



COASTWALKER

THE NEWSLETTER OF COASTWALK
Saving the California Coast One Step at a Time Spring 2005

Of Boogie Boards and Elk

By Willow Taraja and Leila Rand

Like the majestic coastline they have been showcasing for two decades, our summer walks offer a study in contrasts. Each walk invites participants to experience something totally different and unique - and walkers are almost always glad they accepted the invitation.

In this piece we highlight two walks offered this summer, the Lost Coast Backpack and the Orange County coastwalk, representing two poles on the spectrum of California coastal experiences.

LOST COAST BACKPACK

Covering 51 and a half miles of rugged and secluded terrain, the Lost Coast Backpack is an exhilarating adventure. Commencing at the mouth of the

Matole River in the Kings Range and culminating in the Sinkyone Wilderness (an area so magical that, during the late 1960s, the great Catholic theologian Thomas Merton talked of establishing a monastic community there), this is Coastwalk's most remote and challenging trip.

Contrasts continued on page 6

Let's Complete the Trail!

How would you like to spend some time this spring helping us complete the California Coastal Trail? No, not with a pick and shovel. There is an easier way! All you have to do is take a few minutes to become a Coastwalk member.

As a member of Coastwalk, you'll be part of our work for coastal protection and access. Your membership gift will be used to fund Coastwalk's statewide effort to complete the 1,200-mile California Coastal Trail. In the process, you'll help to inspire others to become coastal stewards for the generations to come.

One of our goals for this year is to double our membership. We need this kind of organizational strength to achieve a goal as sweeping and ambitious as completing the California Coastal Trail. We are already the recognized leaders in the effort to complete the Coastal Trail, thanks in part to membership support. With more members, we will have increased statewide influence with all the players, large and small, who can help or hinder us in achieving our mission. Our work will be as effective as our vision is powerful.

As you may know, we have been working closely with the California Coastal Conservancy and have made huge progress in partnering with many groups to promote, build and maintain the Trail. We are now beginning another exciting phase of the Coastal Trail project – the signs! Imagine if every time you

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Coastwalk Is...

THE COASTWALK MISSION:

Coastwalk believes that through stewardship of the California coast, people can find a balance between their profound need to experience the coast and the need to preserve its fragile environment. We are a grassroots non-profit organization that inspires, educates and advocates for both coastal protection and access. We create a community of stewards through our unique coastal hiking experiences and our work to complete and sustain the California Coastal Trail.

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Coastwalk's First Annual Summer Raffle & Fundraiser

Purchase a Coastwalk raffle ticket and support our work to preserve the coast and complete the CCT. Among the prizes you'll have the chance to win: a stay at a cozy California seaside Bed & Breakfast, an exceptional selection of wine from several of California's fine wineries, or a 2006 summer Coastwalk "Trip for Two" of your choice! These are just a few of the many excellent prizes being offered. Tickets are \$5.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of five. Purchase tickets at any Coastwalk event or from Coastwalk Board members, Volunteer Walk Coordinators or by calling the Coastwalk office at (800)550-6854. Don't miss your chance to win!

A Tribute to COAAST

*Presented at the Sonoma County Environmental Dinner
Sebastopol Veterans Hall, March 12, 2005*

Note from the editor: Many of us take for granted the miles of unspoiled coast up and down California. We may not even know about the intense battles waged 30 years ago which enabled the preservation and access that we do enjoy. Yet as we watch powerful interests attempt to dismantle the Coastal Commission and open up our coastal zones to oil drilling, it's instructive to remember the battles of our forebears. This excerpt from Coastwalk Executive Director Richard Nichols' tribute reminds us of who these pioneers are and the magnitude of what they accomplished.

The people who organized Citizens Organized to Acquire Access to State Tidelands (COAAST) in 1967 – Chuck Rhinehart, Peter Leveque, Bill Kortum, Chuck Hinkle, Ernie Smith – perhaps did not know at the time that they would be pioneers in the movement to save the coast. But they were. By championing the causes of public access and protection of the coast through their opposition to the Sea Ranch development, they led the way, and set the stage for a widespread public awareness that the coast belongs to us all and that its fragile environment is worth fighting to save. Emerging from the Sea Ranch battle was something even larger. The folks at COAAST discovered that the issue of access found traction in other coastal counties, and so began the battle to pass legislation that would provide adequate access and environmental protection. In short, the Coastal Alliance, led by Bill Kortum and other coastal activists, defeated politicians, the media, building trades and other business interests, and saw that the public passed Proposition 20, the citizen initiative that created the Coastal Commission and put in place restrictions on coastal development, and a guarantee of public access.

