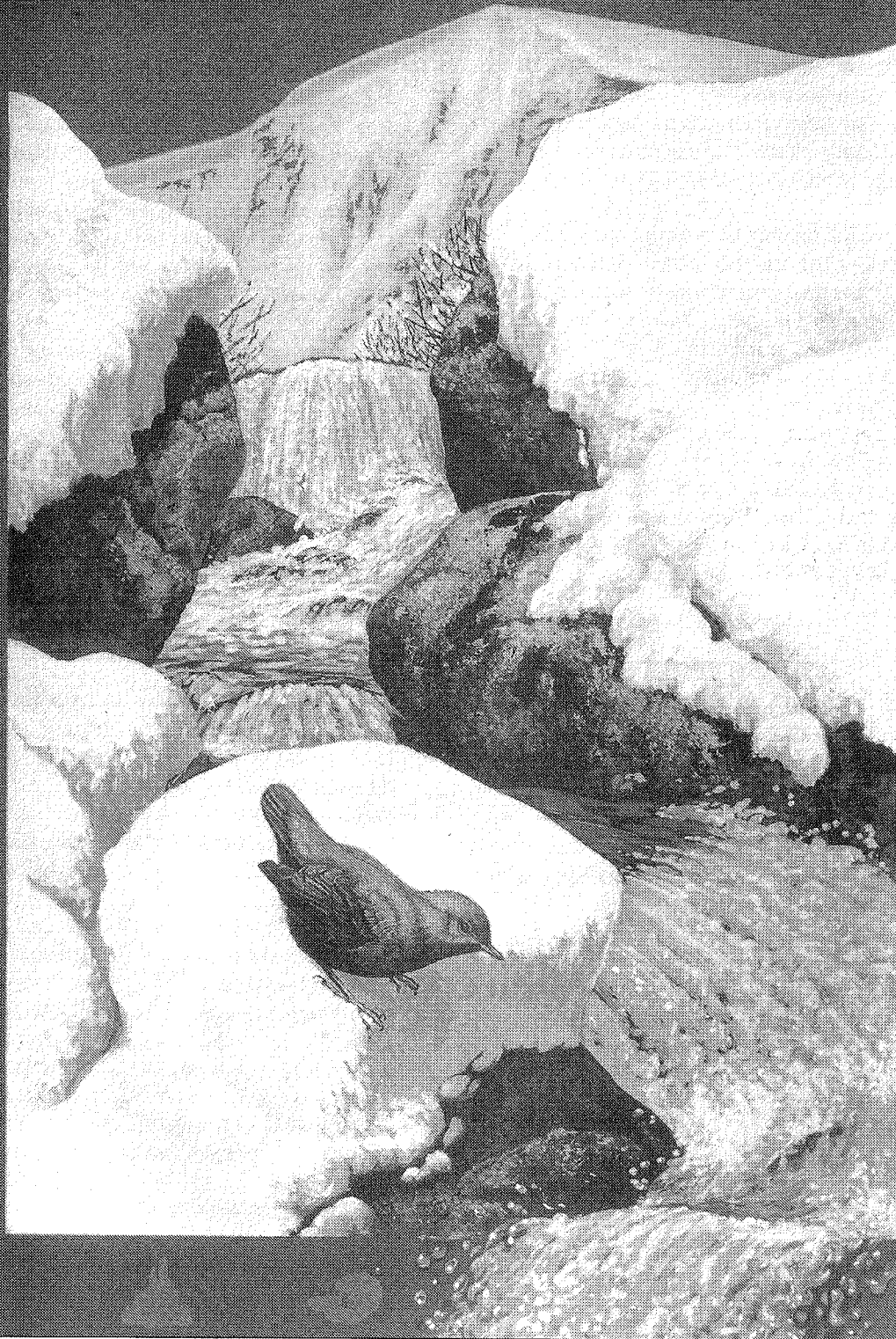


Winter 1991

Vol. 13, No. 3

MONO ^{the} LAKE

NEWSLETTER



Carl Dennis Buell

This Issue's Cover:

San Francisco artist CARL DENNIS BUELL'S wintry design celebrates the rebirth of Mono Lake's four streams — Parker, Walker, Rush and Lee Vining Creeks. Dana Plateau looms in the background as water bursts free from the frame, past an Ouzel poised for a dip in the stream. Carl, now residing in upstate New York, has contributed three other holiday designs to the Mono Lake Committee. His artwork has often appeared on Mono Lake calendars, invitations and stationary. Recently he illustrated a new edition of *Stickeen*, a John Muir story first printed in 1909. The newly reissued book is published by Heyday Books, Berkeley.

Call For Historical Information!

Is there anyone out there who remembers "the way it was" in the Mono Basin prior to DWP's water diversions? We are looking for any information ... hard data, accounts, memories, and especially photos ... of the historic conditions anywhere in the basin, at the lake or along the creeks.

In particular, we are looking for descriptions of the stream environment — fish and fish habitat, wetlands, forests and wildlife that disappeared with dewatering. How big were the fish, how deep the pools, how thick the trees, how plentiful the waterfowl or the deer ...? What kind of recreational activities did you enjoy back then? Fishing, hunting, camping, nature study?

Any and all information will be most helpful, both in planning creek restorations and in preparing Mono Basin Environmental Impact Reports for the SWRCB. [See story on page 5.] Please contact Ilene Mandelbaum or Sally Miller in the Lee Vining office (Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541) or call at (619) 647-6595. Thank you!

Ilene Mandelbaum

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

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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."

Lake Level Watch

If one walks down to Mono Lake's snowy shores every few weeks, it is evident that the lake level continues to drop. The lake's icy water slipped below 6374.8 by the 16th of January, falling over a foot from the previous April's high mark of nearly 6376 feet above sea level. Last winter the lake was almost a half foot higher than it is today.

Through December the lake continued to decline, the result of the state's continuing record-setting drought. As of early January, the local snow pack was a mere four per cent of normal!

Mono Lake will slowly rise during the winter because of reduced evaporation and the court-ordered winter release of water down Rush, Parker, Walker and Lee Vining Creeks. [See the chart on page 5.] By April the level may reach 6375.5 feet, but unless the drought ends and the Mono Basin receives above normal precipitation though the rest of the winter, the lake will drop over a foot during the summer and fall.

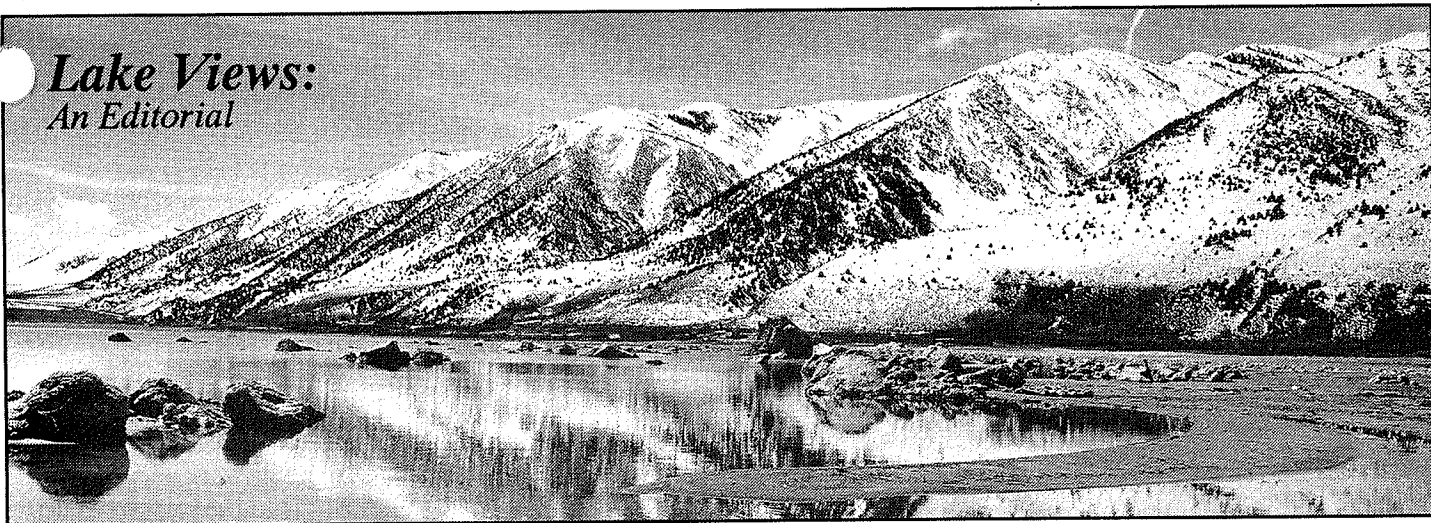
Let's hope that our rain and snow dances bring forth many a winter storm!

