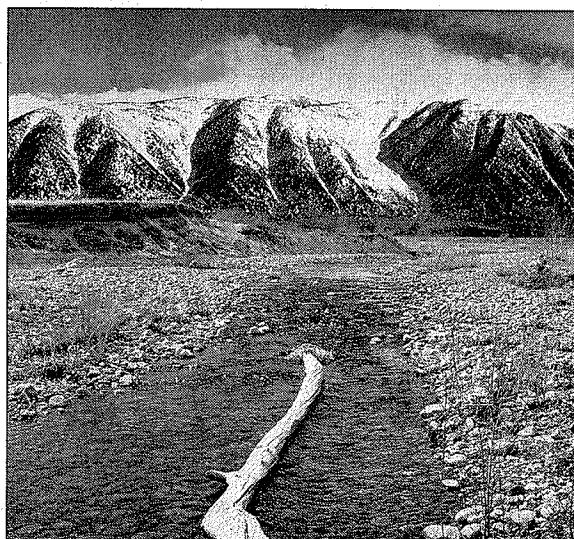


Photo by Ilene Mandelbaum

For some 40 years, the pools of Lee Vining Creek swirled with dry leaves and dust as streamside cottonwoods slowly withered. Now, after long court battles, snowmelt flows down the old paths to Mono Lake once again.

Last week I sat watching in the sun, amongst the blue lupine and the murmurs of the revitalized creek. Raindrops fell from late afternoon clouds, splattering on the plastic survey flagging that dots the creek, reminding me of a day spent on the creek earlier this summer.

Then the coattails of an El Nino season had put stormy clouds in the sky. Splashing through the chill waters of the creek, hurrying along the banks, three of us tried to beat the storm blowing in from Tioga Pass.

We carried surveying instruments -- the same tools used to grid this nation, lay out its highways, and remove its natural contours. It seems ironic -- we carried instruments which helped to build the Los Angeles aqueduct, yet our work was healing the stream the aqueduct destroyed.

Restoration crews had dug pools, placed spawning gravels, and reopened old channels in the creek; we surveyed transect lines to determine the stability of the work. Standing waist deep in rushing water, holding the survey rod, the larger significance of the project became clear to me; we were trying to use our human

technology to undo the damage humans have done. With rods and levels, backhoes and trucks, computers and aerial maps, restoration workers are trying to rebuild what humans took away -- a living, fresh-flowing Sierran stream feeding a lake of desolate beauty.

Last week, walking upstream through the rain, I came across a yellow backhoe sitting silently in the creek. Someone ignorant of the machine's intended use would have been outraged. And even though I knew its purpose, finding heavy machinery in a creek forced a question: is restoration work really appropriate?

DWP has argued that restoration is unnatural, that we should not interfere with the functions of a natural system. Of course, DWP did just that, in an extreme manner, for 40 years, reducing the creek to an overflow ditch in its aqueduct system. Today's stream, for all its beauty, is an artifact of its heavy-handed and uncaring manipulation.

The argument in favor of restoration is more powerful. One restoration expert has compared pool digging and vegetation planting to the setting of a broken bone. A bone will heal naturally with or without a cast, but if the bone is set, its former function and strength are more likely to be realized.

Likewise with the creek. Restoration brings the separated components of the creek-system -- trees and shrubs, pools,

riffles, braided channels, stream life -- back together as they were before DWP opened its diversions gates. Here, restoration does not violate a natural system with human influence. Rather, it nudges the shards of a broken ecosystem back together.

Watching the falling rain reminded me that we must also let nature's processes reweave the bonds between the shards. The natural beauty of the creek depends on it. Like a doctor's patient, the creek has its own life to lead. If we are honest, we will realize that the last phase of restoration is to let go.

To truly restore Lee Vining Creek, we must make what nudges we can and then pull up our survey stakes, take down the flagging, shut down the computers, and walk away with our notebooks dripping sketches and aerial photos and plans. Only then can we return to the creek during the hot days of summer to wade through the riffled waters, to discover the unexpected and new, to take solace in the process of nature, to live in a world bigger than our own.

Walking upstream from the backhoe, I thought to a day in the future when people will enjoy a wild and lush Lee Vining Creek and know that for all the devastation and destruction in the world, here people did their best to put powerful tools to good ends.



Lake Views: An Editorial

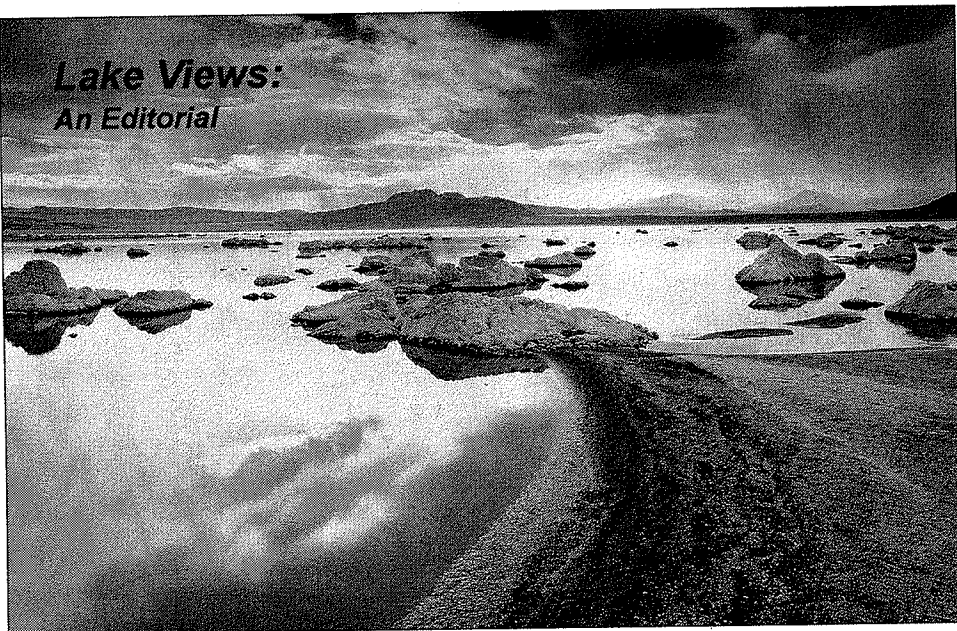


Photo by A. Sahakangas

AB 444 Funds: Going, Going ...?

by Bob Schlichting

We predicted it. Authors of the legislation Phil Isenberg, Bill Baker and Richard Katz predicted it. And now it has happened. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has lost its ratepayers \$14 million.

Back in 1989, the state legislature passed AB 444, a bill giving the Los Angeles DWP \$60 million to finance new sources of water. One would think that signified a wonderful opportunity for DWP, but its response was lukewarm; the law came with stipulations requiring the new water supplies to replace diversions from Mono Lake and to contribute to Mono's permanent protection. To claim the money, DWP had to jointly apply with the Mono Lake Committee.

A joint application obviously requires negotiation. We quickly presented a Six-Point Plan that would protect the environment of Mono Lake while meeting the water needs of Los Angeles; for almost two and a half years, DWP refused to even acknowledge our offer.

But this spring, as the application deadline approached and time seemed to be running out on AB 444 funds, informal talks finally began with Mary Nichols and Dorothy Green, two pro-environmental members of the five-person DWP Commission.

For DWP, a major stumbling block to an agreement was the level of Mono Lake; the Committee's Six-Point Plan calls for a buffer of 6386 feet above sea level. This would allow DWP to divert water, even in dry years.

But DWP maintains the 6386 level is much too high; its General Manager and Chief Engineer, Daniel W. Waters, wrote this year that *"the Department strongly believes that the environmental resources of the Mono Basin would be protected at the current lake level."*

The current level is three feet below the minimum established by California courts in 1991. DWP's position ignores the court's decision, and the wealth of evidence upon which it was based.

We worked with Commissioners Green and Nichols to overcome this impasse, proposing compromises that would allow us to jointly apply for AB 444 funds before the deadline expired. Unfortunately, none of the proposals were approved by the full five-member DWP Commission.

Meanwhile, as Assemblyman Isenberg and others warned, the fund is shrinking. When we didn't apply for AB 444 money as expected last year, almost \$2 million was stripped away. This summer, when the filing deadlines were again missed, approximately \$12 million was pulled.

By next Spring, even more of AB 444's allocation may evaporate. Obviously, time is of the essence if we are to prevent this from happening.

Isenberg and other creators of the bill have expressed surprise at DWP's reluctance to negotiate a settlement. The courts ruled in 1989 that water formerly diverted to Los Angeles must now flow down Mono Basin creeks. As a result, DWP has already lost most of what is needed to permanently protect Mono Lake.

AB 444 was designed to replace this water with new, environmentally sound sources. It represented \$60 million in *investment capital*, to be used to finance water conservation projects and to build water reclamation facilities.

Already \$14 million has disappeared. AB 444's missing capital would have created much-needed jobs. It would have created major new sources of water for LA.

Inevitably, DWP must replace Mono Basin water, and the cheapest, most environmentally sound way is to invest in conservation and recycling. If it chooses to do so now, it can make use of millions in state money. But if DWP continues to postpone the inevitable, Los Angeles ratepayers will have to make up the difference out of their own pockets.



Legal Update:

DWP Loses in Court, Again, and Again ...

by Bob Schlichting

DWP continues to waste money with futile legal maneuvers over creek restoration.

DWP is under court order to restore four Mono Basin streams and their fisheries to the conditions, or at least equivalent conditions, that existed before diversions destroyed them.