COAAST also led the way for other activist groups. Now in Sonoma County we have groups dealing everything from groundwater and watersheds to timber harvesting and salamanders. One group especially associated with COAAST is Coastwalk. It was Bill and Lucy Kortum's idea, implemented by Tom and Vivian McFarling, to take people on a hiking and camping trip down the Sonoma coast in 1983, to highlight the beauty of the coast and the dangers to public access to it. The success of that first walk would lead to the creation of an organization that has slowly grown ever since. Coastwalk is now the leading California non-profit promoting the Coastal Trail. Coastwalk conducts walks in all 15 coastal counties, writes guide books, advocates for the CCT and works with other agencies and groups to complete the trail. The CCT is the ultimate expression of responsible coastal access. Coastwalk especially owes its existence to COAAST.

So the theme tonight, *Is the Coast Clear?* has to be measured against what might have been without COAAST and the Alliance taking on the big boys. Things are far from perfect, and developers still want to despoil every inch they can get with golf courses and mansions. Without COAAST and without the Coastal Act, beaches would be private and many more miles of shoreline would be like Sea Ranch.

The people of COAAST know that we love and honor them, and I invite you to once again thank them for the pioneering effort they made and the work that they still do. The best tribute we can make to the founders of COAAST is to continue to protect the wetlands, forests, rivers and the coast of our beloved Sonoma County and beyond.

Save these Dates!

Please email your event to Leila Rand at lrاند@coastwalk.org

Sacramento Meet & Greet, May 22, 2005

Coastwalk wants to help inland folks get involved in the effort to preserve the California coast and access to it - after all, it does belong to ALL of us. Come have fun in the great outdoors, meet Coastwalk staff and learn about our work for the CCT and our summer walks. For more information, contact Willow at (800) 550-6854 or wtaraja@coastwalk.org

Screening of PBS Documentary "Coastal Clash," July 30th, 2005

Join Coastwalk's Richard Nichols at a screening of the documentary, featuring Coastwalk, which highlights issues of access to the California coastline. Screenings at 6:00 & 7:30 pm, followed by Q&A. Nickel & Nickel Winery, Napa Valley. Contact Coastwalk at (707) 829-6689 for more info.

Welcome to Coastwalk's new Northern California CCT day hike leader,

Euan Bulmer! He will be leading hikes in the northern counties of San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma and Mendocino. For more information, contact Rob at (800) 550-6854 or rhelms@coastwalk.org.

Calling All Coastwalk Quilters

Linda Hanes will put together a Coastwalk quilt in the next year, to be raffled off at a Coastwalk event. She hopes 15 people will each contribute a 12" square, each one representative of a different coastal county. For more information, contact Linda at lhanes@sonic.net or (707) 823-9781.

Trail Maintenance Volunteer Day: Tomales Bay State Park, May 14th.

Enjoy great views of the Bay as we remove brush and repair erosion on the Park's trails. Contact Rob at (800) 550-6854 or rhelms@coastwalk.org.

Trail Maintenance Volunteer Day: Pt. Reyes National Seashore, May 21st

Help remove brush and repair erosion on the fabulous Bucklin Trail and see nearly 20% of the State's flowering plant species. Contact Rob at (800) 550-6854 or rhelms@coastwalk.org.

Los Angeles Day Hikes:

Saturday, May 21, 9:30 am: Mishe Mokwa Trail loop and Sandstone Peak—S.M. Mtns. National Recreation Area. Mileage: 6 miles. Approx. 5 hrs. 1100 foot gain - moderate difficulty. Bring water (2 quarts) and lunch. Leader: Tim Naegele. Info: (310) 394-2799.

Saturday, June 18, 9:00 am: Hollywood Sign—Eastern S.M. Mtns. Mts.

