

Volume 13, Number 1

January 1970

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Phoenix: (L to R) V.P. Harry Capen, Pres. Wayne Wood, Treas. Betty Capen, Seey. (Not Shown) Doris Mueneh



Phoenix Directors: (L to R) Tom Burch, Mel Jarvis, Bub Allison, Bill Sanderson

Tucson Officers & Directors Listed On Page 16 - Tucson Scuttlebutt

Thanks to All!

Dear Dr. Burch:

Two

(On November 31, Sally Newman and Don Jones were injured in a collision twenty miles north of Rocky Point.)

I'd like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who helped save my daughter Sally's life. In order of sequence--Don Jones, even though injured himself, who pulled her from the wreck and applied pressure to the wound to slow the bleeding: Jr. Drake, who at risk to himself, pulled the other burning car away from the wreck and danger of cumbustion from leaking gasoline. Hector Guglielmo and his wife Frances, who staved with us all night and the next day. Dr. Romo, in Rocky Point, who spent several hours sewing her up. Debra Knight, who with Lirrain Urreiztiota, Joyce Guglielmo, and John Rauk held Sally's hand through it all even in the operating room. Mr. Ray Dees at the Desalinization Plant. who spent an hour to reach Tucson by radio. Bob Morris, in Tucson,

who contacted the Ajo hospital and negotiated for an ambulance, doctor and blood to come to Rocky Point. The Special U.S. agent, Jerry R. Laughlin, who kept the gate open at the border for all our traffic.

To them, and all the others who gave their time, effort, and kindness, we thank you.

-Oscar H. Newman

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From the Editor's Desk

In July 1968 the editor sent out questionnaires to all members asking about the types of articles that they liked and/or disliked. Nearly one third of the members responded and many had excellent ideas, suggestions and intentions. A total of 31 members said that they would write articles for the Chatter. About one-third of those who said that they would write one or more articles have done so. Since that is the same proportion that sent back the questionnaire, I suppose that I should be satisfied. However, I'm not.

We have had some very good articles, stories, etc., but the vast majority have been written by only a very few individuals. More members (or readers) should submit articles to the Chatter. If you don't think you can write the kind of article you want to see in the Chatter, write and tell me what you want and I'll try to arrange for it.

Remember, if you don't send in articles or tell me what you want, you have no grounds to complain about what gets printed in the Chatter.

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Letter to the Editor

November 21, 1969 Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club Gentlemen:

Your November booklet at hand. 'Tis very newsy too. There's lots of things I'd like to do, but I'm now in my 91st year. I get around fairly well without crutch or cane and take care of myself without assistance.

Was going over a box of photos and have many of Cholla Bay from the end of World War II. I used to organize parties of from 9 to 21 people for a week to 10 day stay--no one but us stayed that long. We met and talked to many folks from Phoenix and Tucson who took a quick trip to Cholla for a sackful of sea trout.

Most of us males were retired and after the first trip we brought along our wives and youngsters. Each trip would run about 9 days. We carried our own water supply from Whittier California, as water at Cholla was scarce and not too potable. We allowed 5 gallons per week for cooking and drinking per person. We used the water from radiators on the cars for dishwashing—poured it back after allowing it to settle.

That about covers a rough description of our camp handling. Oh, yes, I forgot that none of us brought along any liquors. Quite a few of us are Quakers. Whittier is known for its Quaker section of the town.

'Tis possible you might like to see what Cholla Bay looked like when we were the only campers there. Many old friends tell our old crowd that there are a couple of thousand people living there the year around and they sought other places. I directed a few to Point Lobo and Tastiota. 'Tis or was a small Indian village of about 15 families when I last saw it.

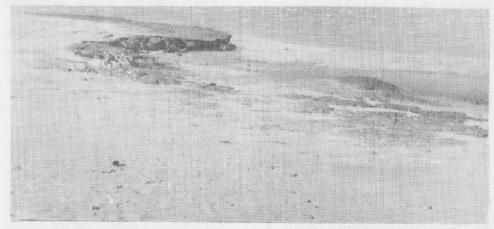
Very truly yours, H. T. MacDonald



The results of a couple of hours of fishing after breakfast



This is a shot of Punta Penasco as we called the town.



At this point it used to be a good fishing spot on an incoming tide. One of our party caught a 68 pound Totuava here.

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Here is an interesting recipe prepared by the Virginia Seafood Council, Newport News, Va. This baked fish recipe is another one-dish meal.