Five parties -- the Mono Lake Committee, the National Audubon Society, California Trout, the Department of Fish and Game, and DWP -- make up the Restoration Technical Committee (RTC) that oversees the project. Unless all five parties agree unanimously, disputes must be settled by a Superior Court judge.

This year, most votes in the RTC have been four to one, with DWP voting against everyone else. As a result, progress on this summer's project, Lower Lee Vining Creek, has been painfully slow.

"DWP's arguments have become increasingly frivolous and irrelevant, but that hasn't stopped them from taking us back to court," said Ilene Mandelbaum, Associate Director of the Mono Lake Committee in Lee Vining.


First, DWP objected to temporarily irrigating newly-planted vegetation along the stream bed. After a court hearing, the judge ordered the plants watered.

In May, work in progress bogged down when DWP crews began showing up only a few hours a day. After announcing in a court hearing *"That's not going to cut it,"* Judge Terrence Finney ordered the Department to provide all the equipment and crews required to accomplish the work on schedule.

When final work plans for 1992 were approved by the RTC in May, DWP

abstained from voting. It then hired its own consultants critical of the program, and, in mid-June, asked for reconsideration of the entire plan. It vetoed proposed monitoring programs in favor of the plan put forth by its own consultants.

After three days of court hearings and a judicial tour in July, the judge ruled against DWP and their outside consultants. Judge Finney rules that the work *"shall resume forthwith."*

Mandelbaum estimates that with all the attorneys, staff, and consultants, each day in court costs DWP thousands of dollars. *"The Department has admitted to spending \$12 million on Mono Basin litigation,"* she said. *"If they think these frivolous tactics will wear us down, they are living on Fantasy Island. Unfortunately it is the LA ratepayers who are paying for the fantasy."* 

PBS Show "California's Gold" Visits Mono Lake

"I went to Mono Lake with an open mind. I left just blown away by what I saw and what I experienced."

That's what Huell Howser, producer and host of the Public Broadcasting program *California's Gold*, said after his first trip to Mono Lake. The crew of the half-hour series spent three days around Lee Vining in late July, preparing an episode to air this fall.

Howser explored newly-rewatered Rush and Lee Vining creeks, and even toured Paoha Island. He spoke with Bridgeport resident Wallis McPherson, whose family once owned a goat ranch on the island. *"He said he doesn't even like to go to Mono Lake anymore,"* says Howser of McPherson. *"He says it's too sad to see the lake as it is now."*

Admitting he knew very little about Mono Lake before this trip, he


confessed that some people told him how ugly it was. *"I can't imagine anyone looking at that lake and saying it was ugly,"* he said indignantly. *"I consider it one of our state's true treasures."*

Rather than hard-hitting exposes, the series *"California's Gold"* is known

for documenting intimate stories about the state's history, people and places. Host Howser avoids political conflicts, but professes to be *"optimistic"* about Mono Lake's future. *"All you have to do is get somebody up there to see it, and they're a convert,"* he said enthusiastically.

"California's Gold" airs on all 13 of the state's PBS stations, as well as stations in Reno, Las Vegas, and Honolulu. It originates from KCET, channel 28, in Los Angeles, which will air the Mono Lake episode on Sunday, October 25 at 7:30 PM, and again on Saturday, October 31, at 6:00 PM.

In addition, KCET will air an episode taped in Bodie on Sunday, October 4 at 7:30 PM, repeating Saturday, October 10 at 6:00 PM.

Check your local PBS listings for the airdates on other stations. 



From left, Mono Lake canoe guide Gary Nelson and the Committee's Science Associate John Cain take host Huell Howser a canoe tour of Mono Lake. The episode of the PBS series *"California's Gold"* airs in October.

Grassroots Rebuilding Project Begins!

Volunteers Needed For Center Remodel in Lee Vining

Following Labor Day, work will finally begin on a project planned since 1988 -- the remodeling of the Mono Lake Committee's Information Center in Lee Vining.

"We have needed to do this since we purchased the building four years ago with money from the David Gaines Memorial Fund," said the Committee's Board Co-chair, Sally Gaines.

Indeed, little has been done to the structure over the decades since it was built

as a dance hall for workers constructing the aqueduct in 1934. As a result, today floors are rotting away. Several walls have severe water damage, caused by

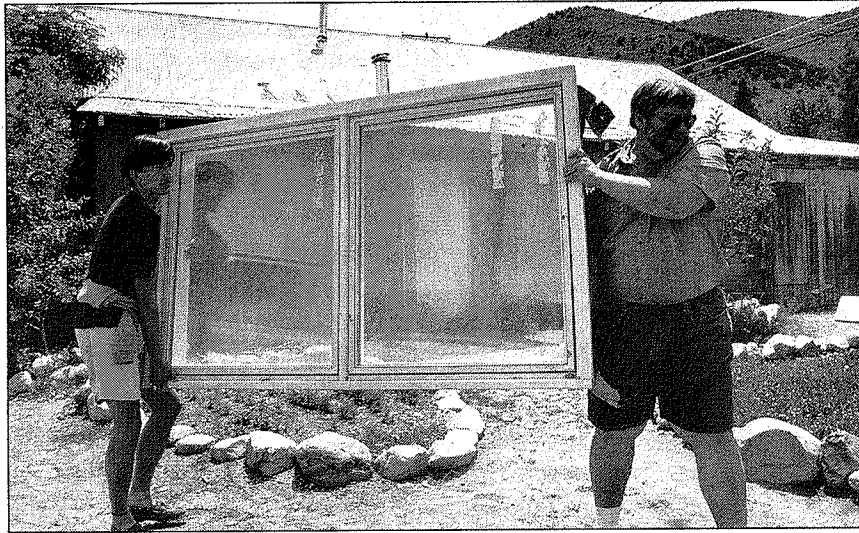


Photo by Bob Schlichting

Intern Bryan Massey, left, and sales manager Rick Knepp help unload a truckload of donated building supplies. These and other windows for the Committee's Lee Vining headquarters remodel were donated by Givens Construction, of Pasadena. Behind the two are the temporary sheds that will be replaced by the construction that begins in September.

years of melting snows. Plumbing is woefully inadequate. Ceilings are falling down.

"We did some minor work to repair

the damage caused by last Winter's storms," said Shannon Nelson, Manager of the Center. "But simply sprucing up the place is no longer an option. We have to address the major structural problems."

But this fall's construction project is a daunting one. Because one whole side of the structure needs to be demolished and then rebuilt, the store in the Information Center must close for several months, causing a loss in sales and income. Even offices must be temporarily relocated,

so the normal work of the Lee Vining staff can continue.

"It's an exciting, but complicated and frightening project," conceded

Consider it a Vacation?

by Bob Schlichting

Last year my wife Betsy and I spent our vacation in Chaco Canyon, New Mexico, working with the National Park Service. We spent a week in the majestic Southwest, building trails, surveying for ancient Indian ruins, repairing fence and revamping a campground amphitheater.

This summer we were in Southern Colorado, helping the Bureau of Land Management sort Indian artifacts at a Anasazi museum near Cortez, and searching for an endangered butterfly in the 13,000 foot mountain passes near Silverton.

Both were service trips offered by

the Sierra Club, which regularly sponsors such vacations to places like Yosemite, the canyons of New Mexico, or the backwoods of Maine. Volunteers pay several hundreds of dollars apiece to camp together in a beautiful spot and donate their labor for a week.

How about doing the same thing for the Mono Lake Committee?

We need volunteers to help us rebuild our Information Center after Labor Day. We'll feed you lunch every day, and make sure you have a place to camp. When the weather gets colder in October, we plan to have a "bunkhouse" set up where

volunteers can roll out a sleeping bag. And, unlike some service trips, we won't charge you anything for the adventure.

By volunteering, you'll have an opportunity to experience Mono Lake without the crowds of summer. It won't be all work, either -- the Committee promises you that hikes, and talks, and canoe trips will be available.

If you have construction skills and can join us -- even for a couple of days -- call Shannon Nelson in Lee Vining. She's putting together the schedule and taking reservations. **We do need to know in advance that you're coming**, in order to assure there will be enough room for you to stay. Please let her know as soon as possible at (619) 647-6595.

Shannon Nelson, who is coordinating the remodel. "We're facing the prospect of the building being open to the elements with winter approaching. We need a little luck and all the help we can get to be sure we get done on time."

The rebuilding project was conceived as a volunteer one, with Mono Lake Committee members offering their help with materials, labor, and financial support. "We're trying to get \$120,000 worth of remodel work done on a tight budget of \$40,000", explained Executive Director Martha Davis. "That's why we're counting on the help of our members. There are lots of ways for them to get involved, from donating lumber, to hammering nails, to helping raise the money to insure we are able to finish the project as we should."

According to Shannon Nelson, the the remodel is designed like an old-fashioned barn raising, with volunteer labor being supervised by Mono County contractor Ed Escoto.

"You don't need to be a skilled carpenter or electrician to help," said Shannon. "We have all sorts of jobs available, from moving and demolition, beginning right after Labor Day, to digging, hauling, hammering, and painting as the project progresses."



Can You Help With Materials?

In addition to donated labor, we are counting on donations of building materials in order to keep our remodeling costs as low as possible. Can you help with our grassroots effort by contributing any of the following?