Lee & Hollywood Urban Adventure. Mileage: 8 miles. Moderate-plus, 1,500 ft. elevation gain. 6 hrs. Bring plenty of water and lunch. Leader: Marka Meyer, taostar@taostar.com. Other questions or to be added to the LA Dayhikes mailing list, contact: Don Nierlich, (310) 394-2799.

San Luis Obispo Day Hike:

May 28, 9 am: Estero Bluff. Mileage: approx. 6-7. Bring: water, snack. Meet: Cayucos Veterans Hall. Contact Lars Mikkelsen 805-423-8180 for more info.

Sonoma County Day Hikes:

May 29: Fort Funston to Rockaway Beach. Join Jon Breyfogle as he completes the one gap in his CTE 03 hike. Details from Jon at (707) 795-7713 or surveyor@sonic.net after May 1.

June 24th: Coastal Ridgeline Hike Mileage: approx. 17. Moderate pace. Coastwalk teams up with Landpaths and the Open Space District to underscore the value of connected open space lands. We'll hike from Shell Beach to Coleman Valley Rd., towards Irish Hill and to the Carrington property. For more information, contact Rob at (800) 550-6854 or rhelms@coastwalk.org.

Tides & Trails

Coastwalk's Richard Nichols Honored

Executive Director Richard Nichols was honored with the 2004 "Environmentalism of the Year" award by the Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce. Richard was praised for his tireless work on behalf of the coast, both locally in Sonoma County, and statewide.

Dana Point, Orange County

In March, the S. Orange County Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation and the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter jointly filed a lawsuit challenging the Coastal Commission's approval of the City of Dana Point's Local Coastal Plan Amendment and the Headlands Development Plan. The plan allows the construction of a 2,200 foot-long rockpile seawall for the sole purpose of facilitating the grading and development of 75 coastal, bluff-face lots on top of land known to be geologically unstable. The plan also allows for the destruction of 11.29 acres of environmentally sensitive habitat area protected under the Coastal Act. Coastwalk supports the effort to protect the last remaining undeveloped property on the Orange County coast.

Eureka, Humboldt County

The new Humboldt Coastal Dunes Cooperative has as its mission building a "coordinated ecosystem management of coastal dune environments" by improving communication and cooperation in restoration projects and other efforts for the county's coastal areas. The group will work on projects like beach and dune restoration; regional permitting; providing a forum for public input and discussion on dune issues; protection and acquisition of unprotected lands; education; outreach; recreation; and enforcement.

Belinda Point, Mendocino County

October 2004

Mendocino Land Trust presided proudly over the opening of a new coastal access trail just south of Fort Bragg. The trail head is located on Ocean Drive, and connects with Belinda Point, a spectacular viewing point to the west. After a lengthy process, the Land Trust, under the direction of Louisa K. Morris, began constructing the trail. Volunteers and contractors cleared brush, moved logs, installed trail markers and signs to create a corridor for public access within the trail easement area. Plans are now underway for monitoring and maintenance of the trail and beach. 60 members and friends were present at the opening ceremony. Linda Locklin of the Coastal Commission notes that Mendocino Land Trust now holds the highest number of access easements of any land trust in the state: three, at Belinda Point, Cantus Cove and Mendocino Bay Overlook.

- from Mendocino Coastwalker Louise Young

News *from the* California Coastal Trail

Spring, 2005



A Collaborative Effort

By Rob Helms

The Los Angeles Coastal Trail Volunteer Committee is collaborating with the National Park Service's "Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program" and the Sierra Club on a couple of important Trail projects. We are now in the early stages of the Wilmington Trail Alignment, a connective link from San Pedro to Long Beach. Our vision is a multi-use, environmentally designed trail that stimulates redevelopment of the area, with possibilities of wetland restoration, greenway development, and mixed-use housing. If we gather enough support from the community and get the momentum going it will increase our chances to turn this vision into a reality.

To get the project off the ground, Jim Donovan of the NPS will set up Coastal Trail meetings at the NPS Southern California Field Office in Los Angeles. Tom Politeo of San Pedro and an active volunteer in the Angeles Chapter Sierra Club, will start researching the project and contact individuals to join this multi-group effort.