Karyn Helfrich

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Lake Views: An Editorial



With rising hopes we gathered in the front row of the El Dorado Superior courtroom the Wednesday before Christmas. As the first blizzard of the season raged outside, our attorneys began their closing arguments in the Mono Lake preliminary injunction hearing that had been going on since June.

Our optimism proved premature. The blizzard did not herald the end to the drought. And the two-day hearing did not bring the longest and most expensive legal battle of the Committee's history to a conclusion. The closing arguments, postponed at DWP's request since early October, were dragged out again, to January 17, 1991. [See article, page 6.] Neither the drought nor the DWP are improving.

Scenes like this are frustrating because it would be so easy to work out a compromise which would maintain a healthy, scenic environment at Mono Lake and still meet Los Angeles's real needs for water.

We've done everything we can think of to promote a "win-win" solution. We've identified new sources of replacement water for the city. The proposed conservation and reclamation projects would yield many times the amount of water needed to protect Mono Lake. We've also secured \$60 million in state funds to assist Los Angeles in paying for the development of replacement water supplies. And still it's business as usual for DWP.

Today only temporary court orders stand between ecological catastrophe and Mono Lake. The current court-ordered flows that restore water to the streams may not be sufficient to save the lake from irreparable harm during the state's protracted drought.

Under a fifth year of cloudless skies, Mono Lake is withering. The projected April 1, 1991 water level is 6375.5 feet. That scarcely maintains a margin of safety above the gulls' nesting grounds on Twain and Java islets. Negit Island is now completely connected to the mainland, and coyotes will be able to plunder the nests of any gulls that mistakenly attempt to return there this Spring.

This means that the continuation of the preliminary injunction requiring DWP to raise and maintain Mono

Lake above 6377 is essential. It is the only way we can return Negit to the gulls and protect the health of the lake's ecosystem.

A bitter irony is that there could have been water to share with Los Angeles over these last few dry years if only DWP had begun protecting Mono Lake in 1986. The lake then stood at 6382, five feet over the minimum lake level we have been seeking. Instead, by drawing down the lake through earlier water diversions, DWP has contributed to the crisis at Mono Lake and elsewhere.

Still, there is reason to hope that, in the months to come, common sense will prevail and a settlement which fully protects Mono Lake and helps LA to secure replacement water will be reached.

New water reclamation projects yielding as much as 125,000 acre feet per year are now being planned in Los Angeles. The \$60 million in State funds is available to fund these projects, provided Los Angeles and the Mono Lake Committee jointly apply for the funds this Spring. And, thanks to Mayor Tom Bradley and his staff, DWP is now headed by three new commissioners who have vowed to lead the Department in an environmentally-sound direction.

But the city must act soon. By July 1, the \$60 million fund available to Los Angeles may shrink to \$16.4 million. By that time, L.A. rate-payers will have lost almost \$44 million due to DWP intransigence. And Mono Lake will still be unprotected.

Martha Davis

Many of Mono Lake's Southern California supporters read the late December Los Angeles Times story in which the city's Deputy Mayor was praised for forcing "the powerful Department of Water and Power to negotiate a settlement of the longstanding lawsuit over Mono Lake."

Settlement? What settlement? We wish that it were true

A NEW ERA IN THE MONO BASIN: STREAM RESTORATION *WALKER, PARKER CREEKS LIVE AGAIN!*

More than 40 observers witnessed a deceptively simple event on the afternoon of October 9th: a wheel was turned, a gate was opened, and water cascaded into a dry creek bed. Pushing leaves and pine needles before it, the water coursed down Parker Creek toward Highway 395, filling pools, riffles and meandering bends, to finally mingle with the waters of Rush Creek on its way to Mono Lake.

Ten days later, with even less ceremony, water began flowing down tiny Walker Creek. A new era had begun in the Mono Basin.

Since 1941, water from four of the five major streams feeding Mono Lake had been diverted by DWP. Beautiful streamside forests and wild trout fisheries became dry, barren washes. While recent court orders had set minimum flows and forced the release of water into Rush and Lee Vining Creeks, until this Fall both Parker and Walker Creeks remained essentially dry. What little water was released down these creeks from DWP's diversion dams was shortly diverted again onto neighboring pasture lands through a series of wooden irrigation boxes and ditches.

Over the years, sections of both creek beds disappeared. Some parts were obscured by invading willow brush and grasses; others filled with woody debris, dirt and trash.

Then, on June 14th, Judge Terrence H. Finney of El Dorado County Superior Court ruled that the DWP must return more than 60,000 acre feet of water to Rush, Lee Vining, Walker and Parker Creeks. The court stipulated that the flows were to be sufficient enough to both restore and maintain the fisheries which existed before diversions began in 1941. (See the box on page 5 for flow amounts.)

Before water could be released down either Walker or Parker creeks, however, extensive rehabilitation had to be done on their abused watercourses. With this in mind, the court ordered the DWP to "consult with the designated representatives of the National Audubon Society, the Mono Lake Committee, California Trout, and the Department of Fish and Game" to establish a plan for restoration. A stream restoration specialist, Scott English, of Northwest Biological Consulting in Ashland, Oregon, was hired to oversee the project.

"This project was truly an interdisciplinary effort," said Ilene Mandelbaum, Mono Lake representative on the restoration committee and Associate Director in Lee Vining. "We had help from numerous experts in various disciplines -- from fishery biology to engineering to hydrology."

"In places where the original stream channel was crisscrossed by a confusing network of man-made ditches," Mandelbaum explained, "the work resembled an archaeological dig. Geology and hydrology experts would plot out the suspected true watercourse. Backhoe operators, guided by engineers, would dig down and carefully lift out large, intact chunks of sod. Both streams once had excellent trout-spawning gravels; sure enough, underneath the old sod, we would find the spawning gravel of the old stream bed."

"A large amount of cooperative effort went into this project," said Mandelbaum. "A lot of people are to be commended for their contributions. DWP committed the necessary resources to complete the work in a short time frame."

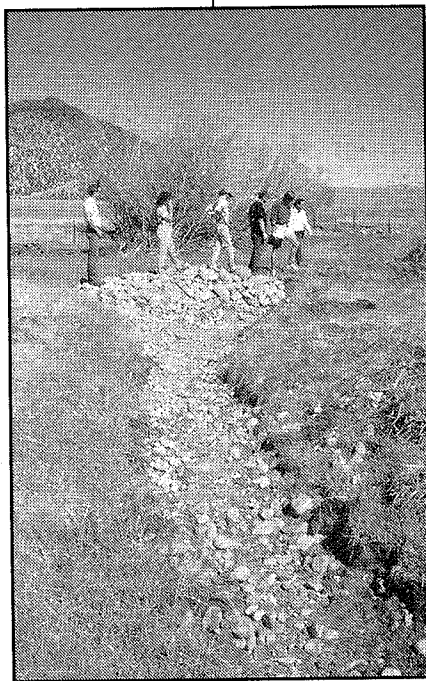
Using chain saws, rakes, and shovels, DWP hand crews spent several weeks clearing the vegetation and woody debris out of the old stream channels. DWP heavy equipment operators blocked off irrigation ditches and re-dug pools.

