THE PONDEROSA

The Pine Ridge Association

Newsletter

March 1990

From under My Brim

by Barry Breckling

Some people believe that there is a living and active spirit world that we are attached to, although we are not normally touched by it. I am reminded of an article I wrote for *The Ponderosa* a number of years ago that tells of my family's and others' experiences with what may be spirits at Coe:

Spirits

I have not heard them for some time, but then I never heard them often anyway. Others have known of their presence, sometimes only as feelings but more often by the sounds they made. Most everyone spending a night under the museum has heard the sounds: the front door closing, furniture moving, and footsteps. Sada Coe said that, if the spirits were around the museum, they were probably attached to the settee or maybe the painting of her grandmother, and one of the spirits might even be her grandmother. I was told that these were good spirits (even good spirits can make the hair on the back of your neck stand up!); the bad ones were found farther east. "Old-timers say, 'Joaquin still rides the hills as bold and reckless as ever.'"

Those who have lived in the ranch house have heard the museum door close late at night with no one having gone in or out, but other experiences are more memorable: scratching on a wall where a door once existed, a child carried by a kind, old lady, an unwound music box playing a tune, a smiling, silent cowboy coming from and disappearing into nowhere, doors and drawers found open, a rocking chair found moving in front of the fireplace with the smell of a fresh fire.

Another incident, as my family recalls it, happened a short time after Sada Coe died. Someone knocked at the door three times. My son Mike went to the door but found no one there. Again there were three knocks, and again no one was there. When it happened for the third time, my wife Candy remembered Sada's promise to return, and how they had laughingly talked about knocking three times so we would know it was she. Candy said, "Come in Sada." The door knob turned, the door opened and then closed. I do think these are the good spirits. I feel they are watching over the land they loved and the historical heritage they left behind. The responsibility for the care of these things has been left with us. When I pass, may my spirit run free through the hills.

After that last incident, we have not experienced the "ghosts." Maybe Sada took care of it, I don't know, but the once-common "bumps in the night" are gone. This, however, does not diminish the spirit world—it may be there even if we are oblivious to its existence.

This past fall, I went to a tracking and nature observation class at our sister park, Henry Cowell.[1] The teachers were Jim Lowery and his wife Mary, owners of a business called "Earth Skills." Participants in Jim's classes receive a year's subscription to his tracking, wilderness skills, nature awareness newsletter *Dirt Times*. In the winter issue, there were two articles that I found interesting. One is reprinted here, and the other will be in the *Pine Cone*, the volunteer newsletter (a copy of which can be sent to PRA members who request it). This article was written by **Jim Lowery**.

African Bushmen: Ultimate Trackers

Ever since a young South African man camped near our Advanced Tracking class and told us stories about the Bushmen's tracking abilities, which he knew about from his grandfather, I have wanted to know more about these native people and their interaction with the landscape.

Another tracking student later told me about the books of Laurens Van der Post, a South African who wrote numerous true accounts of his explorations in Africa. Browsing through Van der Post's books at the library, I discovered some wonderful accounts of the Bushmen's hunting and tracking ability.

Van der Post was born in 1906 and was raised on his family's ranch in South Africa. He developed a keen interest in the native people's harmony with the landscape and in their hunting and gathering skills. In 1955, he set out on a private expedition to learn from the Bushmen directly. The result of this expedition was *Lost World of the Kalahari*, first published in 1958.

Van der Post writes, "The historical picture of the Bushman as a hunter was quickly verified and surpassed. Day after day, we saw how easily and truly Nxou and his companions read the marks left by animals, birds, and insects, as well as weather and time, in the sands of the desert. I myself had just enough insight into the ancient science to appreciate what masters they were. They could tell very quickly how long it was since the buck, lion, leopard, bird, reptile, or insect had signed his time-sheet in the sand.