We are pleased to have Jim and Tom as leaders on this project and look forward to contributing to its success. If you would like to join in our efforts, please contact Rob Helms at rhelms@coastwalk.org or 1-800-550-6854.



Report from the Trail

By Rob Helms, Trail Steward for the Coastwalk CCT Project



The California Coastal Trail Project is a multi-group collaborative effort, spearheaded by Coastwalk, to complete the California Coastal Trail. The success of the Project depends on our volunteers and on the organizational systems we create as a team. I would

like to thank all of our new volunteers for helping us grow and build up our Coastal Trail Committees. Coastwalk now has new Coastal Trail volunteers in almost every coastal county, and active Committees in Humboldt, Mendocino, Sonoma, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo counties. Volunteers are involved with leading day hikes, outreach, GPS mapping, and tracking large multiphase projects.

Coastal Trail Committees- A project as ambitious as completing the Coastal Trail requires involvement from everyone, from small local groups and individuals to statewide agencies. For this reason, our major focus is on collaborative efforts, such as the Los Angeles Committee's partnership with the National Park Service's "Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program." By teaming up with the NPS and Sierra Club, Coastwalk volunteers have access to resources for larger projects like the Wilmington Trail Alignment (see article at left). Farther north in LA County we are again collaborating with the NPS on the Coastal Slope Trail in the Santa Monica Mountains and are seeking volunteers to help with this project. The NPS hopes to open sections of the Trail this summer and provide a shuttle service for hikers.

In San Luis Obispo County we have found several volunteers to help out with the projects that Coastwalk board member and longtime activist Nancy Graves has been pursuing, such as the alignment through the Irish Hills connecting Montana de Oro State Park and Avila Beach. Thanks to outreach efforts of Miranda Leonard at the Environmental Center (ECOSLO) Headquarters, the Committee is currently mapping the Trail in San Luis Obispo.

At Coastwalk's home-base in Sonoma County, our local

Report *cont. page 5*

State Parks Need Our Help

By Richard Nichols, Executive Director

On March 14, I had the opportunity to participate in Parks Advocacy Day, sponsored by the State Parks Foundation. 140 park supporters spent the day lobbying legislators about the need to keep State Parks funded and to stop attempts to use parks for non-mission uses.

The mission of State Parks is to protect natural and cultural resources, and to provide educational and recreation opportunities to the public. Yet non-use proposals crop up regularly.

Because of funding shortfalls, 1,500 historic buildings, 63 museums and visitor centers, and many archeological sites are deteriorating. Natural features are compromised by adjacent development, by pollution and by understaffing.

The parks are also under assault by roads and development on or near parks. Proposed roadways would bisect San Onofre State Park and Candlestick State Recreation Area; a desalination plant is proposed at San Onofre. An Assembly bill proposes to extend the life of a non-conforming trailer park on the beach at Crystal Cove State Park for 20 more years. A wind farm is proposed adjacent to the Antelope Valley Poppy Preserve.

What you can do:

Call your Assembly member and State Senator and demand that funding be increased for parks, and demand that non-mission uses be stopped. You can get more information at www.calparks.org

Another Loss for Public Access

By Nancy Graves

The gentrification we're seeing along the entire coast of California is especially pronounced in Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo County. Here, most shorelines and bluffs are developed and older beach cottage lots are being replaced with fenced compounds. Public access to the shore is more and more threatened, sometimes in seemingly small ways.

For example, in 2003, the Coastal Trail Expedition used a little pathway between Spyglass Park and Memory Park in Pismo Beach to avoid using the road, and I wondered at the time how the path had remained open within this highly developed area. Neighbors on either side of the path just left it open for general use; now, a huge house has been built and the owners have decided to block all public access with fences.

It's not big, its not exactly critical, its just one more small loss for public access, one more small connection to the natural landscape lost. This pathway has been in use for over 45 years, and unfortunately the City of Pismo Beach quietly dropped the OTD easement on it in 1990, so the normal process for maintaining access has been denied.

On June 7, 2005 the Coastal Commission will hold a Prescriptive Rights Hearing on this humble little path. To learn more about Prescriptive Rights and what you can do to protect coastal access in your neighborhood, go to the Coastal Commission website at www.coastal.ca.gov/access/prc-access.html.