Besides DWP employees from Lee Vining and Bishop, members of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) from Los Angeles and San Bernardino helped clear the brush. The California Division of Forestry supervised convict crews that also aided in the project.

Even CalTrans got involved. Below Highway 395 on Parker Creek was an old gravel quarry. Because of it, the course of the stream was plugged by piles of rock and gravel up to 35 feet high. CalTrans state highway crews worked for several weeks to remove it and re-slope the

banks to prevent erosion.

"The result is remarkable," commented Scott English, enthusiastically. "What looks on a map to be short little streams only about two miles in length turn out to be deep, meandering waterways, twisting and turning for more than five miles. There's some beautiful, ready-made fish habitat in there. These creeks were like Sleeping Beauty, waiting



Restoration committee members examine the rehabilitation work on Parker Creek.
Photo by Ilene Mandelbaum

for 50 years for the kiss of Prince Water to bring them back to life!"

Judge Finney and more than 40 representatives from the organizations involved watched at an impromptu ceremony as water began to fill Parker Creek on October 9th. The judge had come to view the restoration project he had ordered, and to view proposed rehabilitation work on Rush and Lee Vining Creeks.

"This water has been crying out for 50 years," said an unidentified worker, a young member of the CCC.

"Today is a particularly satisfying day, and it's been a long time in coming," agreed Martha Davis, Executive

Director of the Mono Lake Committee.

Monitoring is now being done to determine if additional rehabilitation needs to be done to establish a healthy fish habitat. "Water is expected to do a lot of the work," explained Mandelbaum. "Larger, court-ordered 'flushing flows' this Spring will wash away additional sediments and uncover even more spawning gravels."

Even the DWP seemed pleased. "If all goes well, Walker and Parker Creeks could provide some of the best Brown trout fishing in the country," predicted Brian Tillemans, DWP range and wildlife specialist.

Bob Schlichting

A GREENER FUTURE FOR RUSH, LEE VINING CREEKS

With work well underway to restore the small tributary creeks of Walker and Parker, the focus now shifts to re-establishing the fisheries of Mono Lake's two major waterways--Rush and Lee Vining Creeks. After months of negotiations and several court appearances, a formal

agreement to begin work on these two streams was reached November 2.

Although water has been running in both creeks since 1982, until recently DWP had refused to begin any fishery and stream-side restoration projects along them. It reasoned that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) was still in the process of studying requirements for permanent flows on the two streams. Once established, these requirements will be inserted into the DWP's water diversion licenses. DWP, with the SWRCB's support, fought to delay any restoration work until the study was completed and guidelines had been set.

Their opposition to a settlement finally crumbled in an early October hearing in Judge Finney's court, after compelling testimony was presented by fishery restoration

experts that the two streams urgently needed rehabilitation, independent of the "flow level" issue.

Planning is now underway for a two-to-three-year restoration effort to be funded by the DWP. The five parties once again designated by the court to oversee the project -- the National Audubon Society, the Mono Lake Committee, California Trout, the Department of Fish and Game, and DWP -- selected Trihey and Associates of Walnut Creek to develop the plan to return the streams and their fisheries to pre-1941 conditions.

After historical conditions have been identified, the same interdisciplinary team approach so successful on the smaller Walker and Parker projects will be applied to Rush and Lee Vining Creeks. Streams will be returned to now-abandoned, historic channels; pools will be deepened; trees and other vegetation will be planted. By the end of the

project, big fish will once again swim in the creeks and big trees will again line the creeks down to Mono's shores.

Ilene Mandelbaum

COURT-ORDERED FLOWS FOR MONO LAKE STREAMS:

STREAM	TIME PERIOD	FLOWS (cubic feet per second)
RUSH CREEK	April-September	40 cfs
	October-March	28 cfs
	Spring "Flushing Flow"*	165 cfs
LEE VINING	April-September	35 cfs
	October-March	25 cfs
	Spring "Flushing Flow"*	160 cfs
PARKER CREEK	April-September	9 cfs
	October-March	6 cfs
	Spring "Flushing Flow"*	23 cfs
WALKER CREEK	April-September	6 cfs
	October-March	4.5 cfs
	Spring "Flushing Flow"*	15 cfs

* For three days every "below normal runoff year" or for 30 days every "normal to above normal runoff year", water intended for "channel maintenance" purposes. (Only in even-numbered years for Rush and Lee Vining Creeks.)

Legal Update: The Case Goes to the Judge

As this newsletter was going to press, our-six-month long preliminary injunction case finally concluded in El Dorado Superior court. The legal showdown pitted DWP against a coalition made up of the Mono Lake Committee, the National Audubon Society, the U.S. Forest Service, and the State Lands Commission.

At issue is the requirement to raise and maintain Mono Lake to a minimum level of 6377 feet. The presiding judge, Terrence Finney, observed that, for now, his decision will probably be moot. The streams and fisheries have already won all the water there is to fight over in this drought year. [See stories on pages 4 and 5.]

These are the main points on which the case has been argued:

HEALTH OF THE GULLS

Aldolf Moskovitz, lead attorney for DWP, asserted that the Mono Lake Committee, the federal government and the state of California have made "... emotional and sometimes hysterical claims that what the diversions have done and will do approaches disaster." He insisted that "there would be no adverse effects" if the lake was allowed to drop over the next several years.

Bruce Dodge, Mono Lake lead attorney, pointed out that harm has already occurred. Negit Island is now land-bridged; without the safe nesting sanctuary provided by the island, even DWP concedes that the California gull population at Mono Lake is not "self-sustaining" unless there is emigration from other regions. If the level drops any lower, Negit and three other islands used by 70 percent of the nesting population will be lost.

AIR QUALITY

In 50 years, Mono Lake has dropped 42 feet, exposing 14,500 acres of lake bottom. Now, because of the shallow slope to the shoreline, a drop of another three feet will uncover an additional 7,500 acres of powdery, mineral-laden crust. "Half again as much area will be exposed in the next several years as in the previous 40," argued our attorney Pat Flinn.

DWP lawyer Tom Birmingham admitted DWP "does not dispute" that lowering the lake affects the frequency and severity of toxic, "carcinogenic" dust storms in the basin. Listing the increased cancer risk from them as "one in 100,000", he explained, "what you have to consider is that this is an area that is virtually unpopulated, and

while a [cancer] risk of one in 100,000" might be unacceptable in the City of Los Angeles, in the Mono Basin ... that risk is not unacceptable."

The only solution to toxic dust storms is to put the bare lake bed - heavy with arsenic, lead, sodium, sulfur and chlorine - back under water. But DWP claims that to do so would be cost-prohibitive, citing losses of \$34 million to bolster the lake level.

COST

Estimates of the cost to maintain Mono Lake's level vary widely. DWP's Birmingham argued for a high price of \$355 per acre foot - "buying water at \$230 per acre foot, plus \$125 to obtain replacement power" lost when the water doesn't go through DWP hydroelectric plants.

Bruce Dodge countered that the cost might better be set by the water used on the Cain Ranch, where DWP irrigated sheep pasture land with 10,000 acre feet of water at a cost of a mere \$3 per acre foot.

Mono Lake's attorneys, using DWP's high numbers, estimated the purchase price of replacement water at "for the average customer, 12 cents a month, which is about a dollar-and-a-half a year." DWP, by ignoring stream flows already ordered by the court, contends the cost is \$10.36 per customer, per year.

And how much, asked Bruce Dodge, has DWP saved over the years by clearly violating the law? Since 1973, when licenses were unlawfully issued, DWP has taken 17 year's worth of illegal water valued at - using their own \$355 per acre foot figure - \$362,100,000.

SCENIC VALUES

DWP counsel contended that Mono Lake remains scenic as its level drops, even though the experience "may be different."