Lumber

Framing: 2"x4", 4"x4", 4"x6", 4"x10" (16' lengths); 2"x10" (12')
Plywood: 3/8" and 1/2" CDX
Finish Floor: 3/4" - 1"x4", 1"x6", 3/5" wood flooring

Metal

Miscellaneous flashing and sheet metal
 Zincalume metal roofing

Roofing

Bithuthene

Insulation

Rigid R-19
 Batt R-11 and R-19

Doors and Windows

Solid core wood doors
 Bronze Anodized thermopane windows - divided light

Masonry

CMU (preferably speed block)

Hardware

Nails: Galvanized common 8d and 10d
 Finishing nails
 MDAA holddowns
 Schlage Door hardware (specific)

Mechanical

Furnace: Suburban MF 50 horiz
 Heat Pump: Mitsubishi DJW-18AK
 Miscellaneous duct work

Electrical

Lights: Halo M 1499-T-1498P recessed track
 Halo LV raceway
 Track fixture Halo L1770
 Fluorescent day brite 55R4

Shannon Nelson has a complete list of needed materials, as well as a rough schedule of when the items will be needed. Please call her in Lee Vining if you have donations or questions about the remodel. Her number in Lee Vining is (619) 647-6595.



Lake Level Watch:

Dropping Lake Helps Feed Coyotes

by John Cain

Mark Twain once pondered, "Half a dozen little mountain brooks flow into Mono Lake, but not a stream of any kind flows out of it ... what it does with its surplus water is a dark and bloody mystery."

Summer holds the mystery, but there is no surplus. By August's end, evaporation caused the lake to drop below 6374 feet above sea level, over three feet below the court-ordered minimum.

Negit Island, the lake's major gull rookery, has been landbridged for over a year. Deprived of safe habitat, several

thousand gulls have abandoned Negit and relocated to nearby Twain and Java Islets. These tiny islets are in jeopardy as well -- only a shallow channel 40 yards wide now separates them from the mainland.

Early in the nesting season, researchers feared that this nominal channel would not be enough to keep coyotes away. When scientists returned later in the season, their fears were confirmed: coyotes had, indeed, invaded. Tracks were found on Java, along with dead chicks. Nesting success on that islet

was down dramatically from last year. [See the related article on page 8.]

The last few years have taught us that Nature is sometimes oblivious to court orders and proclamations of state. That's why the Mono Lake Committee advocates that any future management plans developed by the courts or the State Water Resources Control Board include a "buffer" -- an extra cushion of water above the minimum level. This will protect Mono's fragile ecosystem during drought times like these.





Bird Observatory Studies Mono's Mysterious Gulls

by Dave Shuford

For the past 10 years, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory has been conducting on-going research studies at Mono Lake. Several times a year, staff biologists and teams of volunteers spend weeks on Mono's desolate islands, first counting nesting California Gulls, then determining the number of fledglings, and finally analyzing the data into the most complete, continuing, long-term examination of Mono Lake's gull population.

Many of the court arguments that have won protection for Mono Lake are based on research done by the team from what is called PRBO. Staff Biologist Dave Shuford currently heads up the Mono program for the observatory, which is based in the Northern California town of Stinson Beach.

In August, PRBO completed this year's field work on Mono's islands. Now begins the task of analyzing the compiled data. Here is a preliminary report on this season's valuable work, and some thoughts on the 10-year-long program.

Sorting out what is a pattern and what is variation in nature can be a daunting task. Is what we see in a given season a typical phenomenon? Or is it a once-in-a-lifetime event? Just what is "normal," anyway? To begin to appreciate nature's complexity, we must take a long-term perspective.

With the help of many dedicated volunteers, for 10 years the Point Reyes Bird Observatory has monitored the California Gull population that nests on Negit Island and the Negit Islets in Mono Lake. Combining our data with that collected on the Paoha Islets by Dr. Joseph R. Jehl, Jr. enables us to determine the size and reproductive success of the entire lake's gull population.

This, however, is the simple part of the equation. The real challenge is to identify the factors that are responsible for yearly variation in the size of the breeding population and the number of young produced, and whether that variation is attributable to changes in the

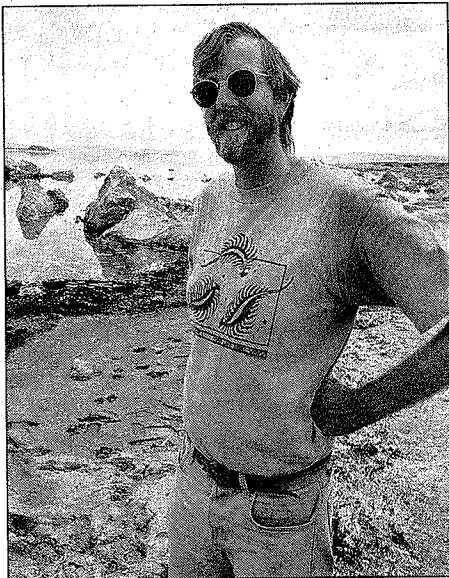


Photo by Bob Schlichting

Biologist Dave Shuford heads up Mono Lake Gull research for PRBO
level of Mono Lake.

From 1983 to 1989, the lake's nesting population varied little, only between 44,000 and 49,000 adult birds. Just when they had settled into a seemingly predictable pattern, in 1990 the gulls did the unexpected: they increased their nesting numbers to 61,000 adults -- the highest count ever recorded at the lake at that time.

The fact that the world's largest population, located at Utah's Great Salt Lake, also skyrocketed from about 76,000 adults in 1989 to about 132,000 in 1990 suggested that the abrupt increase at Mono may have been part of a broad scale phenomenon not directly related to local events.

Having broken out of their previous pattern, the gulls were not quick to settle into a new one. Although heavy snowfall during the "miracle March" of 1991 lessened the effects of the prolonged, continuing drought, it appeared to retard gull nesting by about a week, and reduced the size of the nesting colony to 43,000. The spring of 1992 saw the gull population again surge forward, this time to a new high of almost 65,000 adults.

The number of young produced during

this 10-year period has been even more variable, ranging from a low of 6,400 in 1984 to almost 44,000 in 1990.

Six factors have been identified that could potentially have major effects on breeding productivity of gulls at Mono Lake: food supply, predation, weather, parasites, nesting density, and habitat quality. Of these, predation by coyotes is so far the only identified factor that has caused major reductions in a given year.

Before our studies began, coyotes caused major disruptions of nesting when the lake's declining level allowed sites to be connected to the mainland. This happened to Negit Island in 1979, and to Java and Twain Islets in 1982. Similarly, coyotes disrupted resting on Pancake Islet in 1990, and Negit Island in 1991.

Although water is now flowing into Mono Lake because of a temporary court injunction, these flows could not offset the sixth year of drought; coyotes reached Java Islet late in the 1992 nesting season, preyed on chicks and reducing the number that were successfully fledged. This is an ominous sign, for Twain Island, which in 1992 supported about 32,000 nesting adults (about 50 percent of the lake's population), is vulnerable to coyotes at the same lake level as is Java.

The likelihood of coyotes and other predators reaching Twain in 1993 will probably depend on whether Mother Nature releases her bounty of winter moisture. In any case, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory plans to be on Mono's islands, to document what happens.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory needs a larger outboard motor for its on-going studies of Mono's gulls. If you have a used 25 horsepower motor you are willing to donate to this important project, please contact Dave Shuford at PRBO, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

1993 WINTER MONO LAKE COMMITTEE
GIFT CATALOG

MONO LAKE
1 9 9 3 C A L E N D A R



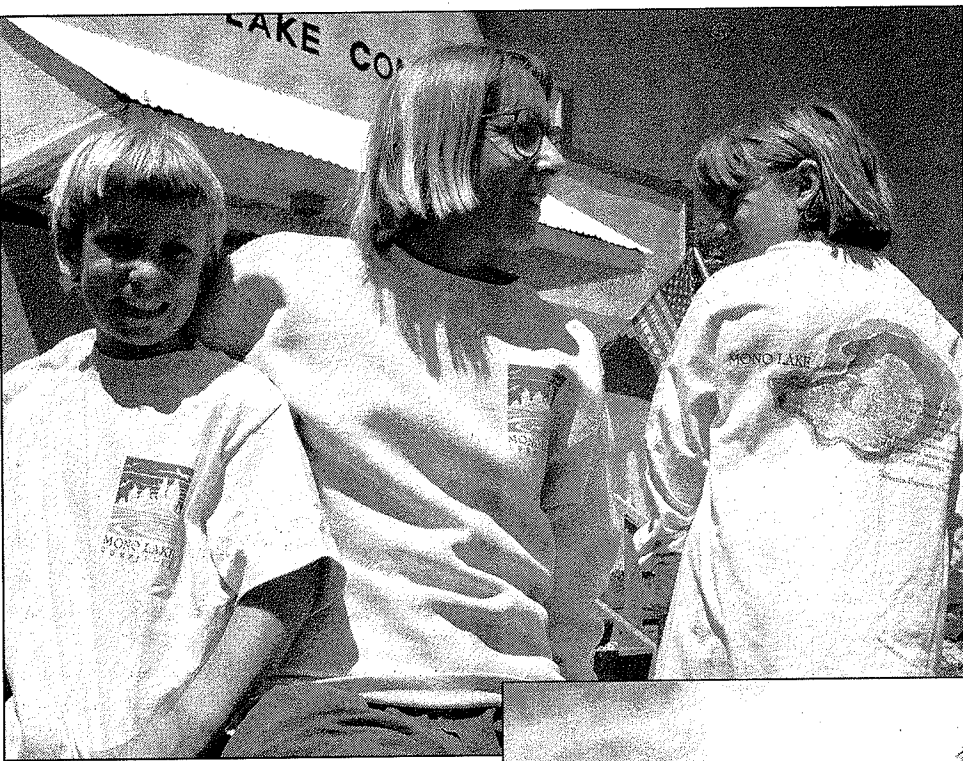
Special discount for volume purchases: Buy 2-5, pay only \$9.95 each; 6-10, \$8.95 each; 11 or more, \$7.95 each.