Committee led by Dana Zimmerman is collaborating with State Parks on the Coastal Trail in Salt Point State Park and the Reef Trail from Fort Ross Historic State Park to Reef Campground. Up in Humboldt County, Lorraine Dillon leads our group, which is working on trail alignments for the Hammond Trail connecting Arcata and McKinleyville, and other volunteers are leading day hikes and beginning to map the Trail.

New Sections of the CCT- Last October, the Mendocino Land Trust opened the Point Belinda Coastal Trail just south of Fort Bragg in Mendocino County, and plans to open another trail this summer at Navarro Point. This spring the City of San Clemente will complete the San Clemente Coast Trail from North Beach to Califia. The trail will be made with decomposed granite and lie on the inland side of the railroad tracks with natural buffers in between. In Sonoma County, the Reef Trail from Fort Ross to Reef Campground State Park will open this summer.

Also in Sonoma County is the recently acquired Carrington Ranch, currently owned by the Sonoma County Open Space and Agriculture District, contracting with the non-profit Landpaths. Landpaths is providing stewardship projects and hikes along the property until the California State Parks system is able to acquire it (there is currently a freeze on State Park land acquisitions). The property will potentially provide a two-mile loop route of the CCT.

Upcoming Events and Hikes- We welcome Euan Bulmer, who is our volunteer North Coast hike leader. Euan is organizing regular Coastal Trail hikes in the area ranging from San Francisco to Mendocino County.

Coastwalk volunteers have organized April 23rd hikes and events on for Earth Day in Sonoma and Humboldt Counties. Volunteers will also organize Coastal Trail Events for National Trails Day on June 4th, which will include hiking and stewardship.

In Marin County we have annual Coastal Trail Stewardship projects coming up in May at Point Reyes National Seashore and Tomales State Park. Help us remove brush and repair erosion damage on the park trails.

Over the next six months I will continue to follow up with existing committees, while focusing on the Los Angeles and Bay Area Trails Forever projects (this second project was noted in the Fall, 2004 newsletter). I am also continuing outreach to build more in areas where we have a strong volunteer base, and to develop volunteer committees in Monterey, San Mateo, San Francisco, and Marin.

If you want to learn more about any of these CCT projects, or to become involved, we could use your help! Please contact me at: rhelms@coastwalk.org or (800) 550-6854.



Meet Willow Taraja, Events Coordinator

I'm a native Californian, sired in Modesto and seasoned in Los Angeles. For many years I've worked as an event coordinator, caterer and personal chef. I am currently

exploring avenues of self-expression that do not involve sauces or sugar. For the past 10 years, I have maintained a base camp in Sebastopol along with my adventure-loving husband and family cat.

My appreciation of the great outdoors was nurtured by my mother and grandparents. Among my earliest memories are camping trips to San Simeon to see elephant seals and journeys to the foothills of the Sierra to see California's gold country and Big Bear area. My mom and I would set off camping many weekends and school holidays, exploring southern California's deserts and coastal parks.

As a young adult in 1987, I fell head over heels for the Northern California coast the first time I camped – in a VW bus – along the shores of Marin, Sonoma and Mendocino. I knew then I wanted to move here and make this area home.

Together with my husband, I continue to travel in California and beyond. I've been fortunate to have bicycled through Cuba, sea-kayaked and camped along the coast of Hawaii's Big Island, climbed atop the terraced pyramids of Guatemala's Tikal, and witnessed brilliant sunrises at Cambodia's Angkor Wat. Another highlight: quietly marveling at the natural artistry of the Grand Canyon on an 18-day rafting trip down the Colorado River.

I am very happy to have the opportunity to work with Coastwalk as Event Coordinator. I look forward to promoting the Summer Walks program, advocating for coastal access and the completion of the California Coastal Trail (CCT) and assisting with Coastwalk's efforts to ensure that California's coast will be preserved for future generations.



A Lost Coast vista

The Lost Coast of southern Humboldt and northern Mendocino counties is said to be the longest stretch of undeveloped coastline in the continental U.S. Majestic cliffs are complemented by miles of stunning black-sand beaches. Lush vegetation provides ample grazing and habitat for the regal Roosevelt elk that traverse the 80 miles of coastal beaches and bluffs.

