The Ponderosa

The Pine Ridge Association Newsletter

December 1991

From under My Brim

by Barry Breckling

Room to Roam

To look at, you would say she must be slow, but when at play in her younger days or in anger even in her old age, she could run as fast as a hungry coyote. Now, in 1906, at 20 years old, she weighed 650 pounds; in her prime, fattened on a heavy, fall's acorn crop, she weighed close to 850 pounds. She was 3½ feet tall at the top of her humped shoulder, but when frightened or curious, standing on her hind feet, her poor-sighted, beady eyes were more than seven feet off the ground. She was a gentle, loving mother and had raised many cubs, but when it came time to feed or protect those young, she could show her true nature: an animal in the group known as the largest of the carnivores. She could dislocate the neck of an elk with a single, swift swing of her mighty arm, and her 3½-inch front claws could tear a cub-stealing wolf wide open. She feared nothing in the woods, not even a man with a rifle, but she was wise and knew men were to be avoided if at all possible. She was the last California grizzly in the Coast Range.

She wandered into a meadow, entering by way of a trail along a side hill that she and generations before had used for years. The trail was marked by eight-inch deep holes where she had put her feet in exactly the same spots over and over again. Her two cubs followed but had a rough time of it, as they could not match their mother's stride. In the meadow, not far from the creek, she easily rolled over a large, downed limb under a lone valley oak. Her paw, at the end of a long arm, quickly swatted a mouse as it tried to escape. She ripped the rotten underside of the log apart, picking out a long, white grub and gently lifting it with two claws to her salivating mouth. She dug deep into the duff with her long claws, unearthing a millepede, which she gently picked up between her lips and swallowed without a bite; it seemed little nourishment for such an immense creature. Her cubs dug also and ate what they could find, but they were more interested in playing and romping around, running into mom who, with a thick layer of fat, hardly noticed. They fell asleep at the base of the large oak, one on top of the other—something they usually did on top of their very tolerant mom. As the mom continued to dig in the dark, oily soil of an ancient Indian site, she unearthed a broken human thigh bone.

Many generations back, an 1,100 pound male grizzly wandered into this same meadow and under the same oak tree. The meadow contained a dozen dome-shaped houses, each covered with grass. People ran in every direction, many climbing trees. They knew the nonaggressive, smaller black bears (found farther north) could climb trees but not an adult grizzly. These people did not

revere the grizzly as they did the coyote and hummingbird but looked upon them with superstitious awe. Grizzly bears were said at times actually to be people—very bad people and with great intelligence and supernatural powers. These people greatly feared this evil intruder, whether a man or just a bear. The grizzly seemed to ignore the people as his nose led him from the sparse pickings under the tree to the acorn-filled granaries of the Indians. As he ripped apart the nearest granary, one Indian shot an arrow at his massive body. It penetrated the bear's thick, grizzled coat at his shoulder but only barely entered the skin below. He looked, brushed it off, and went back to eating acorns. When more arrows hit him, he turned on his assailants, quickly running one of them down, knocking him off his feet, and breaking his thigh bone with one swipe. The grizzly pawed at the cowering man but was not interested in eating him. The immense bear would live for many more years with little effect from two imbedded arrowheads. There were occasional encounters with humans, but he had all the room in which he would ever want to roam . . . .

She dug until she could find no more little creatures to feast on and ambled off to the nearby creek for a cooling swim, or more of a wallow as the pool was not much bigger than she was. Her two cubs were born in January and had grown from ten pounds at birth to over 45 pounds now in October. They had been blind and appeared naked at birth but were covered with fine hair. Eventually they would grow the thick, unkempt-looking, dark-brown hair of the adults, a coat that contained many long, white-tipped or grizzled guard hairs. Their mother had met the father in the middle of June of the previous year, and they stayed together until early July. She did not hibernate as her relatives in the high mountains did, but as her time to give birth got closer, she strayed less far from her den in a shallow cave at the base of a rocky ledge. Now the cubs were putting on lots of fat with the fall's abundance, so they also enjoyed a quick, cooling swim. As the mother stepped out of the pool, her foot knocked loose an old, tarnished, Spanish spur with the eight-spoked rowel bent to one side.