"No two hoofprints were alike to them for all spoor, like fingerprints to a Scotland Yard sleuth, were distinct and individual. They would pick out one from fifty and deduce accurately the size, sex, build, and mood of the great antelope that had just made it. They knew this world as much by this subtle script in the sand as by its more imposing physical appearances. When they met a new person, their minds instinctively recorded not only the look on his face but also his footprint in the sand."

Van der Post accompanies Vyau and Bauxhau on a hunt, in which Vyau wounds a springbuck with a poison arrow. "At first we ourselves had no difficulty in following the spoor because of the occasional smear of blood on the grass beside it. Soon, however, the wounded animal joined the heard, also fleeing from us. The spoor became one of hundreds, the grass too trampled and dusty for any show of blood. But Bauxhau never wavered. His eyes picked out the one spoor in the maze of hundreds and held fast to it. Two miles further on, he turned aside from the mainstream of hoofprints to show us again the solitary spoor, and before long great splashes of blood led us to where the animal lay in the shade of a thorn tree, where Vyau quickly put it out of pain.

"Always at the beginning of any particular hunt there was one solemn ceremony to perform: an ernest consultation between all of the hunters as to which spoor was most worthwhile following. The Bushmen would sit on their heels like elder statesmen discussing the size, mood, sex, and direction of the animals, studying the wind, the sun, the hour, and the weather generally. When they had picked out one particular spoor, they revealed their decision by flicking their hands over it loosely from the wrists and making a sound like the wind between their teeth.... The decision made, they would set out at a steady trot, until the spoor told them the quarry was near."

In a recent book, *Testament to the Bushmen*, Van der Post offers another description of tracking a wounded animal. "It was astonishing," he writes, "how swiftly the Bushmen moved as they followed the spoor in pursuit of the wounded gemsbock, picking out its individual footprints from the others, and passing swift messages with their hands without so much as hesitating in their stride. To begin with, they communicated not only with hand gestures, but in low, scarcely audible whispers; but as they came near to the animal they were tracking, they moved in utter silence. A broken twig, stems of grass bent in a particular direction, the call of a bird, and the spoor itself, everything is an immediate message to the Bushmen about the direction in which the animal was heading, how long ago it was there, the speed with which it was moving, whether it was beginning to tire or was near to collapse. Every message is passed on to the other hunters in the complex and effective hand language evolved by their ancestors thousands of years ago."

I asked our South African companion, who joined part of our tracking class in the Santa Monica Mountains, how the Bushmen could track so quickly. He knew from his grandfather, who had spent five years living with these natives, that they could track at a run. "They don't follow individual tracks, they follow the picture of the track," he said. I asked him to explain, and after thinking a bit, he answered, "It's hard to describe, but if you imagine looking through infrared binoculars that allow you to see a heat trail, it's like that—they actually see that way."

In tracking, we talk about visualizing an animal so vividly that we become it. Van der Post saw this ability in the Bushmen. "He seemed to know what it actually felt like to be an elephant, lion, antelope, steenbuck, lizard, striped mouse, mantis, baobab tree, yellow-crested cobra, or starry-eyed amaryllis, to mention only a few of the brilliant multitudes through which he nimbly moved. Even as a child it seemed to me that his world was one without secrets between one form of being and another."

For information on subscriptions to *Dirt Times* write to: Earth Skills, 570 Shepard Street, San Pedro, CA 90371. Jim Lowery will be giving his tracking and nature observation class at Henry Cowell again on April 20-22. If you are interested, contact Santa Cruz Natural History Association at (408) 335-3174.

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[1] Since the two parks, Cowell and Coe, are both named Henry, maybe brother parks would be a better term. Eds.

Ponderosa Pines and the Drought
by Dennis Pinion

Reports of the worst blizzard in the Sierra Nevada (since who knows when) were on the car radio and it was snowing at Henry Coe State Park as I drove home this afternoon. I was going home to start writing this article for *The Ponderosa* on the effect of the drought on the Ponderosa pines in the park.