The first four days of the Lost Coast Backpack trip are spent hiking along narrow sand beaches and scaling ridges that rise well above sea level to coastal terraces perched above the ocean. There

are "two themes at play [here], up and down, or rather, up, up, up and down, down, down," said longtime Coastwalker, Board member and Coastal Trail Expedition '03 hiker Jon Breyfogle, about his experience on the Lost Coast. "It has been hard work but not without its rewards."

Hiker Bill Sauber recalls his 2004 trip: "Almost every night we were camped in a cove very close to the ocean. With no city lights or sounds, the moon and stars reflecting on the ocean, and the waves rolling up the beach it was easy to picture what life was like many centuries ago. [Those nights offered] the best sleeps I've ever had."

Each summer Lost Coast hikers can venture up Cooskie Creek for a soak in the pristine waters of a natural bathing pool or get up in the early morning and witness a

mother bear and her cubs ambling past camp on their way to the ocean's edge for a breakfast of salty sand crabs at Shipman Creek. They can pitch a tent in the soft groundcover beneath the giant redwoods at Shelter

Cove, brave an icy shower under the waterfall at Jones Beach, marvel at panoramic views stretching more than 40 miles, and spend evenings enjoying campfires at the surf's edge.

"I fell in love with this trip the first year I did it," said Coastwalker Al DuCharme. "I've done the Lost Coast Backpack for 10 [consecutive] years now, and I'm still loving it."

A quintessential part of the Lost Coast experience is an encounter with the local herd of Roosevelt elk – about 75 strong. These incredible animals were once common in the area, but were hunted to oblivion in the last century. The present herd was relocated from Humboldt's Prairie Creek State Park.

The elk are not to be treated incautiously. Males can weigh up to 1,000 pounds, and during the "rut" (mating season) in the fall, they can be quite aggressive. In June and July (the time of the backpack), the males tend to be solitary and the females and youngsters travel together. This is a good time to catch a glimpse of some newly birthed elk babies.



Taking a rest on the Lost Coast backpack

ORANGE COUNTY WALK

Coastwalk's Orange County walks stand in marked contrast to the Lost Coast Backpack. Here, the coastal experience includes

warm waters, sandy beaches, urban adventures and historical monuments like the Mission San Juan Capistrano. This year we offer three walks, which can be enjoyed separately or combined.

The Family Walk is a leisurely chance for kids and adults to boogie board in the warm Southern California waves, explore tide pools and test their mettle in a ferocious sand castle contest. Offerings on the North and South walks range from visits to the Ocean Institute at Dana Point and the Mission, to a walking tour of downtown Laguna Beach, canoeing in Upper Newport Bay, and hikes in the El Morro backcountry.

Last year, Bill Queale came all the way from Yardly, Pennsylvania to attend the Orange County walk. He reports that “during the week, we visited the Bolsa Chica Wetlands and hiked miles of great beaches in Huntington Beach. We took in the scenes and boat tour at Newport Beach, and paddled a canoe through a part of the Newport Ecological Preserve. A day later we enjoyed the Park Ranger’s presentation at Crystal Cove State Park, after which we saw the rehab efforts of the historic cottages in the park. There were also a few impressive walking detours through ritzy neighborhoods. A couple dips in the cool Pacific regenerated us.”



On the ferry at Newport

The Historic District at Crystal Cove State Park houses 45 cottages that have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. As the population of both Los Angeles and Orange County grew, more and more people were seeking coastal refuges. The invention of the automobile, coupled with the opening of Pacific Coast Highway in the late 20’s, brought newly mobile Southern Californians to the shores of what was then Irvine Ranch. The Irvine Company allowed friends and favored employees to build small shelters or cottages along the shore bluffs. By 1936 the Irvine Company decided that no more cottages could be built and requested that no restoration be done to them.