BAKED FISH

- 5 or 6 white potatoes
- 3 or 4 onions
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 lbs. fish steaks--or fish of your choice

2 or 3 slices of bacon

Place fish in pan after it has been well salted and peppered. Put the sliced onions and peeled potatoes around the fish and sprinkle them with salt and pepper. Put the strips of bacon on both. Add a little water and one tablespoon butter. (DO NOT COVER FISH WITH WATER.) Bake with cover on pan until potatoes are tender. Remove cover and brown. Serve at once. (Serves 4) BAKED FISH WITH CHEESE SAUCE

2 tablespoons butter

2 tablespoons flour

1 teaspoon dry mustard

1 cup milk

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/8 teaspoon pepper

Make a sauce of these ingredients in the top of a double boiler and add one cup grated cheese (American or other). Stiruntil blended. Pour over one pound uncooked fillets in a buttered baking dish. Bake 25 to 30 minutes in a 3500 F oven.

-National Fisherman

Pelicans Vs. D.D.T.

The Pelican has always been one of my favorite birds and when I was a little kid I used to feel downright wicked when I'd recite:

"A wonderful bird is the pelican His bill will hold more than his belican

But I'm damned if I can see how the helican"

I had a real close up look at the pelican bill situation in April 1941 when the Redondo Beach, California, Humane Society put out a call to help feed several hundred starving pelicans. A great many of those pelicans died despite our hand-feeding them. The Los Angeles Times and Redondo Daily Breeze had articles about the catastrophe which they attributed to an unseasonal shortage of fish in the Redondo Beach area.

The Redondo pelican "famine" was a very local affair. Pelicans at Hermosa Beach less than five miles away were not affected. It seems inconceivable, if there was a shortage of fish at Redondo, that they wouldn't have flown to more finny pastures before they became incapacitated -unless they were either sick or poisoned. For many years I thought that they must have had some sort of plague but lately I have been reading (BioScience 9/69, Medical World News 9/26/69) about the plight of pelicans (as well as other birds) caused by DDT and I now suspect that the pelicans had inadvertently been poisoned.

I'm not sure when DDT was distributed throughout the military, but we did have an army detachment manning shore batteries and antiaircraft guns at Redondo atthat time and, if they had DDT, there is no



Dr. Burch feeding Pelicans at Redondo Beach, Cal. reason to expect them to have been more careful with it before any danger was considered than people have been since the danger became appar-

Even though scientists had been reporting about spectacular kills of Turn page

ent.

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birds and fish from DDT and other "chlorinated hydrocarbon" pesticides since the 1950's, it was not until Rachel Carson's Silent Spring was published in 1962 that the public became aware of the problem. Since then it has frequently been overlooked that countless lives have been saved by DDT control of insects carrying malaria, encephalitis, cholera, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, typhus, etc.

DDT has also been used successfully against many insects and pests that affect domestic animals, trees

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One of many Pelicans that died on the beach

and crops. However, the pesticide is also apt to kill off desirable insects as well as birds, fish and animals.

DDT lasts almost indefinitely and a little can go a long way (half way around the world in air currents and to the sea in rivers) and a little can do a lot of damage. For example, a small concentration of DDT can inhibit growth and photosynthesis in marine plankton. It has been reported that a shrimp population can be destroyed in two days by as little as 0.00006 p.p.m. (parts per million) of DDT in sea water. Shell formation in cysters is impaired by equally minute concentrations of DDT.

Of even greater importance is that the DDT tends to accumulate in the fatty tissues of both plants and animals. The concentration of DDT in the microscope plants floating in the sea (phyto-plankton) may well be 500 or more times the concentration in the water. These microscopic plants are eaten by small animals including shrimp-like creatures and small fish. The concentration of DDT in their tissues may well also be 500 or more times as concentrat-

ed as in the plant tissues that they ate. Carniverous fish then eat the animals that ate the contaminated plants and in turn concentrate the DDT to still higher levels. The fate of any bird eating these fish depends upon how high a concentration of DDT they contain. For example, in 1957-1958 aflock of more than 2000 western grebes died as a result of eating fish in Clear Lake, California. The water of the lake had 0.02 p.p.m. DDT, but the fish had 2,690 p.p.m. DDT in their tissues!

When the accumulated concentration of DDT is less or develops more slowly the changes are more subtle, but actually are more ominous. Enzymes involved in reproduction and calcium metabolism including eggshell formation in birds are affected. This results in reproductive failure and especially egg breakage due to thin or even absent eggshells. This has been documented by comparing thickness of eggshells in museum collections with those collected currently and also by DDT feeding experiments.