Is the drought over? The TV news says no. The water content of the snow in the Sierra Nevada is as low as the water level in the reservoirs. But the Ponderosas at Henry Coe do not depend on the snow pack in the high Sierra or the reservoirs for their water. Pines in general are xerophytes, plants adapted to dry conditions. Water loss is reduced by the low surface-to-volume

ratio of their narrow, rigid leaves. Their sunken stomata, leathery cuticle, and waxy bloom further reduce water lost to the atmosphere through the leaves.

The very deep root system of Ponderosa pines adapts them to an environmental niche characterized by low rainfall (from 10 to 28 inches per year), especially where rainfall is low in the summer (sound like Coe Park?).

George Gray, State Park Resource Ecologist, guesstimates that approximately 20% of the Ponderosa pines in the park have died (or are dying) as a result of the current drought. Given that droughts are a normal occurrence in the life of a Ponderosa pine, why are so many dying now?

The drought and other factors are conspiring to make the Ponderosas susceptible to attack by bark beetles. Bark beetles (members of the family Scolytidae) are so named because most of them live and mine in the cambium layer under the bark of trees and shrubs. Many species live in the branches and twigs, some in the roots and cones. The most damaging (primarily members of the genus Dendroctonus[2] and the genus Ips) invade the trunk.

Bark beetles are always present in the forest in small numbers. Working in pairs, they attack trees more or less at random by boring through the bark. Healthy, vigorous trees are able to repel these attacks successfully by producing a copious flow of pitch that engulfs the beetles and "pitches" them out. Over-mature, injured, sick, or drought-stricken trees may not be capable of producing enough pitch to overcome an attack.

The first beetles to invade a tree emit odors into the air (aggregation pheromones) that attract large numbers of the same species to the area. The tree may also emit odors when it is attacked (or physically injured); these odors attract insects. The insects attracted to the area may attack surrounding trees as well as the injured tree.

Once the beetles have overcome the tree's defenses, they mine tunnels in the inner bark and lay eggs. The beetles frequently carry a blue staining fungus into the tree that invades the sapwood and further inhibits the tree's ability to overcome the beetles and to maintain its own existence. The eggs hatch into larvae that feed on the cambium, inflicting more damage until they mature and bore out of the tree to seek a new host.

The increase in the number of beetles means that they are better able to overpower other (more healthy) trees; thus they are able to kill additional trees in the area. (Group-wise killing of trees and die-back beginning at the top of trees, progressing downward, are symptoms of bark beetle activity).

The beetles are active when temperatures are in the range of 55 degrees to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. At low elevations (like Coe Park), favorable temperatures exist most of the year, enabling the bark beetles to produce three to five generations in a single year. Therefore, they can build to epidemic numbers rapidly when conditions are favorable.

Will this drought-induced epidemic kill all of the Ponderosas in the park? No. But the epidemic will continue as long as conditions favor a buildup of the bark beetle population. This will be controlled by the vitality of the remaining trees, the weather, and the population of the beetles' natural enemies. Eventually, the beetles will experience a catastrophic reduction in their numbers, and conditions will return to "normal."

What we are witnessing is part of a natural cycle. When these natural corrections in the balance of nature occur, our first reaction is generally to step in and "fix" the problem.

Of course we do not interfere with nature within the state parks. Or do we? In a future issue of *The Ponderosa*, I will discuss some of the ways our society has affected and is affecting the course of nature within our state parks, particularly with respect to the Ponderosa pines in Henry Coe.

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[2] Dendroctonus means tree killer.

PRA Board Notes
by Barbara Bessey

The first board meeting of the year was held on 18 January 1990 at the home of Celia McCormack. Bonnie Larsen, acting on behalf of the retiring Chair, Don Holmes, welcomed Barbara Bessey and Roberta Wright, new Board members, and Winslow Briggs, who was re-elected. The following officers were elected for 1990: Bonnie Larsen, Chair; Celia McCormack, Vice Chair; Jim Mason, Treasurer; and Barbara Bessey, Recording Secretary.