Today, we see the remains of a community of houses known for their unique architecture. In 1979, the State purchased the Historic District from the Irvine Company. In the General Plan it was decided that the residents would leave and the cottages become available for all Californians. It took until July 2001 for all the residents to say their final farewells and the State to begin the lengthy restoration process. By summer 2005, 22 of the cottages, along with all of the infrastructure, will be completed. Some of the cottages will be available for short-term rental, whereas others will be devoted to park operations including a Visitor Center.

From Winter Bonnin. State Park Interpreter, Crystal Cove State Park

Some Orange County coastwalkers enjoy observing the local surfer community, while others rave about the incomparably beautiful Laguna Coast Wilderness Area. Some enjoy sampling Orange County’s restaurants at lunch time, while others want to watch the sun set on a balmy evening. This walk meets many different needs.



Enjoying the waves

Part of Coastwalk’s mission is to work collaboratively with other organizations and agencies that are dedicated to the coast and to different aspects of its preservation. Mel and Diana Savage, leaders of the Orange County summer walk team, have developed a very personal collaboration with their local Department of Fish and Game. Because of this unique ongoing partnership, the summer walkers are given special permission to stay overnight on Fish and Game property. Each year the Savages, on behalf of Coastwalk, in turn do projects for the Department of Fish and Game. This year, they cooked dinners for the Department’s “Fishing for Science” event. These sorts of personal relationships are a critical component of the bigger effort for coastal preservation.

Discover just how fun and affordable our summer walks are. For more information or to register, visit our website at www.coastwalk.org or call our office - (800) 550-6854

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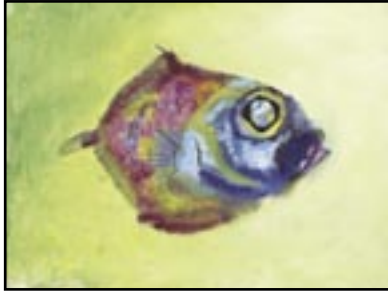
went to the beach you saw a sign marking the California Coastal Trail. The sign project will make the public aware of the Trail like never before – the image of a continuous Trail will take root in the minds and imaginations of beachgoers statewide.

We are poised to reach of our goal of an uninterrupted CCT, making California’s preserved coast accessible to all. We need your support to make it happen.

If you are not yet a member, please join now (you can complete and mail in the membership form on the back of this newsletter or join online at www.coastwalk.org). If you’re already a member, please consider supplementing your membership contribution with a donation (you can also use the membership form on the back page of this newsletter or donate at www.coastwalk.org). Your contribution will go directly to accomplishing our Coastal Trail goals for 2005 and beyond.

In view of the current political and legal challenges to the Coastal Commission’s authority, our work is more important than ever. From the giant redwoods of the North Coast to Venice Beach and beyond, our California coast is worth saving, and walking - one step at a time. We hope to see you on the Trail this summer.

Art and poetry by three of the winners of the California Coastal Commission's 2005 Coastal Art & Poetry Contest for K-12 students. You may view the other winning entries, and the honorable mentions, online at www.coastforyou.org.



"Secrets of the Sea"
Paul Greene, Grade 3

*Blue is the ocean,
It is gentle yet strong,
It feels cool on a hot afternoon,
I hear the waves roar as they crash along the beach,
I taste the salt water rush down my throat,
I play with the waves,
I love what blue is....*

"Blue..."
By Lauren Amaro, Grade 3



"Big Sur Coast"
Pracheta Kokate, Grade 11



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Join Coastwalk and get a discount on our summer walks!

Yes! I want to enjoy *and* preserve the coast!

Name (if gift, put recipient's name): _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ How did you hear about Coastwalk? _____

Have you been on a Coastwalk? Yes Not Yet If yes, which one(s)?: _____

This membership is a gift from: _____ Please contact me about volunteering

I'm already a member I'm not joining at this time Here's my donation in the amount of : _____

Here's my check in the amount of _____ for the membership level below:

\$25 (Individ.) \$45 (Family) \$15 (Student/Senior) \$100 (Steward) \$ 200+ (Trailblazer) \$700 (Lifetime)

I'll use my credit card: Type (please circle one): Visa Mastercard American Express

Card Number: _____ Exp.: _____

Please mail this form to: **Coastwalk, 825 Gravenstein Hwy. North, #8, Sebastopol, CA 95472**

NLS05