Our lawyers and others disagreed.

Jan Stevens of the State Attorney General's office told the court that, as more lake bottom is exposed, Mono's "beauty, abundance, diversity and public accessibility" will be "substantially diminished".

U.S. Department of Justice attorney Michael Gheleta also urged the judge to renew the preliminary injunction to prevent irreparable harm to the Mono Basin National Scenic Area.

Judge Finney's decision expected in time for the next newsletter. We plan to discuss the issues in more detail then.

Many thanks to all our Donors

One of the most heartening aspects of working for the Mono Lake Committee is the generosity of our membership. This Fall, we asked you to donate to a special litigation fund, and, later, to our regular year-end appeal. The litigation fund and a substantial portion of the year-end donations helped us pay the mountain of legal bills incurred this year after months of nearly continuous courtroom action. Your generosity exceeded all expectations. From the Mono Lake staff and from our brilliant legal team, we send you our deepest thanks.

Betsy Reifsnider

DWP's Theory: For the Birds

On January 10, 1991, the Los Angeles Times ran a story, "Birds, Bees and Water" in which the DWP trumpeted the health of Mono Lake, based on the past California gull breeding season. The following has been excerpted from a Letter to the Editor written in reply to that article. The author is Ilene Mandelbaum, MLC Associate Director in Lee Vining.

"The DWP is awfully eager to announce that the California gull population at Mono Lake is thriving, despite a lowering lake level.

How conveniently DWP forgets that a few years ago, at the low lake levels DWP advocates, the gull colony suffered major disruptions and reproductive failures as coyotes gained access to their island nesting sanctuaries.

How easily DWP forgets that the gulls' apparent recovery occurred as Mono Lake rose rapidly in elevation, thanks to a bounty of wet runoff years that restored the integrity of those nesting islands. In fact, the "baby boom" of those productive years could possibly explain the larger numbers of breeding adults, grown up and come home to roost in 1990.

While lawyers and engineers may debate the reasons behind the promising increase in gull numbers, DWP's biologist expert witness did admit one thing in recent courtroom testimony: that four islands holding 70 per cent of the gull population are vulnerable to invasion by

coyotes if the lake declines to DWP's preferred "management" levels. DWP would have us plunge the lake again to those low levels and, this time, keep them there.

Even now, in spite of an emergency electric fence barrier erected by the US Forest Service, coyotes are reaching Negit Island and have caused the abandonment of Pancake Island.

While we would like to believe that the hopeful high numbers of nesting gulls this year portends a bright future for the population, the tragic lessons of the recent past would caution against such an optimistic prediction.

What if DWP is wrong and the seemingly burgeoning gull colony loses its habitat once again? It takes twice as much water to bring the lake back up as it does to maintain it at a certain elevation. Without help from Mother Nature, not even an office full of DWP engineers could guarantee that the water will be there when Mono Lake needs it."

MONO: An International Reserve

Mono Lake has been selected by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) as one of 13 environmentally-significant international bird habitats.

In its council meeting in October, the WHSRN unanimously voted to include Mono Lake in its chain of strategic and important wetlands. Mono will join ten Hemispheric and two International Reserves in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, the United States, and Surinam. The areas host over 30 million migratory shorebirds annually.

Dr. George Finney, Chairperson for the organization, in his formal letter of invitation, recognized Mono Lake "as a critical stopover area for over 100,000 shorebirds annually, especially important to Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes, Western Sandpipers, and a host of other species."

By being included in the network, explains Finney, "a site gains international recognition and support for wetlands management, local research and conservation efforts."

Mono Lake joins other U.S. reserves in San Francisco Bay, Cheyenne Bottoms, the Copper River Delta, the Delaware Bay, the Maryland-Virginia Barrier Islands, and Stillwater. The Bay of Fundy is the only Canadian site open to date.

The WHSRN is headquartered at the Manomet Bird Observatory in Manomet, Massachusetts.

1991 Bird-a-thon for Mono Lake

The Golden Gate and Marin Audubon Societies will jointly host a bird-a-thon to benefit Mono Lake on Saturday, April 20. The two societies will donate at least 80 per cent of their 1991 Bird-a-thon proceeds to the Mono Lake Committee and the National Audubon Society to help offset litigation expenses. Last year's event raised over \$12,700 for the Committee, and over \$11,500 for Audubon.

In a bird-a-thon, teams identify as many species as they can during a designated 24-hour-period. Participants secure pledges from sponsors in advance; usually an amount for each species is promised.

"You don't need to be an expert birdwatcher to participate," explained Steve Margolin of the Golden Gate Audubon Society. "You can join and learn as part of an established team. It's not how many species you identify but how many pledges you secure that count for Mono Lake."

If you've participated in a bird-a-thon before, you know the sense of camaraderie and friendly competition that develops between teams. Last year's winners sighted 185 species, while the second-place team identified 180.

"The 1991 Bird-a-thon is the perfect opportunity for a day of birdwatching with others who share your commitment to Mono Lake," said Margolin.

For more information, please contact Diane Siera at (415) 654-8124.

From Dance Hall to Visitor Center:

Rejuvenating Our Home

In 1934, a dance hall was built in Lee Vining for the workers digging the Los Angeles aqueduct tunnel under the Mono Craters. It is ironic that this building would one day house the organization leading the fight against LA's

destructive water diversions from the Mono Basin. But, shortly after the Mono Lake Committee was formed in 1978, we rented the historic old dance hall to serve as our headquarters and Visitor Center.

Last year an estimated 200,000 visitors from around the world visited the lake, toured the Center and examined our educational exhibits. Many people bought tee-shirts, books, and other merchandise from our store. Income from these sales supplied 11 per cent of our yearly operating budget in 1989.

Clearly the Visitor Center has become an invaluable tool in our struggle to save Mono Lake. However, little has been done to the structure in the past 54 years. Now it is in desperate need of repair and remodeling.

OUR PROBLEM

As the Mono Lake Committee's political and legal victories continue to mount, our Lee Vining staff has grown to a dozen employees and volunteers. We are doing increasingly complicated work in an office space that is both cramped and antiquated.

The 57-year-old Visitor Center building was constructed without insulation. In the winter, the store and the educational display areas are unheated, and as a result the temperature inside is frequently below freezing. To keep our

slide projectors warm enough to operate during the cold months, we have to cover them with electric blankets. Even so, few visitors can stand to remain in the room long enough to see a full show.

The main source of heat in the building is a wood stove, located in a small interior office. Six or more people share the space, huddling around the stove for warmth. An additional electric heater in another room is, because of the lack of insulation, both expensive and inefficient to operate.

Lighting throughout the building is poor. The electrical system is woefully obsolete, inadequate to run lights, a copying machine, and the three computers on which staff members do much of their work. We frequently blow fuses, which results in the frustrating loss of whatever computer information we have been assembling.