Several carniverous birds such as the bald eagle, osprey, peregrine falcon and pelican are in definite danger of extinction because of DDT. According to the July 13, 1969 Los Angeles Times there were tens of thousands of pairs of pelicans on the California Channel Islands, but in 1969 there were no more than 1000 pairs. A survey last spring on Anacapa Island disclosed 298 nests with only 12 intact eggs. Two weeks later all of the eggs were crushed. The eggs contained 68 p.p.m. DDE (closely related to DDT). The concentration in the yolk fat, however, was 552 p.p.m.



Thin-shelled pelican egg crushed in brooding from Anacapa Island being held by Dr. Risebrough of Univ. of Cal. Photo L.A. Times

West Magazine

Pelicans nesting on the islands off San Diego and Baja, California apparently are similarly afflicted, but to a lesser extent and there is good reason to fear that with the increasing agriculturation of Sonora that the pelicans of the Gulf will also become afflicted, if they are not already. It may well be that in the not too distant future that the pelican will be but a memory and our children (or grandchildren depending on the reader's age) will ask who dreamed up the fanciful bird on our Club emblem.

-Tom Burch

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Observations on Cholla Tide Pool Animals (Part II) By Mary and Paula Furtwangler

(Editor's note--This is the second of a series of articles by the Furtwanglers on observations and studies on tide pool animals from Cholla that they took back to their aquarium in Phoenix. Part I was in the September Chatter and prior to that Mr. Furtwangler described how to make an aquarium (May 1969) and how to balance the life in the aquarium and filter the water (July 1969).

ROCK CRAB (Eriphia granulosa)

This specimen was 4 inches wide. In the confining area of the marine tank, it proved to be too destructive to everything else. Immediately it seized and crushed between its large claws several of the small mollusca, of which it ate only one. The crab was very strong and succeeded in dislodging the "reef" habitant that we had so carefully set up. It poked at the anemones until they were forced to crawl up high on the tank sides out of reach. Also, all mollusca of the class Gastropoda took refuge on the high tank sides. The rock crab was then removed to a separate tank where he remains on a diet of frozen fish and small mollusca.

The Hairy Crab (<u>Pilumnus town</u>-sendi) Rathbun and the decorator

crab were removed to the smaller tank for the same reasons. These were later attacked and killed by the larger rock crab who we called the "monster of the Tanks." Small mollusca seized and crushed were Modiolus capax, Cardita affinis and Acmea.

STARFISH

The larger rayed or sun starfish (Heliaster Kubiniji) has up to 17 legs or rays. It proved to be extremely destructive, gathering up as many small mollusca as it could hold. Using hydraulic power, it can hang on to many small specimens until the specimens die or are pulled apart. Again, not all of the mollusca caught were eaten. Therefore, the starfish was removed to the tank holding the larger crabs. It was fed small mollusca and thrived well. Here it was noted that the starfish and the larger crabs lived in a state of armed truce. BRITTLE STARFISH (Ophiuroids)

The smaller starfish, 4 to 5 rays only, and known as a Brittle starfish along with a Serpent starfish, buried themselves in the sand or under rocks. They were active only at night, gathering up bits of shrimp

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lying on the bottom sand. These two specimens were not observed gathering small mollusca, and were not destructive to other life. They subsisted on pieces of fish and shrimp and grew about two inches in six months.

GASTROPODA

Murex nigritis or the Black Murex An intensive study was made of this mollusca. At certain times it is found crawling around the reef in great numbers, at other times it is found a mile out in the bay, in what is known as the murex beds. When found on the reef they are usually

heavily encrusted. This is a large carnivorous snail with a complex number of spines and frilled varices. The adult Murex nigritis is mostly a black color and the spire is white. The adult Murex can reach a length of 10 inches. The young are pure white. The Murex under study was 2 inches long when found, and nearly pure white with only small showings of black on the spine tips.

During the first month that it spent in the tank, it did not eat at all. At the beginning of the next month, however, it began to trap and hold the mollusca, NERITA scabricosta hold—Turn page

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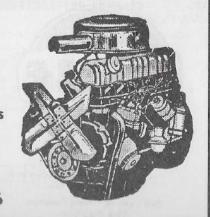
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ing it against the sides of the tank by using pressure aided by spines holding the Nerita. The Murex increased pressure on the Nerita for 5 days, and on the 6th day was observed to be eating the Nerita by drawing the entire shell up into the Murex, and sucking the animal through the operculum or "trap door" of the Nerita.

After the first Nerita meal, the Murex was observed to eat 3 more of them, all in the same manner. Then, for about a period of 2 months, the Murex rested on one rock remaining totally inactive.