Years earlier, her great grandfather tried to escape the riatas of a half dozen caballeros as they chased him down the open creek bed. He knew these were people to avoid—the previous year, three of his companions had been shot and killed, and he had escaped with a bullet in his hip. One caballero tossed his riata around the enormous grizzly's neck, and as the horse skidded to a stop, the bear's feet went out from underneath him. He landed on his back, raising a giant cloud of dust. A second lasso encircled his raised left foot, but a swing of a powerful arm with sharp claws snapped it off as quickly as it had been thrown. He turned towards the first caballero and ran back the 30-foot length of braided rawhide with surprising speed—surprising to both the horse and rider. Without a cue from the rider, the agile horse swung left quickly as the bear's right arm struck wildly, just missing the horse's chest but raking across the tapadero-covered stirrup. The thick leather of the tapadero was ripped open, the caballero's boot was ripped off leaving inch-deep bloody lacerations across his bare foot. Although the blow had lost much of its force as it reached the back of the boot, it was still enough to tear the spur off, bending the rowel and sending the whole thing 20 feet to the edge of the creek. His species would later be named *Ursus horribilis*. Three more lariats cinched tightly to the bear's extremities, and he was dragged off many miles to civilization where the next day he would be pitted against the largest bull in the valley. He had a chance to beat the bull, but tethered by a chain, he would be at a disadvantage, and at best would emerge a maimed and bloody victor. The wild lands were shrinking, and the remaining bears would have less room to roam . . . .

She shook the water off her thick coat with a crescendo, shaking that started slow at her nose and gained speed and strength as it moved towards her rear. It ended as it had started with a little shake of her short tail. Her cubs, in unison, imitated her shaking. The three continued a short distance downstream until they came to a small heard of sheep. The mother took advantage of the slow moving animals and quickly chased down a plump one. The three feasted on their prey and . . . but this part of the story has already been told by Sada Coe in her book *The Pine Ridge Country*:

The Last California Grizzly

She was the last remaining grizzly in the State of California, and in bewildered fear of her aloneness lived in the wild and remote part of the south Mount Hamilton Range. Slow and lumbering she hunted near her cave for food, never venturing very far from the great rocky ledge that climbed straight up from a narrow creek. Here in a thick timber of pines she made her home.

She had lost her nerve. It happened one year when she and her two half grown cubs were feasting on a tender sheep they had just killed. The old keeper and his dog found them suddenly and without warning slaughtered the two cubs. It was only luck she had been spared, but her heart was broken and old age weakened her strength. All the cattle people knew of her and a price was placed on her head as the last of her species to survive the white man. A horrible fear kept her from roaming the old haunts she once knew. The price was fifty dollars to the first man who brought her

head to the valley, but only by shooting would the reward be gained and dogs or poison bate were forbidden in the chase. In spite of her past deeds the old cowmen felt a great respect for the aged grizzly.

A horse trader, however, living in the valley learned of the price of the grizzly's head, and as fifty dollars at the time was considered a small fortune, he set out to gain the prize. He rode far back into the hills until he found the tracks of the old bear where she had been foraging for food. Unable to catch her at a disadvantage, he decided at last to poison the great beast. No one would know, he thought, so taking a freshly killed deer, he applied a few grains of poison to the meat and then waited.

Lumbering along her usual haunt she smelled the fresh blood of the deer and soon came upon its carcass. Hungry and weakened by age, she ate the meat greedily. The poison quickly began its work and the great animal writhed in agony towards her cave, but death was quick and she died within a hundred yards of the deer. Here the horse trader found her, and to make sure that the prize would be his, fired a bullet from his rifle into the dead bear's head, which he then removed and took proudly back to the valley. There was a great excitement over the event, and he flourished for awhile with popularity and fame. Many years passed and after the man's death the true story then became known of the killing of the last California grizzly.

Reenacting his story for acquaintances a few years after killing the last grizzly, the horse trader traversed a side-hill trail that descended to the meadow below. Just above the creek, as he whipped his Winchester from its sheath, his horse tripped in a set of deep holes, and his rifle flew into the air as if struck by some extraordinary, supernatural force—he said his hand slipped. They searched for hours but never located the rifle. All they could find was a bleached-white, broken human thigh bone and an old, bent, Spanish spur. Even today the wild lands continue to shrink more and more with each passing day, and more stories are told of other animals that have less and less room to roam.

(Sada said that her story was about a grizzly killed in the area in 1910, and certainly the Hamilton Range was a rugged, sparsely visited area, and grizzlies made a last stand here. In the Sierra Nevada, grizzlies were, for the most part, removed earlier because of the many people streaming into their habitat with the gold rush. In Storer and Tevis's book, *The California Grizzly,* they say that the last California grizzly was seen in 1924 in Sequoia National Park. Although gone forever, the California grizzly remains as the emblem of California and is found on our state flag, park ranger's patches, the Great Seal of the State of California, and in many other places.)

Newsletter Inserts

This issue contains several important inserts. Articles in the remainder of this issue of the newsletter will describe them in more detail, but, to avoid confusion, here is a preview of what to expect. This year, the **ballot** has two sections—you will mark your choices of candidates to serve on the PRA Board of Directors in the first section, and you will vote whether to accept the proposed changes to the Association's bylaws in the second section. You will then mail your ballot in the **envelope addressed to the District Office.** The **envelope addressed to the Coe Park Headquarters** is to be used for sending in your membership dues for 1992.