1993 MONO LAKE CALENDAR is a glowing tribute to the wildness of the Mono Basin! Enjoy a year's worth of beautiful, full-color views of Mono Lake and beyond, all suitable for framing. It features the work of some of California's leading nature photographers, such as Galen Rowell, Warren Marr, William Neill, Jim Stimson, and Barbara Brundage, with text written by Genny Smith, publisher of many books about the Eastern Sierra.

THE CALENDAR IS FULL COLOR
9 3/4" x 13 1/4", opens to 19 1/2" x 13 1/4"
\$10.95



Mono Lake Calendars make wonderful gifts. Show your support! The purchase of a 1992 Calendar . . . or any item in our catalog . . . means money for the battle to save Mono Lake!



THE LATEST MONO LAKE COMMITTEE

T-SHIRT AND SWEATSHIRT (NEW)

The Gaines family proudly shows off the new design, created exclusively for us by artist Kitty Botke at Patagonia® outdoor clothing. Sally, in the extra-heavy sweatshirt, and son Sage in an ash T-shirt, show off the new Committee logo. Daughter Vireo displays the "shrinking lake" map on the back, which sports a quote from the 1983 California Supreme Court Public Trust decision!

100% COTTON

Colors: Ash, White

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

Short Sleeve T-shirt: \$14.00

Long Sleeve T-shirt: \$19.00

50% COTTON 50% POLYESTER

Extra-heavy Sweatshirts: \$24.00
(front logo only)

40

WAYS TO SAVE MONO LAKE

From calendars to jewelry, this year's gift catalog offers many new items for Mono Lake supporters! Each unique gift means money for the battle to save Mono Lake!

BRING A FRIEND — GET A REWARD!

ALREADY A MONO LAKE COMMITTEE MEMBER? HAVE YOUR FRIENDS BECOME MEMBERS, TOO!

YOU'LL RECEIVE FREE GIFTS FROM US AS OUR WAY OF SAYING THANKS!

See page 8 for details!



MONO LAKE SHOREBIRDS (NEW)

Silhouetted shorebirds grace this simple T-shirt design worn by summer intern Patrick Mitchell.

100% COTTON

Colors: Black, Turquoise, Jade

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$12.00

"ONE FOR THE BIRDS" T-SHIRT

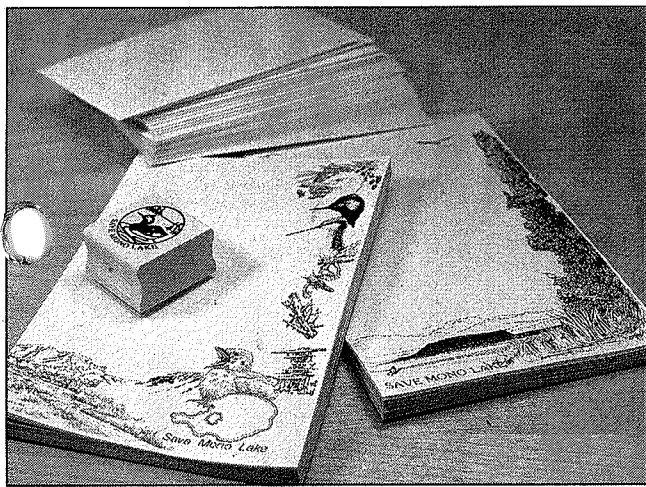
(NEW) Geoff McQuilkin celebrates Mono's bounty of birds with this colorful shirt displaying owls, grebes, gulls, eagles, ducks and many more species.

100% COTTON

Color: White

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$15.00



MONO LAKE STATIONERY AND RUBBER STAMP

Two beautiful pen and ink designs by Keith Hansen decorate this unique stationery. Each pack features recycled paper in fifty 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" sheets (25 of each design), 25 matching envelopes and a Mono Lake Rubber Stamp.
\$11.95

Please specify Ivory or Grey stationery.



MONO LAKE "IT'S WORTH SAVING" CAPS

Our colorful "Tufa and Sunburst" patch graces these quality caps...adjustable so one size fits all! Please indicate a second choice of color, if acceptable, when ordering.

CANVAS TWILL CAPS

Colors: Tan, Forest Green, Grey, Royal Blue, Navy
\$7.50

WIDE WALE CORDUROY CAPS

Colors: Grey, Royal Blue
\$8.50

TUFA AND SUNBURST PATCH
\$2.95



MONO LAKE JEWELRY FROM OLD BRYDE

Two new designs and four favorites celebrate the unique beauty of the Basin's denizens. Each of the silver-or-gold-plated earrings feature hypo-allergenic hooks. When ordering, please remember to indicate your choice of gold or silver.

American Avocet (NEW) \$13.00
Brine Shrimp \$10.00
Ram Petroglyph \$13.00
Howling Coyote \$13.00
Osprey Catching a Trout (NEW) \$18.00
Hummingbird \$13.00
(Earrings are shown actual size.)

MONO LAKE TOTES (NEW)

Two of our favorite T-shirt designs are reproduced, full color, on natural heavy-duty 12oz. cotton canvas grocery totes with full side and bottom gussets. Rick Knepp's son Douglas uses them instead of bags and helps to save a tree!
\$10.95

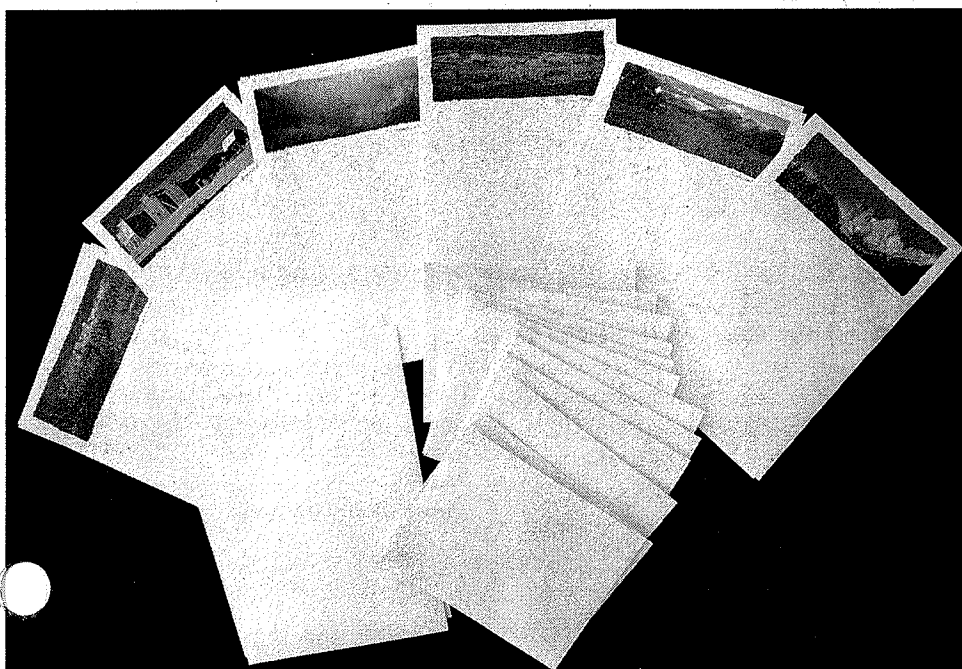
Specify "Logo" or "Worth Saving" designs when ordering.

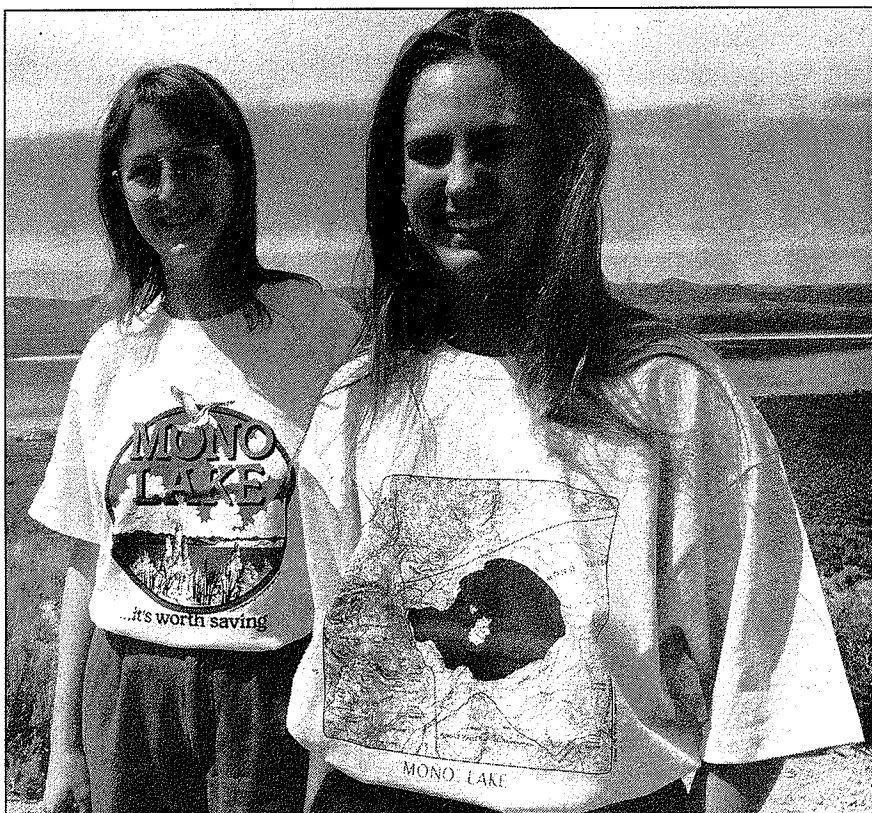
EASTERN SIERRA STATIONERY (NEW)

Beautiful color photographs of Sierran landmarks top this unique 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" writing paper. Each assortment contains two images each of Mammoth Lake, Bodie, Yosemite, Mono Lake, Bishop, and Mount Whitney, all on white recycled paper. Included are 12 sheets of stationery illustrated by Jim Stroup, 12 blank second sheets, and 12 matching envelopes. In addition to the assortment, we offer packages with 12 images of either Mono Lake or Bodie.