Winslow Briggs indicated that the full park map is nearly finished. He and Barry Breckling reviewed the text for the map; after a few corrections are made, the map will be printed. He also indicated that the second edition of his new book on trails in the Coe Ranch section of the park will be available within the month.

Dave Hildebrand raised several questions pertaining to *The Ponderosa*; among these were soliciting PRA members who would be interested in helping to produce the newsletter, the feasibility of obtaining a low-cost bulk rate for mailing the newsletter, and, if such a rate is not available to the association, the desirability of purchasing stamps in advance to cover several future issues of the newsletter.

Celia McCormack reported on the progress made to purchase a wood-burning stove for the visitor center.

Bonnie Larsen suggested that topics for the March meeting include goal setting for the year and various fund-raising activities. The next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, March 22, at the home of David Hildebrand. All PRA members are invited to attend. Dave's address is 791 Midvale Lane, San Jose. Maps are available from the Recording Secretary (415/851-7813).

Volunteer Mandatory Meeting

The annual mandatory meeting of the Coe Park volunteers was held in San Jose on 3 February 1990. Chaired by Bill Frazer, recent developments concerning the park and its operation were presented to the volunteers by members of the Volunteer Committee and Harry Batlin, District Superintendent. A very special presentation on the uses of native plants was made by Dr. Maurice Tripp, who preferred to be introduced to the group as a friend and supporter of the park. All of the attendees were spellbound by his armchair hike, particularly when he began to eat most of the dozens of plants he had brought for the demonstration!

Twelve new volunteers graduated from the training program and became trainees: Adrienne Bachleda, Carl Clinger, Jan England, Phil Henderson, Debra Mendlowitz, Mike Monroe, Joe Reader, Penny Roberts, Richard Stone, Dorothy Sturla, Jack Sturla, and George Van Gordon.

Local artist Dave Sellers was responsible for designing the beautiful artwork for the mugs that were given to volunteers who worked 36 or more hours in the visitor center. Receiving mugs were: Everett Allen, Dave Anthony, Terri Anthony, Frank Bath, Barbara Bessey, Bob Buchner, Ruby Domino, Phyllis Drake, Margaret Enns, Nancy Felice, Bill Frazer, Bob George, Kevin Gilmartin, Marion Grungé, Don Holmes, Doug Jones, Fred King, Bonnie Larsen, Leif Larsen, Michael Lynds, Don Mason, Gretchen Mason, Jim Mason, Judy Mason, Dennis Pinion, Barbara Radd, Lee Simms, Marlene Testaguzza, Joan Toth, Paul Toth, Jane Tracey, Jack Virden, and Rusty Virden.

Six volunteers were promoted to senior status: Mary Atwood, Phil Atwood, Barbara Bessey, Kevin Gilmartin, Tom Greco, and Derek Smith.

Two volunteers received special awards for the tremendous numbers of hours they have spent on Coe Park interpretative activities: Roberta Wright with 1,000 hours of service, and Don Mason with 2,000 hours of service.

The Volunteer Committee's Golden Bear Awards for exceptional service were presented to Barbara Bessey, Kevin Gilmartin, and Jim Mason.

Congratulations to all!

Annual PRA Membership Meeting
by Barbara Bessey and Dave Hildebrand

On 3 February 1990, the annual meeting of the Pine Ridge Association was held in conjunction with the volunteer meeting. Bonnie Larsen opened the meeting before the roughly 80 members present. She announced the newly elected officers for this year: Bonnie as Chair, Celia McCormack as Vice Chair, Barbara Bessey as Recording Secretary, and Jim Mason as Treasurer. Barbara Bessey thanked Dave Hildebrand for his twelve years as Editor of *The Ponderosa*. The Volunteer Award was presented to Barry Breckling in recognition of his ten years of outstanding work in initiating the volunteer program and providing strong and inspirational leadership over this period. Lee Simms, last year's recipient of the award, made the presentation of the specially engraved plaque, and board members Celia McCormack and Margaret Enns presented additional tributes to Barry. After calling for any old or new business from the audience, Bonnie adjourned the meeting. After the meeting, all members enjoyed a delicious luncheon catered by Roberta Wright and Bonnie Larsen.