Board Election Procedures

The election for members of the Pine Ridge Association's Board of Directors is held annually in the December issue of *The Ponderosa*. There are two or three vacant seats that expire each year, and the term of office is three years. This year six candidates are running for the two vacant seats.

Only members of the Pine Ridge Association are eligible to vote in the annual election. An official ballot (two ballots for family members) and accompanying envelope are provided as inserts to this newsletter for all Association members. It is extremely important that you mail your ballot in the envelope provided. The envelope has the address of the District Headquarters, where the ballots will be tabulated, and the return address of Coe Park. The District Office will use this specially addressed envelope to identify you as an Association member who is eligible to vote. Please do not include your membership renewal dues along with your ballot—the District Office does not process the membership dues.

You may vote for **no more than two** candidates on each ballot. **To be counted, ballots must be postmarked on or before 31 December 1991.**

Statements of the six candidates are printed below in alphabetical order.

Board Candidate: Ann M. Briggs

Henry Coe State Park is my second home. I have been an active participant in the growth (through acquisition), development (maps and trails), and planning (Citizens Advisory Committee from 1981–1983, Pine Ridge Association from 1979–present, and Trails Advisory Committee from 1985–present) of the park and the activities that are associated with it. I would be pleased and honored to serve on the Board of Directors of the Pine Ridge Association, and I feel that I can make a contribution.

Ann M. Briggs

Board Candidate: Lee Dittmann

My association with Coe Park goes back to my first visit in the spring of 1978. The park's wildflowers, wildlife, swimming holes, and feeling of spaciousness immediately found a place in my heart. Since moving back to California from the east coast at the beginning of last year, I have had the good fortune to be able to volunteer over 2,200 hours in the park. I've been able to revise and upgrade maps and brochures, register, provide information to, and receive feedback from park visitors, and continue field and book research on expanding the park's plant list into a more complete annotated catalog. These and other activities have given me a better than average conception of the needs of visitors and of the resources of the park.

As a member of the board I am particularly interested in the following projects or activities:

- Make it easier for people who don't have the time or work schedules to become permanent volunteers to yet volunteer their energies for both interpretive and non-interpretive projects.

- Explore the possibility of initiating a "wildflower festival" with a multi-cultural theme to tap the rich diversity of ethnic traditions in food and music in the greater San Francisco Bay Area.

- The creation of a Publications Committee to (1) set standards of quality for PRA books and maps; (2) run a workshop or create a mini-manual to make it as easy—and fun—as possible for beginning editors, writers, and artists to meet those standards; (3) propose topics for interpretive publications; (4) seek out and encourage potential authors from the membership to write on those topics; and (5) to market our publications to area bookstores.

- Give the rerouting and rebuilding of old, too steep, and fast-eroding trails such as the Willow Ridge Trail and China Hole Trail a higher priority.

- Support the continuing efforts of the PRA to help publicize the park, but with special emphasis on making it known to backpackers from throughout the Monterey Bay-San Francisco Bay region.

If you like these ideas, you may want to elect me to your Board of Directors.

Thanks for your consideration.
Lee Dittmann

Board Candidate: Ron Erskine

I have been a PRA member for two years and a volunteer for one year. Though relatively new to the park, I have been involved in several projects and had the opportunity, between backpack trips and other activities, to see and work in much of the park. I have helped flag the new Rooster Comb trail, done two library exhibits in Morgan Hill, and am editing some writings of Sada Coe that will ultimately be available as a book in the Visitor Center.

What I offer as a potential board member is both simple and unremarkable: a desire to be more involved with the park, the PRA, and their linked futures. I'll do it in a conscientious, energetic manner, and with common sense. I am 41, live in Morgan Hill, and am self-employed. I would appreciate your vote.

Ron Erskine

Board Candidate: Bill Frazer

I have been a Coe volunteer since 1983 and have served on the Volunteer Committee for five years. During the past three years, I have been Chair of the Volunteer Committee and a member of the PRA Board of Directors.

I have become quite familiar with the park by taking part in most of the activities available: foot patrol, vehicle patrol, ride-alongs for new volunteer trainees, maintenance work, trail work, hiking on my own, serving on the Volunteer Committee, taking part in continuing volunteer training, working at special events, and spending many hours in the Visitor Center.

I have enjoyed serving on the PRA Board and strongly wish to continue doing so. Because of my knowledge and experience, I think that I have a good understanding of the needs of the park and its volunteers. I will do my best to continue to serve those needs.

Bill Frazer

Board Candidate: David Perrin

This is my second year as a member of the PRA, and it was my initial desire to support the PRA through the donation of hours at the museum and perhaps to expand these hours through the undertaking of a special project (which I still plan to pursue). It is now also my desire to support the PRA by serving on its Board of Directors. I would enjoy very much serving you in this capacity.