\$6.95

Please specify Mono Lake, Bodie, or variety pack.





MONO LAKE TOPO MAP T-SHIRT

(NEW) A healthy Mono Lake is depicted on this colorful topographic map worn by intern Helen Constantine.

100% COTTON

Colors: Jade, Navy, Royal Blue

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$12.00

"IT'S WORTH SAVING" T-SHIRT

Shannon Nelson shows her support for Mono Lake with her colorful T-shirt. A perennial favorite!

SHORT-SLEEVED 100% COTTON

Color: White, Light Blue, Mint, Peach, Heather Grey

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$12.00

LONG-SLEEVED 100% COTTON

Colors: White, Light Blue

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$16.00

KIDS' 50/50% POLY-COTTON

Colors: Aqua, Pink

Sizes: S (6-8), M (10-12)

\$8.00

SWEATSHIRT 50-50% POLY-COTTON

Colors: Turquoise, Heather Grey

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$20.00



MONO BASIN PAIUTE T-SHIRTS

(NEW) Mono's Native American heritage is saluted in two authentic Paiute designs, adapted from traditional basketry.

Intern Bryan Massey shows off the "Diamond Basket" pattern. Melissa Kauffman sports the "V Basket" design.

DIAMOND BASKET 100% COTTON

Colors: Black shirt/Purple and Turquoise design, Tan shirt/Black and Rust design

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

\$14.00



MONO LAKE KERCHIEFS (NEW)

These colorful bandannas make great gifts, as Shannon Nelson's mother Marta, above, just found out. These 12" x 12" kerchiefs are a wonderful way to remember Mono Lake.

Colors: Grey, Navy, Maroon, Turquoise
\$3.95

"V BASKET" 100% COTTON

Colors: Black shirt/Purple and Turquoise design, Ash shirt/Black and Rust design

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

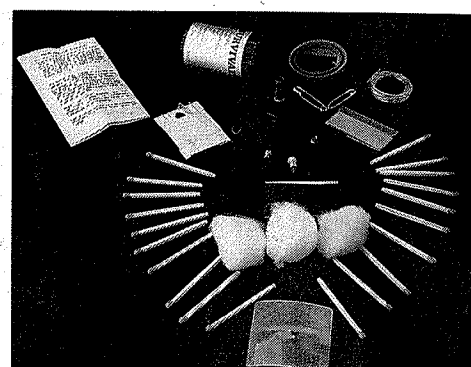
\$14.00

Please specify the design you prefer.

"LONG LIVE MONO LAKE" MUGS

(NEW) Molded from 100% recycled plastic, these fine mugs carry two Carl Dennis Buell designs: eared grebes float on a mug of jet black, or a coyote pursues a jackrabbit across a teal green mug.

5; four or more are \$4.95 each
Please specify design choice when ordering.



MINI-SURVIVAL KIT (NEW)

Not only functional, it's a modern miracle of packaging technology! Enclosed in a recycled 35mm film container are 46 individual emergency items, including waterproof matches, fishing line, hook and sinker, safety pins, straight pins, tinder, and more. A great stocking stuffer! \$5.95



MONO LAKE BIKE BOTTLES

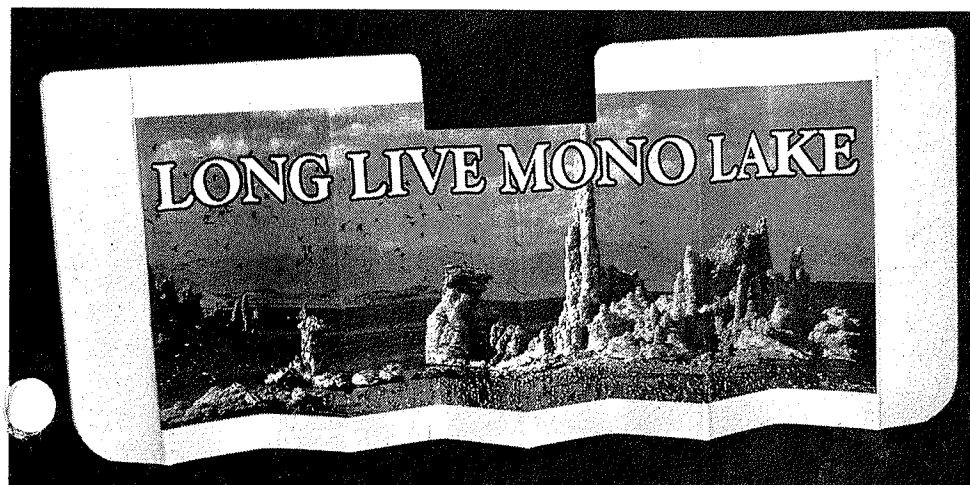
These high quality, squeezable water bottles from Specialized Products have Mono's brine shrimp dancing across their surface. Wonderfully useful for biking, hiking, and in cars for drinks without spills.

Sizes: Small (21 oz.) \$3.95
Large (28 oz.) \$4.95

LICENSE PLATE HOLDER

No matter in what part of the country you live, you can spread the word about Mono Lake as you drive with this durable metal license plate frame.

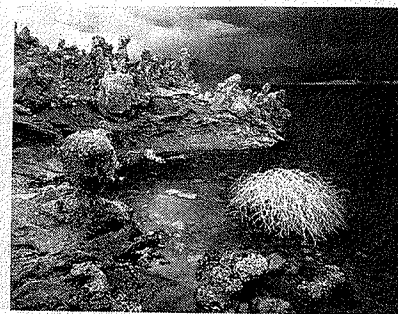
\$4.95



JIM STIMSON POSTER (NEW)

A nationally-respected artist, confirmed Monophile and frequent contributor to our Mono Lake Calendar (he has three images in the '93 edition), Jim Stimson's exquisite black and white print has been reproduced by the nation's leading photographic lithographer on a striking 24"x30" poster that will add to any decor.

\$21.00 With a heavy shipping tube.



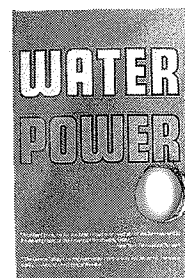
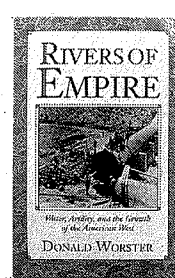
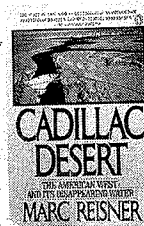
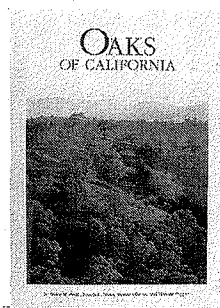
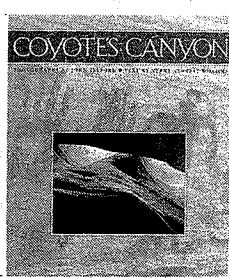
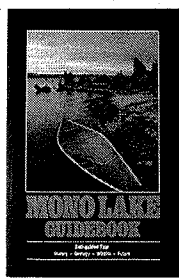
JIM STIMSON

Timberline, Sierrone Detail
Mono Lake, California

MONO LAKE AUTOSHADE

Keep your car cool as you proclaim your love for Mono Lake! This colorful cardboard design includes a map of the Eastern Sierra on the back - complete with all the information you need to make your visit to the area truly memorable!

\$7.50



1. The authoritative and elegant guide to Mono Lake and its 50-year-long water crisis. This most recent edition describes the natural history of Mono as well as the efforts to preserve it. Numerous photographs, drawings, figures and tables.

MONO LAKE GUIDEBOOK,
by David Gaines, revised 1989, Kutsavi Books;
104 pages, 6" x 9" paperback.
\$8.95

2. Fluid prose woven around beautiful images of the canyonlands of Utah. Telford's color photos brilliantly capture the spirit of the area; Williams' stories make one want to wander off to a sandy wash and live forever. A breathtaking book to give to friends.

COYOTE'S CANYON,
photographs by John Telford, text by Terry Tempest Williams, 1989, Peregrine Smith Books; 96 pages, 8" x 10" paperback.
\$15.95

3. Updated version! Sally Gaines has compiled birdwatching reports filed since the 1988 edition to update species sightings, statuses, and extreme dates. This book, written by Mono Lake Committee founder David Gaines, is the best reference for the occurrence and habits of birds in our area.

BIRDS OF YOSEMITE AND THE EAST SLOPE,
by David Gaines, revised and updated 1992, Artemesia Press; 352 pages, 6" x 8" paperback.
\$15.00

4. For many, California brings forth images of rolling grassy hills dotted with oaks. This is the first book documenting the native trees, sometimes 20 stories tall, that are rapidly disappearing from our landscape. With over 180 stunning color photos and illustrations, this beautiful edition explores human and natural history; it's also a useful travel guide and a call to action.

OAKS OF CALIFORNIA,
by Bruce M. Pavlik, Pamela C. Muick, Sharon Johnson, and Marjorie Popper, 1991, Cachuma Press; 184 pages, 10" x 8" paperback.
\$19.95

5. Reading like a novel, this well-researched book documents the struggle for the West's most precious resource — water. A wonderfully-written story of rivers moved, lakes drained, and millions of dollars made. Virtually the bible on the glory and the folly of western water.