Ponderosa Staff

At February's annual meeting of the Pine Ridge Association, names of the individuals who agreed to assume responsibility for preparing, editing, producing, and mailing *The Ponderosa* were announced. **Everett Allen** will have the responsibility of maintaining the PRA membership lists. Everett is currently a Senior Volunteer at Coe Park and a member of the Volunteer Committee. He also served as park aide for the past two years. **Joan Toth** agreed to continue as distribution coordinator to ensure that the newsletter gets printed and mailed. Joan, a Coe Park Volunteer, is also very interested in square dancing and in the archeological goings-on in the park. **David Hildebrand**, the editor of *The Ponderosa* for the past twelve years, decided not to continue as its editor. Dave will, however, continue to be actively associated with the newsletter as one of its Assistant Editors. Very involved in the Pine Ridge Association, Dave is currently on its Board of Directors. The new editors of the newsletter are **Barbara Bessey** and **Kevin Gilmartin**. Currently Coe Park Senior Volunteers, they enjoy hiking and birding. Barbara is also a newly elected member of the PRA Board of Directors.

The following individuals agreed to serve as reporters for this year's issues: **Frank Bath, Jan England, Mike Monroe, Duane O'Sullivan, Dennis Pinion, Penny Roberts, Judy Robinson**, and **Marlene Testaguzza**. These PRA members will supply articles for each issue. Look for their contributions beginning in this issue.

If you would like to become a reporter, or if you would like to submit an article for the newsletter, call or write the editors at their home (415/851-7813, 127 Glenwood Avenue, Woodside, CA 94062) or at Coe Park Headquarters (408/779-2728, P.O. Box 846, Morgan Hill, CA 95037).

Trail Days at Coe
by Dave Hildebrand

The fourth annual statewide Trail Days will be held at Coe Park on April 21 and 22. We will meet at the lower parking lot starting at 8 am, where work crews will be organized and assigned trail work. The Coe Park Advisory Trail Committee organizes Trail Days; this year's event is sponsored by Carl's Jr. on Dunne Avenue and Specialized Systems of Morgan Hill, a bicycle manufacturer. Carl's Jr. will again provide food for Saturday afternoon, and Specialized Systems, through Linda DePriest, has donated advertising and publicity along with

commemorative water bottles to be given to participants.

So that we can plan to have enough tools and crew leaders, we ask that you register in advance with either Joan or Paul Toth; you can reach them at (408) 778-6884. Bring gloves, water, and snacks, and be prepared to have a rewarding and enjoyable day or two building the trails we all enjoy. If you plan to work both Saturday and Sunday, free camping at Coe is available.

Earth Day 1990
by Mike Monroe

Earth Day 1990, which complements the Trail Days at Coe Park, will occur on April 22. This year marks the twentieth anniversary of Earth Day. In 1970, more than 20 million people participated in Earth Day activities. These activities stimulated the modern American environmental movement.

This year's Earth Day intends to promote the "decade of the environment" as it reinforces the need for a long-term commitment to the building of a safe and sustainable environment. Earth Day hopes to link local concerns with global problems by emphasizing the efficient use of renewable energy and recycled resources.

Stanford University is coordinating activities in the local area. More information can be obtained by calling (415) 321-1990.

Hike the Orestimba!

If you have never been to the Orestimba Wilderness Area, here is your chance! The wild flower display should be near it peak. PRA member Albert Heckbert is leading a seven-day hike for the Backpacking Section of the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club from Saturday, April 7, through Friday, April 13, and he is inviting PRA members to join him. (No, it is not necessary to be a member of the Sierra Club in order to join the group.)