At the beginning of the 5th month, the Murex was observed chipping at

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Twelve

a clam called Chione californienses. Examination of the Chione disclosed the edges chipped until the Chione could be entered and then forced open. This Chione and 4 more were eaten in rapid succession followed by one more meal of a Protothaca grata, which is another type of clam. During this period also, the Murex began turning darker in color.

Again, the Murex rested. At the beginning of the 6th month, a new pure white delicate edge began to appear along the outer lip. Moving the Murex, caused this lip to break easily and for the next 3 weeks the animal did not move at all. On the 9th day of March, after carefully removing the animal from the tank, 1/2" of new white growth had been added, plus the formation of an entire 2nd spinose anterior canal. The new area was pure white in color and slightly thickened, but not as yet as thick as the older parts of the shell.

TURBO FLUCTUOSUS

These animals were observed to be active both day and night. They were observed to be eating a minute brown algae, which the tank had along the sides. The Turbos survive well, and the tank did not hold natural enemies for them, other than the crabs which were removed. The next step in their study, will be to put these in a separate tank, to observe breeding habits.

NASSARIUS

At the time of collection from the tidal pool on the reef, some reef sand and gravel was also scooped up. It was not known at that time that the specimens in this writing were living in the sand. However, 2 months after the tidal pool sand was placed in

the tank, specimens of two types of NASSARIUS emerged as tiny dots on the sides of the tank. Examination using a magnifying glass established these as Nassarius brunneostoma, and Nassarius (a) iodes. They began their formation under the sand. In spite of their small size, they moved rapidly. When small pieces of dead crab were dropped in the tank, the Nassarius immediately climbed on it and ate all of the meat. They are scavengers and hideunder the sand for protection. The raved starfish and also the large crab were their enemies. The Nassarius iodes had developed to about 5 mm and the Nassarius brunneostoma to a length of 10 mm as of this writing. Further studies of these species will have to be made in a special tank, set up high enough, so that the sand can be observed from the bottom, as much activity of marine forms takes place under the sand, making normal observation difficult.

SEE YOUR ADVERTISERS

January, 1970

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Happiness is having a new boat, be it a 12 foot fishing boat or a 24 foot Cholla Bay type craft. The size and how the boat is used determines the equipment it should have on board and how it is rigged.

The 12 foot fishing boat with running lights, life jackets, anchor, anchor line and oars or paddle, and if it has an outboard engine, and of the right O.B.C. rating, is a safe, well equipped boat.

I would add to this a Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. If the boat is carrying gas on board, and many laugh at this, but you can't run very far in a 12 foot boat if it is on fire.

The skipper who uses his boat at the Bay should take care in how his boat is equipped. There is standard equipment that every boat should have on board at all times, such as anchor, anchor line, fire extinguishers, paddle, and life jackets for each on board. The Coast Guard has a list of required equipment and you must have this equipment on board before you can launch your boat on some of the lakes in Arizona. This list can be picked up at most sporting goods stores.

But the Coast Guard doesn't look over the boater and/or boat at Cholla Bay. That is up to each and everyone of us.

All boats that fish at Cholla Bay should have the standard equipment on board, only more so for inboards. Two (2) fire extinguishers, one a 5 1b.: two (2) anchors, one for fishing, the other just in case. The anchor line should be at least 300 feet, also there should be spare line on board for towing, extra anchor line, etc.

Flares, there are many types to choose from, also dye markers just in case a plane has the job of finding you if you should get lost.

Life jackets should be the new heads-up Coast Guard approved type. Also, cushions are fine for lakes and to sit on and they are Coast Guard approved, but they can get away from you in the water. The jacket is more suitable for the waters of Cholla Bay.

Fitting out the boat is at the skipper and second mate's (your wife) discretion, which includes: depth finders: radio, C.B. or Marine; compass (this is a must), barometer; speedometer; pole holders; outriggers; bow rail (very good for your people if you let them ride the bow) and many other 'gooddees'.

As for installing, all deck gear should be through-bolted and backed up with 1/2" or 5/8" plywood, if possible; also a good bedding compound should be used, a type that does not dry hard, to seal the bolt holes.

On the Debbie J. I use a short chain bolted to the end of the bow eve bolt and then bolted to the inside of the fore deck chock that I tie my anchor line to. It is possible to pull the chock loose or off, either by force or accident. This chain would save your anchor and anchor line and would still hold you at anchor.

Anchon Check Anthree line She chain

Big Ten *

By Don Barber

Kick-off time for the "Big Ten" will be New Year's Eve weekend at Cholla Bay. Your eligibility cards will be on sale for \$1.00 from any committee member or Patty at the Radio Shack. The details of the "Big Ten" were reported in a previous issue of the Chatter. This Council project is really going to be a winner for the club. "Big Ten" cards will also be available at all club meetings in Phoenix and Tucson. Remember. Fisherwoman, that your catches are only 80% of weight required by the Fisherman. No time limit for your catches. Any questions will be answered at meetings or call me at 992-3604.