CADILLAC DESERT, by Marc Reisner, 1987, Penguin Books; 582 pages, 5" x 8" paperback.
\$13.00

6. Wallace Stegner calls this an "important book ... a history of the West in terms of its most essential resource, water It examines how manipulation of water has combined frontier myths, expectations, and illusions to create the ambiguous modern West." An excellent compliment to Cadillac Desert.

RIVERS OF EMPIRE, by Donald Worster, 1985, Oxford University Press; 402 pages, 6" x 9" paperback. \$13.95

7. A vital resource for anyone with an interest in Los Angeles' acquisition of water from the Owens Valley and the Mono Basin. Widely recognized as being a balanced, fair, and highly accurate account. An important addition to your Mono Lake collection!

WATER AND POWER,
by William Kabrl, 1982, University of California Press; 583 pages, 6" x 9" paperback.
\$15.95

8. By focusing on the Native American art of basketmaking, authors Bates and Lee reveal the early human history of Yosemite and Mono Lake. This expertly-produced book is full of beautiful photos and detailed historical insights that are sure to capture any reader's interest!

TRADITION AND INNOVATION: A BASKET HISTORY OF THE INDIANS OF THE YOSEMITE - MONO LAKE AREA,
by Craig D. Bates and Martha J. Lee, 1990, Yosemite Association; 225 pages, 11 1/2" x 10 1/2" clothbound.
\$49.95

9. A coffee table-quality overview of the West's beautiful high desert, illustrated with over 130 of the author's own exquisite color and black-and-white photographs, numerous maps, and wonderful pencil drawings of the region's fauna by Jennifer Dewey. In the words of Barry Lopez, "a worthy guide to a part of the Great Unknown."

THE SAGEBRUSH OCEAN: A NATURAL HISTORY OF THE GREAT BASIN,
by Stephen Trimble, 1989, University of Nevada Press; 248 pages, 9" x 12" clothbound.
\$34.95

10. The definitive guide to exploring the dramatic, arid Great Basin. Complete with maps and directions, this well-written totebook discusses the history, biology, and geology of the region stretching from California's Sierra Nevada into Utah.

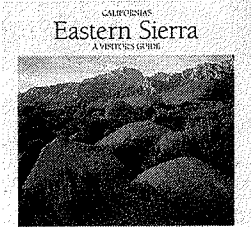
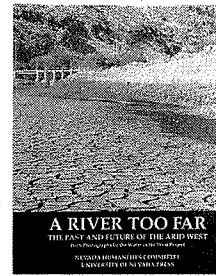
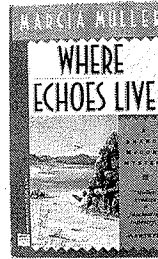
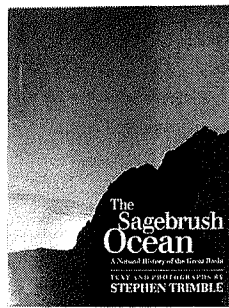
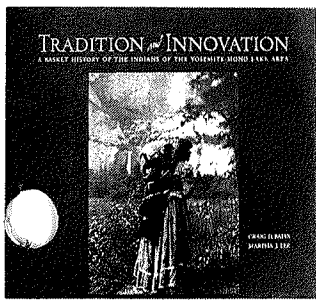
HIKING THE GREAT BASIN,
by John Hart, revised and updated 1991, Sierra Club Books; 406 pages, 4" x 6" paperback.
\$15.00

11. In her 13th Sharon McCone mystery, author Marcia Muller's female detective uncovers murder and corruption in a setting based on Mono Lake and nearby Bodie. A treat for Monophiles! Newly released in paperback!

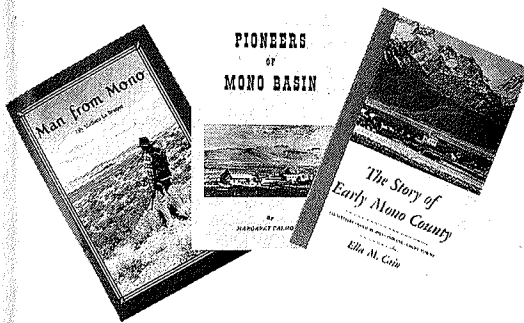
WHERE ECHOES LIVE,
by Marcia Muller, 1992, Mysterious Press; 358 pages, 4" x 8" paperback.
\$4.99

12. A fine collection of essays from observers of water and the West such as Marc Reisner, Donald Worster, Roderick Nash, John McPhee, and Wallace Stegner. This anthology provides a fine overview of western water issues.

A RIVER TOO FAR: THE PAST AND FUTURE OF THE ARID WEST,
essays selected by the Nevada Humanities Committee, 1991, University of Nevada Press; 175 pages, 7" X 9" paperback.
\$15.95



13. Beautiful enough to be a coffee table book, this glorious guide is compact enough to carry with you. Beautiful photos and amazing information about the Sierra from Lone Pine to Bridgeport. A wonderful gift! **CALIFORNIA'S EASTERN SIERRA, A VISITOR'S GUIDE**, by Sue Irwin, 1991, Cachuma Press; 144 pages, 8" x 9" paperback. \$15.95



ATTENTION HISTORY BUFFS! Each of these hard-to-find books shares a personal **O**miniscence of pioneer days in the Mono m. **MAN FROM MONO** tells the story of the adventurous LaBraque family from the years 1885 to 1935. Ella Cain, author of **THE STORY OF EARLY MONO COUNTY**,

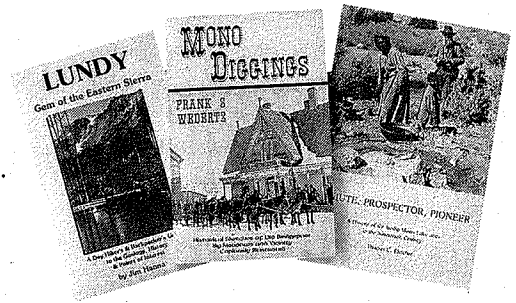
was born in Bodie in 1879 and writes of the area's boom years in mining. Margaret Calhoun, born on the north shore of Mono Lake in 1889, shares the flavor of those simpler times with stories, letters, and even recipes from the old days.

MAN FROM MONO, by Lily Mathieu LaBraque, 1984, Nevada Academic Press; 194 pages, 6" x 9" paperback. \$10.95

PIONEERS OF THE MONO BASIN, by Margaret Calhoun, reprinted 1984, Artemesia Press; 171 pages, 6" x 8.5 paperback. \$7.95

THE STORY OF EARLY MONO COUNTY, by Ella M. Cain, 1964, Fearon Publishers; 166 pages, 6" x 9" paperback. \$12.50

In this regional selection, a general history of the Mono Lake area is complemented by two more specific books. Thomas Fletcher's **PAIUTE, PROSPECTOR, PIONEER** analyzes the effects of mining and settlement on the waning of the Paiute culture while avoiding the common myths and legends so often retold in other books.



Jim Hanna concentrates on the history of mining in Lundy Canyon, and includes hikes that take modern day explorers to the remnants of old sites. Wedertz's **MONO DIGGINGS** concentrates of the Bridgeport area, telling its story primarily through mini-biographies of important turn-of-the-century figures.

LUNDY, GEM OF THE EASTERN SIERRA: A DAY HIKER'S AND BACKPACKER'S GUIDE TO THE GEOLOGY, HISTORY, AND POINTS OF INTEREST, by Jim Hanna, 1990, Gold Hill Publishing; 56 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" paperback. \$5.95

MONO DIGGINGS: HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF OLD BRIDGEPORT, BIG MEADOWS, AND VICINITY, by Frank S. Wedertz, 1978, Chalfant Press; 245 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" paperback. \$12.95

PAIUTE, PROSPECTOR, PIONEER: A HISTORY OF THE BODIE-MONO LAKE AREA IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, by Thomas C. Fletcher, 1987, Artemesia Press; 123 pages, 6" x 9" paperback. \$9.50



BLANK BOOKS. Perfect to use as a journal, diary, sketch book, or field note book! These beautiful 5" x 7" books come with a choice of five different full color graphic designs, featuring Grey Wolves, Great Blue Herons, Wood Ducks, Red Foxes, or Dutch Irises. Inside the thick cardboard covers are approximately 65 pages of heavy-weight recycled paper held by a heavy spiral binding. A very popular item in our Lee Vining store!

BLANK BOOKS, Crane Creek Graphics. \$9.95

1993 MONO LAKE COMMITTEE ORDER FORM

ORDER BY:

SHIP TO:

NAME

NAME

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

CITY

STATE

ZIP

DAYTIME PHONE

COUNTY (Important for sales tax)

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ CHECK (payable to Mono Lake Committee)

GIFT FROM:

☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA

MESSAGE:

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

SIGNATURE

**For information, or to order by phone, call
(619) 647-6595**

When ordering by phone, please have your credit card ready and your order form filled out.

Quantity	Description	Size	1st Color	2nd Color	Unit Price	Total

SHIPPING RATES

Up to \$10	\$3.00
\$10-\$25	\$3.50
\$25-50	\$4.50
Over \$50	\$5.50

MAIL YOUR ORDER TO:

**Mono Lake Committee
P.O.Box 29
Lee Vining, CA 93541**

SUBTOTAL

CA RESIDENTS ADD APPLICABLE SALES TAX

SHIPPING (see chart, left)

NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ MLC MEMBERSHIP

MLC DONATION

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Bring in ...