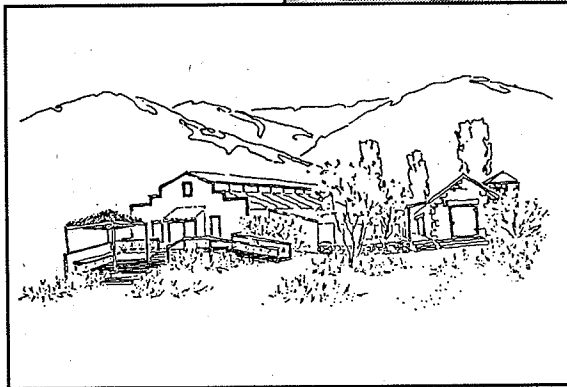
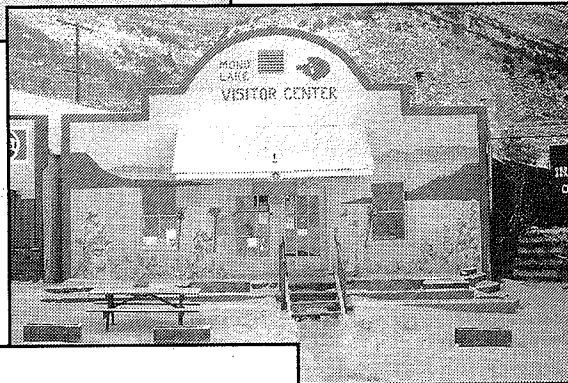
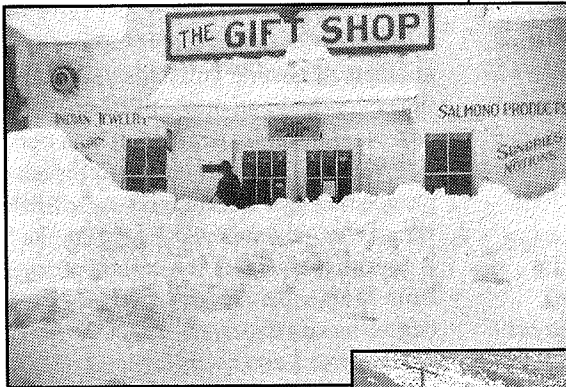
There are structural problems as well. A crude shed built years ago alongside the old dance hall now serves as additional office space, but its floor is rotting away and needs to be replaced. Between

the Visitor Center and the pizza parlor next door is a narrow gap in which snow accumulates each winter; as a result, after decades of accumulated water damage, the entire wall needs replacing. And, even though the Center exists for public use, there are no restroom facilities for the public.

THE REASON WE ACT NOW

For years we put up with these inadequacies because we were only renting the building. We believed our limited resources would best be used to finance our legal and political work. Instead of making repairs, we wore sweaters and bought extra electrical fuses, making sure all our money went to directly help Mono Lake.

Everything changed last year, after we were forced to



purchase the Visitor Center. When we learned that it would put up for sale, we searched for alternative sites in Lee Vining. The small town offered no other possible choices and so, with the help of the David Gaines Memorial Fund and our generous friends, we were able to buy the building before it was sold to anyone else.

Now that we own the Visitor Center, we need to arrest its deterioration. We want to expand our profitable retail sales program and improve our educational displays for the millions of people who will be visiting Mono Lake for years to come.

WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

If we are to continue being effective in this building, we need to raise the roof — literally. This will help solve the water-damage problem caused by snow buildup between the Visitor Center and Bodie Mike's restaurant next door. In addition, this structural change will improve the natural light throughout the building.

Another priority is to insulate the building, to make it more comfortable and energy-efficient. We must upgrade the primitive electrical and plumbing systems, and reorganize the interior to make more efficient use of the space.

With these goals in mind, the Mono Lake Committee hired Michael Olexo, of Olexo Architecture Landscape in San Francisco, to design a low cost, energy-efficient remodel of the Visitor Center. With his guidance, this year a series of workshops were held involving Committee members, the Mono Lake Foundation Board, and the staff. Together they came up with a design that maintains the architectural integrity of one of Lee Vining's historic buildings and reflects the style of other Mono Basin structures.

The plan calls for a Visitor Center with ample room for both offices and updated, informative exhibits. Space is allocated for the showing of slides and videos, and a room has been set aside for people to use our growing research library. There is a classroom for lectures and workshops. The retail store which generates income to help support our work will have room to properly display posters, books, calendars and other wares. Outside there is a drought-resistant garden and shaded rest areas with displays on conservation.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

The Mono Lake Committee is a grassroots organization that has grown, in a dozen years, from a handful of concerned scientists to over 20,000 members. As we begin to explore the feasibility of our reconstruction project, we propose following the grassroots tradition expressed by Amish neighbors who come together to construct a barn in their community. We envision a group effort that can inexpensively rebuild our Visitor Center.

The proposed budget for the remodel is currently estimated at \$300,000. Your donation of time, expertise, and building materials can help us reduce this amount significantly. You can also pledge much-needed funds to the project. Your involvement will help us secure matching grants from foundations and corporations.

We hope to begin reconstruction in 1992, but our plans are not yet final; we are still studying the project's feasibility before we commit time and money that otherwise might be needed to support our litigation, education and lobbying efforts.

Below is a survey form, part of our feasibility study. We welcome your ideas on the Visitor Center project. Immediate gifts of money will be used to finance working drawings to help us figure out how to cut costs even further.

Let us know what you think. Your comments and support guarantee that the Mono Lake Committee remains a strong educational and political force, fighting to protect the Mono Basin for years to come.

Shelly Backlar, Bob Schlichting

Photo #1: Gladys Kelley
Mono Basin Historical Society Collection
Photo #2: Bob Schlichting
Drawing by Michael Olexo

YES, I WANT TO HELP RAISE THE ROOF AND REMODEL THE MONO LAKE COMMITTEE VISITOR CENTER. PLEASE CONTACT ME, I CAN PLEDGE...

☐ **Building materials:**

Lumber, nails, insulation, pipes, etc.

☐ **My skills:**

I am a plumber, electrician, contractor, etc.

☐ **My time:**

☐ I can help once construction begins.

☐ I have some ideas for fundraising.

☐ I can help with _____

☐ **I would like to contribute:**

My check is enclosed for _____

☐ **I'd like to know more about your plans.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone (_____) _____

Any Assistance you can give will be greatly appreciated.

1990 BIKE-A-THON - A VICTORY RIDE

"In many ways this is a victory ride - water now flows down the four tributary streams, back into Mono Lake, thanks to a court order." - Betsy Reifsnider, MLC Associate Director.



Betsy Reifsnider addresses the media at the Bike-a-thon send-off outside DWP headquarters. DWP Commission President Mike Gage, left, looks on.
Photo By John W. Emmons

Seventy-three cyclists took part in this year's Los Angeles to Mono Lake Bike-a-thon in what was dubbed "a victory ride". In a press conference marking the ride's start outside of the Department of Water and Power's headquarters in downtown Los Angeles on August 27th, MLC Associate Director Betsy Reifsnider said, "For the past ten years, Mono Lake cyclists have stood at the DWP reflecting pools as adversaries of DWP. This ride marks a new beginning -- a time to cooperate, to solve the Mono Lake issue."

Mike Gage, the newly-installed DWP Commission President, took part in the send-off. Addressing the cyclists, their supporters, and the assembled media representatives, he pledged that "if the issue isn't solved before next year's Bike-a-thon, I will ride with you." Then, in response to cheers from the crowd, he added, "If we do reach an agreement, I'll still join you!"

The Bike-a-thon, now in its eleventh year, is designed to increase the public's awareness of Mono Lake's predicament. In addition, it is one of the Committee's major fund-raisers. This year the week-long event raised over \$80,000. "It's much-needed money as our legal bills continue to mount," said Liz Fishman, Development Coordinator.

Although last year's event had more participants, this year's Bike-a-thon generated more money. "Last year each rider brought in an average of \$525, while this year's bikers averaged over \$700 apiece in pledges," explained Development Director Shelly Backlar.

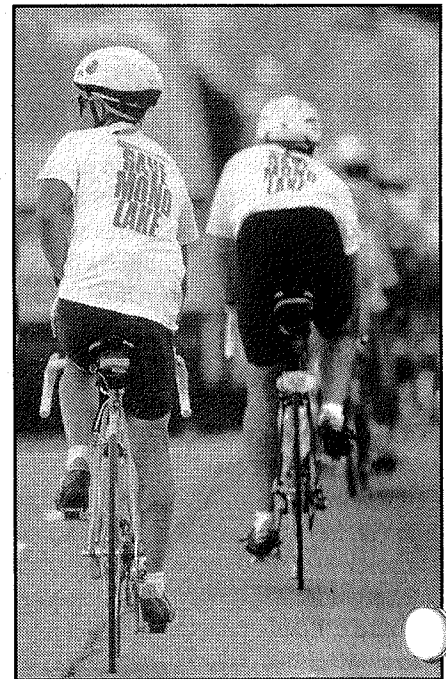
Following the press conference on Monday, August 27th, the bike riders dipped test tubes in water from the reflecting pools outside DWP headquarters. Six days later, after riding 350 miles across the Mojave Desert and over an 8,000-foot-high pass to Mono Lake, this water was symbolically returned to the lake.