Al plans for the group to spend several days in the Robinson Canyon near the northeast quadrant of Coe Park. The hike is rated by the Sierra Club as "2-B" (which means moderately strenuous). The maximum number of miles to be covered on a hiking day will be eight miles, with an elevation gain of approximately 1,500 feet.

If you wish to join Al on this expedition, or if you would like additional information about the trip, please call him at (408) 293-8549.

Mother's Day Breakfast

The sixth annual Mother's Day Breakfast, organized by Lee Simms, will be held on Sunday, May 13, at Manzanita Point. Lee, together with his committee consisting of PRA members Margie Snively, Iva Pepper, Leif Larsen, and Bob Buchner, plan to serve a delicious breakfast of strawberries, orange juice, sausage and eggs, home-fried potatoes, biscuits, and coffee/tea/hot chocolate. Back again by popular demand, live music will be provided by Cat and the Fiddle, a banjo and fiddle duo.

As of press time, Lee Simms indicated that he and his committee could use a few more willing workers. If any of you would like to help and enjoy a good time, please call Lee at home (209/383-7848) or at work (209/722-7467) or leave your name at Coe Park Headquarters (408/779-2728).

This is an event you won't want to miss! Each of the previous breakfasts sold out soon after the tickets went on sale. Only a limited number of tickets will be sold. Please call Coe Park after April 1 to find out the time and cost of the breakfast and how to obtain tickets.

Pacheco Creek Hike Planned

Put the weekend of June 2 and 3 on your calendar to join Lee Simms and other PRA members on a hike to the backcountry in the eastern section of Coe Park. This is another rare opportunity to explore the beautiful backcountry with others who enjoy the out-of-doors and are knowledgeable about the area. Tentative plans call for the loop hike of the Pacheco Creek to begin midday on Saturday, and following the hike, there will be an (optional) dinner around a roaring camp fire and camping under the waxing moon for those who wish to extend their stay. Details about the hike will be available after May 1 from Lee Simms (209/383-7848 or 209/722-7467) or from Coe Park Headquarters (408/779-2728).

For Sale in the Visitor Center

The long-awaited second edition of *The Trails of Henry Coe State Park: Coe Ranch Section* (1990) is now on sale in the visitor center. Written by PRA member Winslow Briggs with art work provided by Judy Mason, Barry Breckling, and Kathy Paivenen, this volume is a greatly expanded version of the earlier edition. This book is an extremely valuable resource for anyone who hikes the trails leaving park headquarters. It describes the trails, including changes in elevation and the types of wildlife to be enjoyed en route.

The selling price is $6.50 (minus a 10-percent discount for PRA members). Winslow will be autographing copies of the book on the first of the Trail Days, April 21 (see page 4).

Renewal Notice

Don't miss another issue of *The Ponderosa*--renew today. The date next to your name on the mailing label tells you whether it is time to renew. If the year is 1989, this issue will be your last unless we hear from you. Please send your dues to Coe Park Headquarters ($5 individual, $8 family, and $200 life).

Spring Programs at Henry Coe State Park

Free to the Public

All walks start at 1 pm on Saturdays or Sundays at the visitors center and will generally be easy strolls about one hour long. Slide programs at 8 pm on Saturdays are shown in the interpretive room (downstairs and around back from the visitors center) and last 30 to 60 minutes.