2 NEW MEMBERSHIPS - Receive one free Mono Lake committee T-shirt! The new short-sleeved, Patagonia-designed model! Please signify size - S, M, L, XL - and color - ash or white!

5 NEW MEMBERSHIPS - Receive the T-shirt...plus a copy of Jim Stimson's beautiful new black and white poster, Tumbleweed, Shoreline Detail, Mono Lake, California. It's 24" x 30" and suitable for framing!

10 NEW MEMBERSHIPS - Receive both the poster and the T-shirt...along with a \$50 gift certificate, good for anything in our Lee Vining store or our mail order catalog!

Make sure the new members you bring in give us your full name and address along with their membership fee. That way we can make sure you get proper credit!

As always, new members may join at the following levels:

**\$20 REGULAR MEMBERSHIP \$30 SPONSOR \$50 SUPPORTING MEMBER \$100 PATRON
\$250 DEFENSE TRUST MEMBER \$500 MONOPHILE \$1000 MONOMANIAC**

Send all new memberships to: THE MONO LAKE COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX 29, LEE VINING, CA 93541.

Make sure we have your name and address, too, to get credit...and good luck! (You can use our handy membership envelopes!)

BRING A FRIEND - GET A REWARD!

**ALREADY A MONO
LAKE COMMITTEE
MEMBER? HAVE YOUR
FRIENDS BECOME
MEMBERS, TOO!
YOU'LL RECEIVE
FREE GIFTS FROM US
AS OUR WAY OF
SAYING THANKS!**

San Francisco Hosts Wine Cellar Drawing



Photo by Steve de Laet

Representing Rosenblum Cellars, George Peyton, left, and Kent Rosenblum greet guests and pour samples at the Fine Wine Cellar Drawing in San Francisco.

On June 12th, well over 100 Mono Lake supporters gathered at San Francisco's famous Gump's Department Store for the second half of the Mono Lake Committee's 1992 Fine Wine Cellar Drawing.

This year, for the first time, wine tastings and drawings were held in both Southern and Northern California. The first-ever Los Angeles reception was held May 15th, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. The San Francisco part of the event, now in its seventh year, had been scheduled for May first; because of civil unrest in downtown San Francisco following the Rodney King trial, it was postponed to June.

Il Fornaio *Gastronomia Italiana*, voted "Best Italian Restaurant" by San Francisco area residents for two consecutive years, donated an assortment of antipasti, breads, and desserts to the event.

Rosenblum Cellars, an Alameda winery specializing in Zinfandels, sponsored the wine tasting, with George Peyton and Kent Rosenblum on hand to pour and answer questions.

Gump's donated

the Union Square location for the reception as part of their "continuing effort to support environmental responsibility and conservation," according to Shelton Ellis, the store's Executive Director. In addition, the firm dedicated one of their store windows to a display about Mono Lake. The streetside exhibit featured water colors by local artist Beth Katz, while the text included a brief description of Mono's history and the Committee's efforts to preserve the lake.

Two harpists, Dianne de Laet and Lisle Von Klan, provided entertainment during the reception. Martha Davis was the featured speaker. As the Mono Lake Committee's Executive Director, she explained the current state of negotiations with the DWP, and reminded the crowd that court protection of Mono Lake is, so far, only temporary.

Grace and Rick de Laet drew the winning tickets for the two cellars being given away at the Northern California reception. Each cellar is worth at least \$500. The de Laets began the tradition of a yearly wine drawing back in 1986, when they planned the first one; this

year, they served as the honorary chairpersons of the event.

The first fine wine cellar given away was comprised of six California Cabernets and eight French Clarets, all courtesy of Herb and Linda McGrew, and Grace and Rick de Laet. It was won by Park Loughlin, of San Francisco.

Leigh Brasington, of Alameda, was awarded the second cellar, made up of selections donated by Rosenblum Cellars, Sterling Vineyard, Callaway Vineyard and Winery, and Reg Oliver of El Molino Winery.

This year an additional drawing was held for those Committee supporters who contributed to both the San Francisco and Los Angeles drawings. Lindy Thurrell, of Huntington Beach, won the special prize -- a two nights' stay in a luxurious guest cottage amid the Sterling Vineyards in Calistoga. A special tour and tasting at the Sterling Winery was also included.

At the end of the evening, Grace de Laet offered special thanks to all those individuals and corporations whose donations helped make this year's event

a success. After acknowledging the contributions of Wendy Cohn from *Il Fornaio Gastronomia Italiana*, she singled out Herb Cerwin and Elve Peck, of Cerwin and Peck Consultants. This marked the seventh consecutive year that Cerwin has donated wines to the Drawing.

Also recognized were Herb and Linda McGrew, who, for the second year in a row, donated wines from their private cellar in Napa.



Photo by Steve De Laet

Over 100 Mono Lake supporters turned out at the San Francisco reception of the Fine Wine Cellar Drawing. The event was held at Gump's Department Store on June 12. An earlier reception was held May 15 in Southern California.

Gifts Honor Bike-A-Thoner Tom Lyons

"Please accept this contribution in memory of our friend, and your supporter, Tom Lyons." That letter, from Alan, Rosaline, Cassie and Keith Soneda of El Cerrito, was one of many we have received this fall with donations made on Tom's behalf.

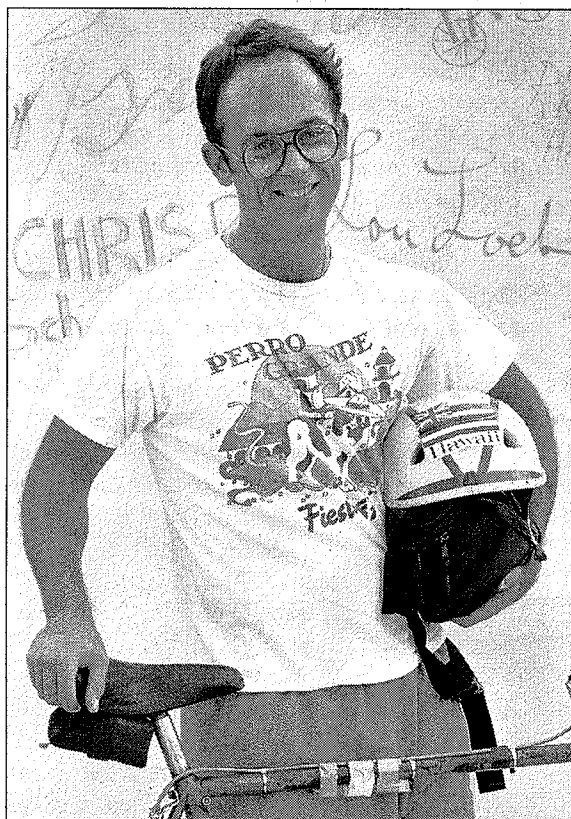
Tom Lyons had been a part of the Mono Lake Committee's yearly Bike-A-Thon since 1988. In 1990, just three weeks after undergoing brain surgery, he rode the first 20 miles out of Los Angeles, spending the first two days of the event with his Bike-A-Thon friends. When he was unable to finish the ride himself, a "tag-team" of cyclists finished on his behalf.

Following two more cancer surgeries, Tom rode his fourth "Thon" in 1991. On May 4, 1992, Tom died at home in Berkeley with his family and friends.

This is how Tom felt about Mono Lake and the Bike-A-Thon, taken from a letter he wrote to his sponsors and friends after the 1990 ride:

"It sometimes amazes me that a local boy from a green, wet place like Hawaii can be so drawn to a stark, dry, and, some would say, desolate place like Mono Lake.

"The worst part [of not finishing the ride] was not fully being a part of the community of people who made up this year's 'Thon', and not seeing the lake



Tom Lyons

Photo by John W. Emmons

itself. All in all, I missed the spiritual element that comes from being a part of a mission where people dedicate their time and energy to saving Nature. But I really appreciate the riders and others who kept me in their thoughts; from my lofty room in San Francisco, my heart and soul were out

in the Eastern Sierra with everyone else."

The 1992 Bike-A-Thon was dedicated to the memory of Tom Lyons.

Here are some of his Bike-A-Thon friends who have made contributions to the Mono Lake Committee in Tom's name: Laurence Spillane, Margo Fontes, Jim Sayer and Wendy Calvert, all from San Francisco; David Wimpfheimer, of Point Reyes; Erica Drexel and Robin Roberts, of Santa Cruz; Pat Monzo, from Placerville; Steven McAdam, of Alameda; Richard and Deborah Canfield, from Kailua, Hawaii; Bill and Elizabeth Mendoza, of Chino; Paul and Helen Green, from Berkeley; and Donald and Barbara Rivenes, residents of Kensington, CA.

Tom was a senior administrative analyst in the utilities department of the city of Mountain View, California. The city's Employees Association also made a memorial donation, did many of his co-workers: L. Dondick, and Kevin Woodhouse, both from Redwood City; Wendy Wilson, and Mark Harris, both from Palo Alto; Shara Sedaghat-Pour, of San Jose; John and Leslie Borasi, from San Carlos; Carolyn Nelson, of Mountain View; Robert Siese, of Hayward; Genevieve Fire-Halvorsen, from Los Altos; and Mary Ann Steindorsson, from Sunnyvale.

Memorial Established for Peter Fisher

Peter Christopher Fisher, owner of Brian's Bicycles in Mammoth Lakes, died in Reno on July 21 after a sudden illness.

Peter and his wife Patricia had lived in the Mammoth area for over seven years, and Peter loved the Eastern Sierra; he was an enthusiastic rock climber, cross country skier, backpacker and mountain bike rider.

Both he and Patricia were dedicated supporters of Mono Lake; in lieu of flowers, friends were asked to donate to a memorial fund established with the Committee in Peter's name.