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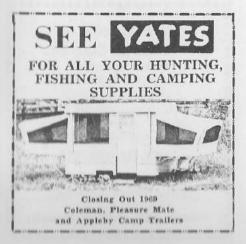
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Well, election is over and a new year of hard work starts for a new group of officers. The following were elected to serve the club for 1970.

President---- Oscar Newman
Vice Pres.--- Art Schwarz
Secretary---- Joyce Morris
Treasurer---- Sally Newman
Board ---- Forrest Cooley
Deane Fisher
Hector Guglielmo

Bob Morris

We have an excellent board. Every member is thoroughly familiar with the operation of the club. Two of them speak Spanish and are well acquainted with the officials at Rocky Point and Cholla Bay. I want to thank all those who voted for me for V.P. and assure you that I will do my best to maintain the good relations existing within the club and with the Mexican officials. I also want to thank those who did not vote

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JAIME JEREZ B. - Member

P.O. Box 146 Lukeville, Ariz. Te.l 4 Sonoyta, Son.

for me because I really did not want the job in the first place. The other members who were voted to various positions also wish to extend their thanks.

Again let me call to your attention that there are many bargains to be had in Rocky Point. Don't overlook them when you are down to the Bay.

Oscar Newman's daughter had a narrowescape on the way home from Cholla the Sunday after Thanksgiving. She is recovering rapidly and will soon be up and around. The splendid cooperation of the Mexican people and club members and the excellent surgical work performed by the Doctor at the Rocky Point Hospital probably saved her life. More about that later.

PHOENIX SHELL CLUB

The "Southwestern Malacological Society" meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Arizona State University Zoology Building Room 163 at 7:30 p.m. Next meeting will be Jan. 21. Everyone interested in shells is invited to attend.

1970 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The 1970 membership dues are due and payable now and become delinquent February 1st. Don't let your insurance and Chatter subscription expire (only paid up members will get a March Chatter).

Single membership \$10.00 Spouse 2.00

Sponsored child (under 18) 2.00

Pay at the monthly meeting or send your check to P.O. Box 7171, Phoenix, 85011 or to Verna Conslisk, 2570 E. Lester St., Tucson 85716.

Contribute To The Chatter

Mexico vs. Hippies

On a recent flight to Washington, D.C. I was reading the November 1969 issue of Travel and came across an interesting tidbit about Mexico. It seems that the cops of San Miguel Allende, Guanajuato, rounded up 22 long-haired or bearded American men and shaved their heads and chins. When a visiting American psychiatrist protested to the mayor about his son's head being shaved -- he was given the same treatment. No mention was made about what precipitated that action but I think that if I were an artist with long hair or a beard, I'd go somewhere else.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

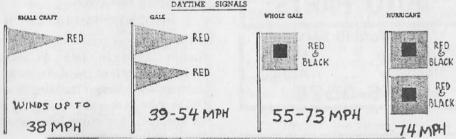
Your mail can now be picked up at Cholla Bay Radio Shack. Address it as follows: (Example)

> MRS. MARY DOE c/o J. Martinez, M. Apartado No. 41 Puerto Penasco, Sonora Mexico

Our Radio Operator will be our mailman.

Contribute To The Chatter

SMALL CRAFT, GALE, WHOLE GALE AND HURRICANE WARNINGS





Counting the Ballots in the "Backroom" at Goettl's auditorium - Mary Rogers, Mary Sanderson Charlie Reed and Peg Allison

SAS CONCAAS BEACHFRONT COMMUNITY AND CLUB RUCKY POINT, MEXICO

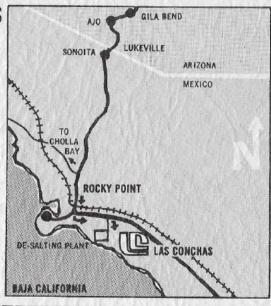
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Visit this planned beachfront community and club in the making. Drive to Puerto Penasco and follow our map to Las Conchas ask for Sr. Roberto Flores. Spend the weekend in picturesque Puerto Penasco the nights are cool and the days sunny and warm.

Some of the many advantages at Las Conchas are:

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- Security guards
- · Improved roads
- Patrolled entrance
- Automatic membership in Las Conchas private Beach Club

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KETCHIKAN, ALASKA, 1970

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TIMES AND HELGHTS OF HIGH AND LON WATERS.

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