Date/Time	Topic and Leader	Details
Saturday, March 10 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Susan Voss	Coe's wildflowers begin to blossom as soon as January, and peak bloom is in April. Susan's walk will feature many species of flowers plus natural history.
Saturday, March 10 8 pm	Slide Program: "What Tangled Webs We Weave"—Adaptations of Spiders with Larry Haimowitz	Larry's program will focus on learning about a spider's way of life, such as the food they eat and their habitats.
Sunday, March 11 1 pm	Surprise Walk with Barbara Banfield, guest naturalist from Cupertino City Parks	Barbara will present an overview of Coe's natural environment, such as the geologic history, climate, plants, and animals and their interrelationships.
Saturday, March 17 1 pm	Plant Adaptations to Our Mediterranean Climate—Walk with Larry Haimowitz	The park's climate is backwards: plants here grow best during the winter months while there is moisture and grow less in summer because of the dry heat.
Saturday, March 17 8 pm	The Skies Above—A Slide Show with Phil Atwood	Because we are away from city lights, the skies above the park have a special brilliance. Phil's program will feature the celestial bodies above the park.
Sunday, March 18 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Dave Anthony	Observe flowering plants growing in a natural state in the park. Dave will explain why flowers grow in special habitats and under certain conditions.
Saturday, March 24 1 pm	Walk with Dennis Pinion—Conifers of Coe Park	Dennis will present a survey of the ponderosa pine, the gray pine, and the California junipers found in the park.
Saturday, March 24 8 pm	The Four Seasons of Coe with Marlene Testaguzza	Marlene's talk will describe the four seasons at Coe and how the climate is affected by variables such as temperature, wind, moisture, and barometric pressure.
Sunday, March 25 1 pm	Oaks and the Oak Woodland with Mike Monroe	Mike will present the oak woodlands, describing their place in the park. Visitors will learn about the varieties of oaks and acorns (and about poison oak!).

Date/Time	Topic and Leader	Details
Saturday, March 31 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Margie Snively	Margie will show visitors the "flower gardens of Coe." Come enjoy a walk in the park and discover a different kind of rose!
Saturday, March 31 8 pm	Wildflowers—A Slide Program with Jan England	Jan's slides will offer an array of flowers for visitors to become familiar with and identify while out hiking on their own.
Sunday, April 1 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Bonnie Larsen	Greet our April wildflowers with Bonnie on this short walk from the visitors center. April is usually the peak month for wildflowers at Coe.
Saturday, April 7 1 pm	Take a "Walk on the Wild Side" with Glenn Lutge	Explore the lives of the people who knew the land before us. (Indian spirits have been said to accompany Glenn on his walks.)
Saturday, April 7 8 pm	"Yellowjackets and Cousins"—A Slide Program about Wasps and Their Relatives	Larry Haimowitz will be your host for this introduction to the beneficial side of this large family of insects.
Sunday, April 8 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Barbara Radd	This will be an unusual year for the plants at the park because of our odd weather patterns, as Barbara will explain during this short walk.
Saturday, April 14 1 pm	A short walk and discussion—topic to be announced later	Come and be surprised—this exploratory walk is sure to be fun!
Saturday, April 14 8 pm	Slide Program by Barbara Gregory on Juan Bautista de Anza's Trek	Barbara was a participant in a re-enactment of the 1776 trek through the rugged range of mountains that he named the devil's ("Diablo") range.
Sunday, April 15 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Penny Roberts	Penny will discuss the intricate relations of blooming patterns and weather as we pass through our fourth year of drought.
Saturday, April 21 1 pm	A short walk and discussion—topic to be announced later	Come and be surprised—this exploratory walk is sure to be fun!
Saturday, April 21 8 pm	Backpacking in Coe with Evelyn Newman: A Slide Show	Evelyn's shows places in Coe's 105 square miles that might become the sites of your future backpacking trips.
Sunday, April 22 1 pm	Wildflower Walk with Derek Smith	Join Derek for some light exercise and the strange tale of the dance in which our wildflowers and rainfall have joined this year.
Saturday, April 28 1 pm	Discovery Hike with Bob North	Bob is an entomologist (bugs) and research diver. Help him discover the fascination that dry land holds for us landlubbers.
Saturday, April 28 8 pm	The Four Seasons of Coe with Marlene Testaquzza	Marlene's slides will give you the chance to discover what it is like year round at Coe without having to endure the discomfort of summer heat or winter snow.
Sunday, April 29 1 pm	Wildflower Walk	Late April is a chance to see the early and late spring wildflowers blooming side by side.

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The Ponderosa is a periodic publication of the Pine Ridge Association. Its mission is to enhance and enrich the public's Henry W. Coe State Park experience through education and interpretation.