California contributors include Gary and Nancy Guenther, residents of Mammoth Lakes; also Kittredge Sports, in Mammoth Lakes; Sharon Kowall, and

Richard, Ben and Sam Phelps, of Sacramento; Walter and Elizabeth Smoyer, of San Diego; Caroline Dare, from Orangevale; Charles and Linda MacLaren, residents of Aptos, and Bill and Sandi Crouser, from Felton.

Other contributing Californians include Marcella O'Gara, of Alameda; James and Barbara Lufkin, and Phyllis and Ferdinand Brislawn, Jr., residents of Piedmont; Phodora Campbell,

Accolades

Peter Fisher Memorial (cont'd.)

Mendocino; **Martin and Helen McLaren**, Pleasant Hill; **John Danner and Nancy Pietrafesa**, of Berkeley; **Greg McMillian and Linda Powell-McMillan**, from Cholame; **Fred and Marilyn Worthley**, of Long Beach; **Richard and Constance Jackson**, El Cajon; **M. Ulrich Broman**, of Walnut Creek; **James Wilson**, from Bishop; and **Mr. and Mrs. B. Disslehorst**, from Solana Beach.

Also donating were **Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher, Sr.**; **Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher, Jr.**; **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fisher**; **Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Dahl**; **Dr. and Mrs. Guy Howard**; and **Mr. and Mrs. Doug Dignam**.

Other contributors were **Harriet Bailey**, of Montgomery, Alabama; **Bennett and Margaret Frost**, and **Jeanette W. Keeran**, all of Sante Fe, New Mexico; **Mary DeFremery**, of Bend, Oregon; **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fisher**, from Toledo Oregon; and **Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Russell**, residents of Fort Worth, Texas.

Other Memorials

Another long-time supporter, **Dr. William C. Kredo** of Acton, died June 6. A pharmacist at the Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster, Dr. Kredo loved the Mammoth area, and especially Mono Lake. Making donations in his memory were the following Lancaster residents: **Dr. Jack Conklin**, **Ruth Hansen**, **Gloria Jean Davis**, and **Robert and Carol Hoey**. Also contributing were **Gerta Zelman**, from Studio City, and **Frances Schupp and Filomena Aguiran**, both of Palmdale.

Los Angeles residents **Lennie and Marsha Dubin** were also long-time Mono Lake Committee members. Both had suffered long illnesses before Lennie, a retired dentist, died in May; his wife Marsha died six weeks later. Donations in both their memories were made by **Edith and Mort Gaines**, from Los Angeles.

An avid nature lover, 94-year-old **Mrs. Peggy Gwinn** died in January. The Forestville resident always held a special appreciation for Mono Lake; an anonymous

special gift was made in her name to the cause she supported.

Although not an outdoors person herself, **Janet Elizabeth Huson** always supported her son **Chris'** love of Mono. **Chris and Julie Huson**, of Mill Valley, made a memorial contribution in remembrance of her 1991 death.

Franklin and Judy Garrett of Sedona, Arizona made a donation on behalf of Franklin's late brother, **Marion Garrett**. A 30-year employee of DWP, Marion was a long-time supporter of Mono Lake.

In Celebration

Georgia Stigall of Sunnyvale hit upon an unusual birthday gift for **Mark Diekhans**, of Santa Cruz -- she made a donation in his honor. Both are already Mono Lake Committee members.

The French Club of Westridge School in Pasadena sold Capuccino and pastries at the *Earth Festival* this past Spring. The goodies, baked by the club's sophomores, raised \$368 for the Mono Lake Committee.

MLC Staff Hellos and Goodbyes

by Helen Constantine, Mono Lake Committee Summer Intern

Once again the Committee's Los Angeles office has a fundraising department! In May, **Shelley Backlar**, in charge of development for the past 5 years, left for a job at UCLA. Then **Wade Partridge**, the Development Coordinator hired in February, resigned in June to return to his home state of Arkansas, where his wife had been transferred.

But we are now pleased to welcome **Lori Formicola** as our new Development Director. Originally from Pennsylvania, Lori worked extensively in New York, developing conferences, strategic marketing plans, and fundraising programs. When she and her husband Stephen Belth moved to LA, Lori worked for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra as a fundraising consultant. She even assisted US Senate candidate Barbara Boxer in raising money for her primary campaign.

Our new Coordinator, **Tina Sanders**, joined us in August. Back in her native Michigan, Tina worked on environmental and occupational health issues, and served as a resource specialist developing solid waste management plans. Since arriving in Southern California, she directed media and handled production, promotion, and marketing for a Pasadena-based public-relations firm.

Here in Lee Vining, our staff is changing also, even as the seasons do. Our four summer interns and our seasonal interpreter will be heading off to new pursuits.

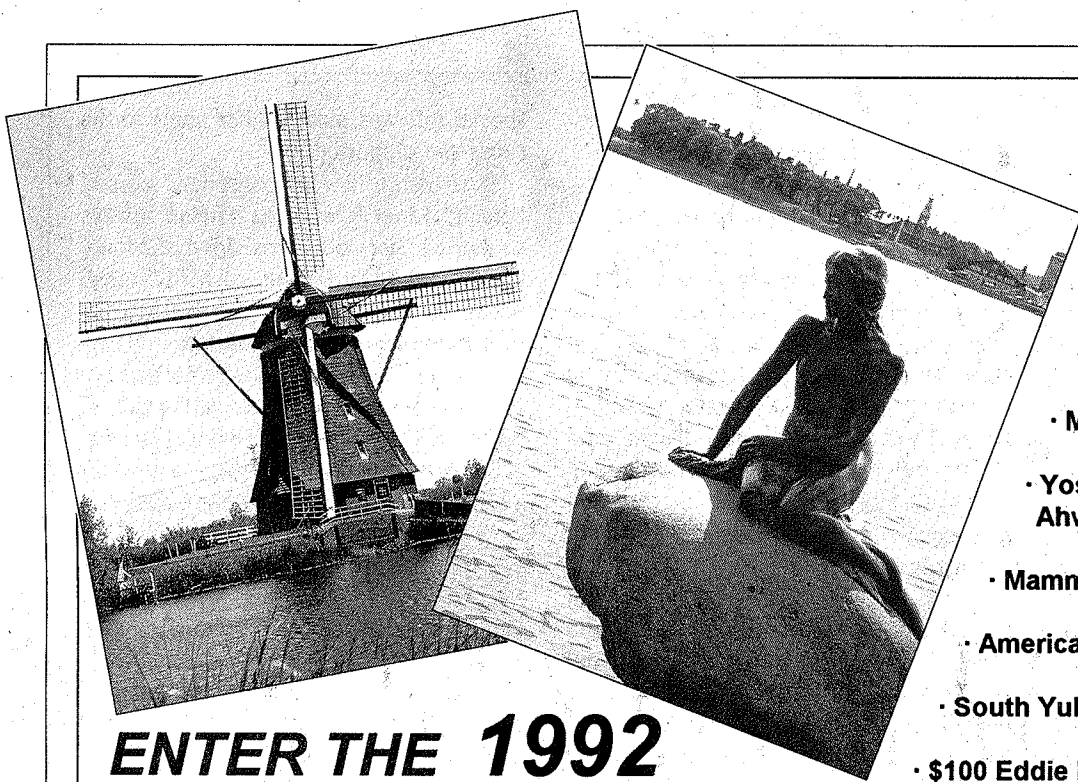
Patrick Mitchell returns to college in Arizona, completing his degree in natural history. Computer whiz **Bryan Massey** will continue his path toward a career in environmental education this fall; at present he is debating whether to return to college for a masters degree or to accept a job.

Melissa Kauffman will be changing

schools, attending Riverside City College before transferring to the University of Colorado, Boulder. I will return to the Bay area to continue my environmental studies at Merritt College, and my interpretive work at Mt. Diablo State Park.

Our seasonal interpreter, **Emily (Harris) Johnson**, has worked through the summer leading walks, children's programs, and canoe tours. She and her husband will be moving to Bishop this fall.

Arriving back at Mono Lake is **Amy Gonzales**. An intern here last winter, she is returning to help us during the fall remodel, after traveling the country all summer. Our second intern, **Katherine Ankeny**, comes to us from Bozeman, Montana. She graduated from St. Lawrence University, with a degree in Environmental Studies and Anthropology. She also has experience in water quality research and leading outdoor activities.



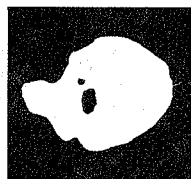
OTHER GREAT PRIZES INCLUDE:

- A signed Ansel Adams lithograph -- "Aspens, Northern New Mexico, 1958"
- Mono Lake Weekend for two
- Yosemite Weekend at the Ahwahnee for two
- Mammoth Weekend for two
- American River Rafting Trip for two
- South Yuba River weekend for two
- \$100 Eddie Bauer gift certificate
- Two Student Union day packs

ENTER THE 1992 SAVE MONO LAKE FREE DRAWING!

Win a two-week excursion in *Holland, Denmark and Norway* for two, courtesy of Cal Nature Tours!

Detailed descriptions of all prizes can be found on the enclosed 10 tickets. The drawing will be held on October 31, 1992. To enter, send the completed ticket stubs, along with a suggested donation of \$20, in the newsletter's return envelope. And remember ... your continued support of the Mono Lake Committee's efforts helps to protect Mono Lake for us all!



**THE
MONO LAKE
COMMITTEE**

Post Office Box 29
Lee Vining, California 93541

**Postmaster: Forwarding and Return Postage
Guaranteed -- Address Correction Requested**

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mono Lake Committee