Normally the bike riders are joined on the last day by "bucket walkers", hikers who carry water from the diversion pond on Lee Vining Creek four miles down to the lake shore. This year the hikers were renamed "fish walkers", in celebration of the water finally flowing free in Lee Vining and other Mono Basin streams as a result of the South Lake Tahoe court order. Instead of buckets, an estimated 60 participants carried signs heralding the return of water, wild trout, and health to Mono's tributary streams.

The two groups met at the site of the old Mono Lake marina for the traditional "Rehydration Ceremony". In a moving address, Tony Rossmann called for a "special endurance" in completing the battle for Mono Lake's future. "Soon," he said, "we will not occupy the front page of the *New York Times*... It will not be the dramatic courtroom victories that frame this fight, but the goings on in the hallways of the bureaucracy of the State Water Board, or the conference room where Martha and her colleagues from Los Angeles iron out the hard details. We will need a special endurance to stay on course."

Later, at the yearly meeting held at the county park, retiring State

Senator John Garamendi, Assembly-member and Senate candidate Patrick Johnston, Senate candidate Patti Garamendi and Mono County Supervisor Andrea Lawrence delivered addresses. To honor Senator Garamendi for his many years of staunch support and hard work on behalf of the lake, Martha Davis presented him with a beautiful



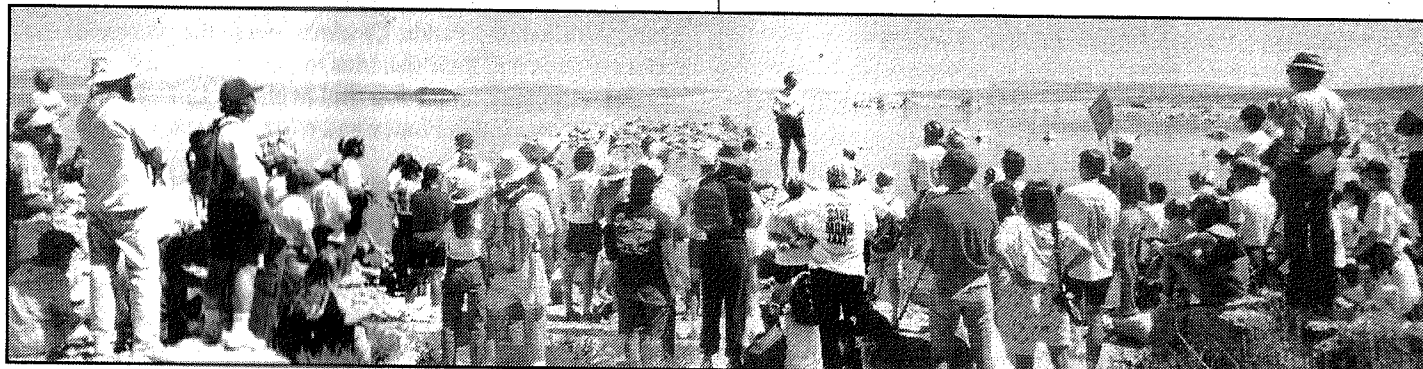
John W. Emmons

Mono Lake photograph donated by Jim Stimson. "May this serious photo remind you of the special place you have done so much to help protect," Davis said.

Following the close of the meeting, the country-and-western group Empty Pockets String Band provided foot-stomping, hand-clapping music. An impromptu softball

game started at the far end of the lawn, while dancers twirled in the cool shade under the cottonwood trees. The dancing continued until the stars began to glow in the early evening sky.

Bob Schlichting, Liz Fishman



"Rehydration Ceremony", 1990, Mono Lake

Photo by Claire Naomi Issacs

Bike-A-Thon Riders: Steve Acton, Eric Anderson, Roger Backlar, Scott Barth, Lou Berry, David Bloomer, Elaine Bloomer, Mike Bloomer, Pam Braswell, Ken Brummel-Smith, Dan Burdick, David Casseres, Brent Coeur-Barron, Mark Cohen, Mark Coolidge, Jeanne Cosby, Mike Dressler, Paul Falkenstein, Hamidah Glasgow, Bert Glenn, Mike Godwin, Denny Green, Helen Green, Paul Green, Adrian Guardado, Craig Hansen, Tom Hochrein, Rich Howe, Chris Kasten, Larry Kawalec, Dave Kearney, Rebecca Keeley, Krishan Khalsa, Dennis King, Julie Klingmann, Barbara Kniffen, Suzie Lipton, Diane Lynch, Vicki Marugg, Bill Mendoza, Pat Pazo, Douglas Much, Alice Mural, Kay Ogden, Larry Perry, Don Piotnik, Betsy Reifsnider, Michael Restifo, Ian Riedel, Robin Roberts, Glenn Robison, Bill Rosenfeld, Steve Sands, Anna Schaefer, John Schaefer, Steve Schmidt, Steve Shunk, Frank Smith, Arthur Sorrell, Bonnie Spacek, George Tredick, Tony Trotta, Susan Urquhart, Norma Vedder, Igor Vorobyoff, Mike Wangler, Allison Weber, Shelli Wineman, Herb Wright, Stan Yurfest.

Fundraised but couldn't ride: Tom Lyons, Glenn Skinner, Ed Spaulding. **Runner:** Tony Rossmann

Photographer: John Emmons

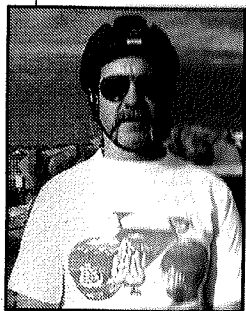
SAG Drivers: Katy Carrel, Carl Chiordi, Martha Davis, Joyce Dean, Liz Fishman, Istiharoh Glasgow, Hari Khalsa, Michael Near, Catherine Skinner, Jim Stehn, Zoe Washburn.

Ryder Truck Driver: Chris Pescosolido

Special Thanks: Jackie Todd of Sparkletts; Phil Stevens of Ryder; Michael Phillips of Avocet; Karen Bowman of Time Sport USA; Jerry Ashburn of Earthtrek Expeditions; Ron Spackman and Christina Lopez of Chevron USA, Inc.; Karen Ryles of Performance Cycling; Mark Coolidge of MVLS; Father Phil Swickard, Betty Hogarth and the rest of the crew at St. Timothy's Church in Bishop; Roger and Betty Meng, Dennis Smith, John Martin, Lloyd Brubaker, MaryLou DeLashmutt, and the all the HAM Radio Operators; Randy Ice of SKOR; Mary Horst at St. Augustine's Church in Santa Monica; and Jim Harlan at the King's Inn in Lee Vining.

First-time rider **MARK COOLIDGE** broke all previous fund-raising records by bringing \$5360 and 100 new members to this year's Bike-a-thon. The

co-owner of **PAVEMENT COATINGS COMPANY**, he talked about the fund-raising ride to all his business contacts, customers, friends and relatives. "On several occasions I offered clients a discount on paving work if they would donate to the cause. I even set up a table and collected donations outside the super market near my home in Mission Viejo,"



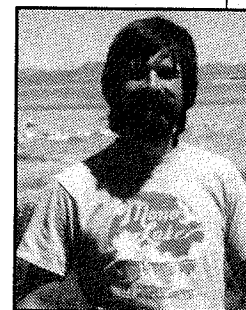
Mark said.

Mark also owns **MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE SYSTEMS**, a company that manufactures license plates. He donated half the cost for the customized bicycle plates that were given to each rider this year.

This was the tenth consecutive year that **BILL MENDOZA** has ridden in the Bike-a-thon. He says he originally got involved to help publicize Mono Lake's plight in Southern California.

"The first three to five years," he admits, "the cause seemed hopeless. It didn't know why we were doing [the Bike-a-thon] because it didn't seem like we were making a difference. But the last few years, things have changed. The future has brightened."

"As I ride, I think about getting closer and closer to the lake, and I get pretty emotional. Mono Lake is one of those last places that is really wild. It's spectacular, and natural. You can see things the way they are, with nature going about her business."



1990: The Year in Review

February

The Third District Court of Appeals requires DWP to release water down Mono Lake's four diverted streams and restore fisheries to their pre-diversion conditions. The Superior Court is authorized to set minimum water releases.

Dorothy Green, President of Heal the Bay, and Mike Gage, former Deputy Mayor of Los Angeles, are appointed to the DWP Commission.

March

The Forest Service's Final Management Plan for Mono Basin is released. It recommends maintaining Mono Lake at a midpoint of 6383.5, with a range of 6377 to 6390 feet.

The State Lands Commission joins MLC in its court case to keep the preliminary injunction in force that would maintain a safe lake level of 6377. It marks the first time a state agency has taken our side in the Mono Lake dispute.

U.S. Representative Richard Lehman visits Mono Lake for groundbreaking ceremonies of the U.S. Forest Service Visitor Center.

April

Volunteers explain the Mono Lake cause at week-long Earth Day events and festivals around the state.

The Forest Service erects an electric fence in an attempt to keep coyotes away from the gulls nesting on Negit Island.

May

The trial to set minimum water flows for Mono Lake's streams begins in El Dorado Superior court. Judge Terrence Finney presides.

Assemblymembers Phil Isenberg and Bill Baker, authors of last year's Assembly bill 444 allocating state money to help solve the Mono Lake issue, and their staffs are honored at the annual MLC wine cellar reception in San Francisco.

A severe dust storm in the Mono Basin exceeds the Federal Air Quality Standards.

Executive Director Martha Davis goes to Washington, D.C. to lobby for federal legislation to help solve the Mono Lake problem.

LA's Mayor Bradley proposes mandatory 10 percent water rationing. A plan of voluntary reduction is chosen instead.

June

Judge Finney orders DWP to immediately begin releasing approximately 60,000 acre feet of water down Rush, Lee Vining, Walker and Parker Creeks to begin the process of restoring them and their fisheries to pre-diversion conditions.

A preliminary injunction trial begins in El Dorado Superior Court. Judge Finney and other interested parties tour the Mono Basin.

DWP appeals the U.S. Forest Service Scenic Area Management Plan because it recommends a lake level.

Norm Nichols, General Manager of DWP, resigns.

July

Mary Nichols, senior staff attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, (no relation to Norm) is appointed to the DWP Commission. She makes the third environmentalist on the five-member board.

The California gull breeding season is declared a success, with large numbers of fledglings. Pancake Island, however, is abandoned by nesting gulls after coyotes invade.

August

An agreement is negotiated to begin restoration of the fishery habitat on Walker and Parker Creeks.

September

The Eleventh Annual Bike-a-thon arrives at Mono Lake after a six-day ride. The event raises almost \$70,000.

In the on-going preliminary injunction hearing, the DWP loses its motion to block testimony by state and federal agencies in the proceedings.

October

The court tours Walker and Parker Creeks to inspect the restoration work. Water flows are formally restored to both creeks for the first time in 41 years.

Mono Lake is named a part of the Western Hemisphere Reserve Shorebird Network.

November

After lengthy court arguments, DWP agrees to begin creek restoration along Rush and Lee Vining Creeks.

December

Closing arguments in the Mono Lake preliminary injunction case are extended into 1991 by the DWP.

Accolades

We would like to thank those who helped furnish our new, less-crowded office in Burbank. Jim and Jo Ann Perry donated our "conference table" and four comfortable chairs, while Jerome and Judy Blackman presented us with a much-needed Apple Computer and printer.

We are most appreciative to the always-helpful Robert Gregory, who created a large banner which the Mono Lake Committee will use at our educational fairs, press

conferences, and assorted gatherings.

Patagonia Inc., the outdoor wear company based in Ventura, generously contributed to our annual campaign. Their continued support is much appreciated.

Thanks also to the many Sierra Club Angeles Chapter sections and groups which have donated recently to Mono Lake. They include the 20's and 30's Sierra Singles, the Antelope Valley Group, and the East San Gabriel Group.

Receptions Held for Large Donors

Mono Lake Defense Trust members and other major donors were honored at a series of special receptions hosted by the Mono Lake Committee during the Spring and Fall.

Held in both Northern and Southern California, the receptions featured presentations by Mono Lake's attorneys from the law firm of Morrison and Foerster. Bruce Dodge, Patrick Flinn and Bryan Wilson briefed guests on legal strategies in the court cases now before Judge Terrence Finney in South Lake Tahoe.

"So many people have given generously to the Mono Lake cause," said Liz Fishman, MLC Development Coordinator. "We felt we needed to show them our appreciation in a special way. We decided on thank-you receptions in which they could get an insider's view of our legal and political battles directly from the attorneys involved."

Generous volunteer members of MLC in five locations around the state hosted the brunch or cocktail-hour gatherings in their homes. Northern California receptions were held at the homes of Susan and Jim Fousekis in Berkeley; Genny and Ward Smith in Palo Alto; and Grace and Rick de Laet in Sausalito.

Southern California receptions were held in the home of Phyllis and Robert Henigson of South Pasadena; and Chris Ison and Demetrius Pohl of Los Angeles.

"We appreciate the kindness of those who offered us the use of their homes," said Fishman.

Response from those who attended was so enthusiastic, Fishman explained, that similar functions are being planned for the coming year where donors can meet attorneys, scientists, and others working to save Mono Lake. The first 1991 event will be held this Spring in the Eastern Sierra. If you are interested in attending, please notify Liz Fishman in the MLC's Los Angeles office.

WHO ARE DEFENSE TRUST MEMBERS?

The Mono Lake Defense Trust is a special fund targeted to provide support for Mono Lake's legal and political battles. Members of the Defense Trust have all contributed a minimum of \$250, and receive special updates on our legal and legislative efforts.

Legal bills for the MLC have exceeded \$250,000 -- a quarter of a million dollars -- in the past year alone. It is also sobering to realize that, as we defeat DWP in court, the expensive battle shifts to other venues, such as the State Water Resources Control Board and the legislature itself.

1990 Free Drawing Winners

Over 7100 participants took part in the sixth annual SAVE MONO LAKE FREE DRAWING held November 7th. The generous support raised in excess of \$60,000.

The yearly event not only supports the Committee's fund-raising efforts, but also promotes public awareness of Mono Lake's plight. As a direct result of this year's drawing, 2600 people became new members.

Congratulations to the prize winners:

Joan Zimmerman of Santa Cruz - Signed Ansel Adams Lithograph, "Aspens, Northern New Mexico, Ansel Adams Gallery, Yosemite.

Barbara Tucker of Sylmar - Weekend for two at Yosemite's Ahwahnee Hotel, Yosemite Park and Curry Company, Yosemite.

Sarah Quigley of Fountain Valley - Mono Lake Summer Weekend, Alpine Motel and the Mono Lake Committee, Lee Vining.

Kristen Mancuso of Van Nuys - \$250 REI Gift Certificate, Seattle, Washington.

Darrell Wilson of Lancaster - Mammoth Summer Weekend; Swiss Chalet, Petrellos, Anything Goes and The Outfitters, Mammoth Lakes.

Diana Lorber of Encino - San Francisco Bay Delta Cruise, Biological Journeys, McKinleyville.

Michael and Kelly Hanson of San Luis Obispo - Stained Glass Etching, Stane Glass Overlay, Pasadena.

Linda Oliver of Tiburon - \$125 Banana Republic Gift Certificate, Banana Republic, Berkeley.

Jean Bennett of Ridgecrest - His & Her Kelty Backpacks, Kelty, Boulder, Colorado.

Clare McCaslin of Hayward - Framed Photograph "Black Point Shoreline", Jim Stimpson, Mammoth Lakes.

Judy and John Orange of Irvine - Middlefork of the American River Rafting Trip, Friends of the River, San Francisco.

Mona Anderson of Lakeside - \$100 Adventure-16 Gift Certificate and Backpacking Class, A-16 Wilderness Store, San Diego.

A hearty thanks to all the businesses and organizations who donated prizes and made this drawing such a success.

In Memory

Lorraine Thompson of Escondido, who passed away in November, 1989, left a much-appreciated donation to the Committee in her will.

Wish list

We desperately need printers for IBM compatible (XT, 286 or faster) computers. A laser printer would send us into fits of ecstasy, while other office equipment - computers, file cabinets, calculators and the like - will help us to be even more effective. If you have equipment to donate, please call Stacy (in LA) or Shannon (in Lee Vining.)

MLC Job Opportunities

Two full-time positions available in the Lee Vining office include benefits and need to be filled immediately. Contact that office for copies of job descriptions.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Assistant will provide help to both the Visitor Center and mail and membership services. Assisting the Administrative Manager, this person will be responsible for ordering office supplies, maintaining office equipment, assisting in the retail aspects of the Visitor Center, and aiding with mail and membership. We are looking for someone with strong communication, organizational, computer and graphics skills; plus retail and bookkeeping experience. To apply, contact Shannon at (619) 647-6595.

SCIENCE ASSOCIATE (A One-Year Position)

The Science Associate will organize, analyze, and coordinate scientific information for legal and Water Board processes. The position involves implementing field monitoring programs and data collection, as well as supervising the maintenance of the research library and files. A degree and field experience in physical or natural sciences is essential. Strong analytical, report writing, and computer skills are also required. To apply, contact Ilene or Sally at (619) 647-6595.

INTERN OPPORTUNITIES

We have openings in our intern program for people who like to do everything, from operating our Visitor Center, assisting with mail and membership work, providing public education, and attending meetings and seminars. They also work on special projects utilizing their talents. Internships

last for three months and include minimum wage, with low-cost housing available in Lee Vining. Apply by contacting Shannon at (619) 647-6595.

Staff Hellos and Goodbyes

Sally Miller has been promoted to Eastern Sierra Representative, and Elaine Light joined us in Sally's former position as Mail and Membership Coordinator. Elaine and her husband Keith recently moved to Bridgeport from Chico. Her hard work and quick learning have made for a very smooth transition in this important position.

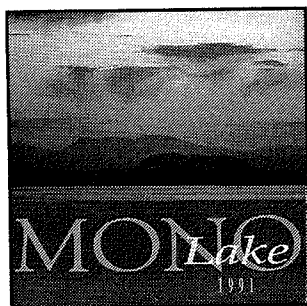
Karyn Helfrich recently returned from a European vacation and is filling in as our Policy Assistant while she re-accustoms herself to life in America, Lee Vining style.

The LA office has a new Bookkeeping Assistant, Kathi Lapora. She recently relocated from Novato, where she worked with the Renaissance Faire for 12 years.

With this issue, Bob Schlichting takes over the Editorship of the newsletter, along with other MLC writing duties. Headquartered in LA, he will be spending as much time as possible at Lee Vining. He is experienced in many types of writing, including advertising, radio, and television comedy. (Stay tuned for a new TV series, "L.V. Law"?)

We regretfully say goodbye to our Editor Emeritus Lauren Davis, who resigned to concentrate on a book she has been writing. Lauren has been one of Mono Lake's eloquent and passionate defenders for many years. Her *Saunters By Mono Lake* has offered a very personal view of the Mono Basin. She is remaining in Lee Vining, and promises to remain involved in the Mono Lake cause. We all thank her for her inspiration and guidance.

Compiled by both staffs and edited by Gary Nelson, who is completely responsible for the "L.V. Law" joke.



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\$25.01 and up add \$4.00

1991 MONO LAKE WORKSHOPS

In 1991 Mono Lake workshops will explore the flora, fauna, and history of the unique Mono Basin. We are currently working on adding classes and pinning down dates (to be arranged). The Spring newsletter will contain complete descriptions of the classes. Enrollment fees on most two-day classes will be \$75.00 per person, or \$60 for MLC members.

For more information, contact: *Sally Gaines, Mono Lake Workshops, P.O. Box 153, Lee Vining, CA 93541, or call (619) 647-6496.*

NATURAL HISTORY CANOE TOURS

Every Saturday and Sunday mornings, mid-June through September. Adults, \$10, Kids \$5. Sorry, no children under 4 years old.

Gary Nelson, Paul Kohlberg, Richard Potashin, and Kathy Duvall

BIRDS OF THE MONO BASIN

Dave Shuford, June TBA

FALL BIRD MIGRATION IN THE EASTERN SIERRA

Dave Shuford, August TBA

GEOLOGY OF THE MONO BASIN

Jim Parker, June 15-16

VOLCANOES OF THE EAST SIDE

Jim Parker, June 8-9

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONO BASIN

Botanist, Zoologist and Geologist instructors, Date TBA

WILDFLOWERS OF THE MONO BASIN

Mark Bagley, July 20-21

HIGH COUNTRY WILDFLOWERS

Dave DeSante, July 27-28*

HIGH COUNTRY BIRDS

Dave DeSante, August 3-4*

MONO-BODIE HISTORICAL TOUR

Arlene Reveal, Lily Mathieu, August 24-25

MAMMALS OF THE MONO BASIN

John Harris, Date TBA

MONO BASIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Clinton Smith, July 26-28

NATIVE AMERICAN SURVIVAL SKILLS (FOR KIDS)

Leslie Dawson, Date TBA

* Date may be moved forward one week if drought conditions are severe.

The Mono Lake Foundation is a non-profit corporation, administered by a volunteer board, dedicated to the preservation of the Mono Basin ecosystem through education and research.

The workshops are sponsored by the Mono Lake Foundation and the Mono Lake Committee.

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(619) 647-6595

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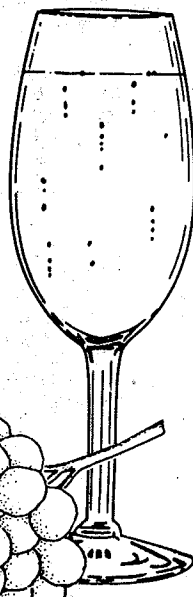
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The Mono Lake Committee is proud to announce the

1991 FINE WINE CELLAR DRAWING



A chance to win one of several exquisite wine cellars
and support the efforts to save Mono Lake.

Tickets available February 15!

Suggested donation \$50

Only 500 tickets will be sold.

Tickets will be drawn May 10, 1991 in San Francisco.

Winners need not be present to win.

Participants must be 21 or older.

*For ticket information and wine descriptions,
please call Liz at (818) 972-2025*

To reserve tickets, mail check or money order to:

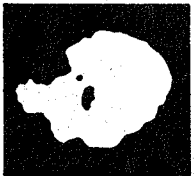
The Mono Lake Committee

1207 West Magnolia Blvd., Suite D
Burbank, CA 91506



Join Us!

Still not a Mono Lake Committee member? Join us, and increase our strength and effectiveness. We will keep you informed, through our quarterly newsletter and action alerts, of what's happening and how you can help. Regular membership is \$20 a year, or \$30 Sponsor, \$50 Supporting Member, \$100 Monophile, \$250 Defense Trust Member, \$500 Monomaniac, \$8 "I Can't Afford More." Checks should be payable to the Mono Lake Committee, and are not tax-deductible. If you would like your contribution to be tax-deductible, please endorse your check to the Mono Lake Foundation.



**THE
MONO LAKE
COMMITTEE**

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