Thank you.
David Perrin

Board Candidate: Doug Reynaud

Because of the following concerns, I am announcing my candidacy for a position on the PRA Board of Directors.

In light of the present economic state of our Park System and the economy itself, we as Pine Ridge members and volunteers are faced with the possible loss of our State Park System as we know it. Many of us have invested hundreds of hours and collectively thousands of hours in the pursuit of providing interpretive programs for our members and the public.

In order to preserve what we have accomplished, I see the need to reach out of the boundaries and provide what we do best to more of the citizenry. If this means a more aggressive marketing of our interpretation programs to the public, so be it. I see a need to help implement and coordinate policies of the counties and state—to work together to achieve goals, such as the linking up of Coe's aggressive trail efforts to those of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the Santa Clara Counties Trail objectives.

Only by making our park more accessible to the public and enlightening those who have paid and voted for the acquisitions that have created our Park System will we be able to exhibit the gems that we now possess and may lose. Only in this way can we forever maintain and preserve what all of us so dearly love.

Those who know me will vouch for my sincerity and energies directed towards these pursuits. I would very much appreciate your support.

Thank you.
Doug Reynaud

Proposed Revisions to the Bylaws of the Pine Ridge Association

by Kevin Gilmartin

At a meeting on November 21, the PRA Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve a number of modifications to the Association's bylaws. Many of the revisions are minor clarifications, but the following are some of the more substantive changes:

1. A representative of the California Department of Parks and Recreation (usually the Gavilan District Superintendent) is an ex-officio nonvoting member of the Board. That person's title has been changed from Executive Secretary to Cooperating Associations Liaison, and he/she will no longer have authority over the financial decisions of the Association.

2. Board meetings can be declared closed only to consider disciplinary actions or litigation; otherwise all of the board meetings are open to the PRA membership. Any PRA member can have access to the Association's financial records.

3. New members joining after July 1 (instead of October 1) each year will be credited with membership through the next calendar year.

4. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Recording Secretary of the Board are all authorized to co-sign checks with the Treasurer.

Even though the Board has approved the changes to the bylaws, the revised bylaws cannot take effect until they have been ratified by the members of the PRA. The entire bylaws with all of the proposed deletions and additions are listed below. A line through some text indicates that we propose **deleting** that text, and gray shading behind text indicates that we propose **adding** that text. **Please read the bylaws carefully and then vote whether to accept them on the enclosed ballot.** I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have about particular changes to the bylaws; you can telephone me at 415/851-7813.

ARTICLE I
(Purpose)

Section I.
(Purpose)

~~The operations, and use of property, and the assets of the Pine Ridge Association shall be limited to interpretive and other educational purposes.~~ The purpose of the Pine Ridge Association shall be to provide to the public interpretive and other educational services related to Henry W. Coe State Park. Hereafter the Pine Ridge Association Inc. shall be referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II
(Administration)

Section I.
(Officers)

The Association shall have a Board of Directors, ~~an Executive Secretary~~ a Cooperating Associations Liaison, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. The officers shall serve without compensation except that the Treasurer may be a salaried officer if and when so established by the Board of Directors. The ~~Executive Secretary~~ Cooperating Associations Liaison shall be the District Superintendent or a designee of the District Superintendent.

Section II.
(Board of Directors)

The Board of Directors shall be composed of ~~7~~ seven elected ~~D~~directors, plus the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Cooperating Associations Liaison and the Volunteer Committee Chairperson, (unless he/she is already a ~~D~~director). The ~~S~~seven ~~D~~directors shall be elected from the Association membership. The ~~Executive Secretary~~ Cooperating Associations Liaison shall serve as an ex-officio nonvoting member of the ~~b~~Board. The Chair of the Volunteer Committee shall be a voting ~~D~~director for the duration of his/her term as Chair of the Volunteer Committee and shall be an additional member of the Board of Directors unless he/she is already a Board of Directors member. The Board will formulate the policy of the Association and will direct its activities ~~through the Executive Secretary~~ in consultation with the Cooperating Associations Liaison. The members of the Board shall choose a Chair and a Vice Chair from among their members no later than the first meeting after the annual election. The Chair shall serve in his/her position for ~~1~~ one year. The office of Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chair of the Volunteer Committee may not be held by the same person in any one term of office. The Treasurer and the Recording Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a term of one year.

Section III.
(Board Meetings)

A meeting of the Board shall require a quorum of ~~more than half of the elected~~ at least four voting Board ~~M~~members to conduct any Pine Ridge Association business. There shall be at least one ~~b~~Board meeting in each calendar year. Additional Board meetings may be called at any time by the Chair. A meeting may be declared closed by the Chair or by a majority of the voting members only to consider disciplinary actions or litigation.

Section IV.
(Board Vacancies)

A vacancy or vacancies in the ~~b~~Board of ~~d~~Directors shall be deemed to exist on the occurrence of the following: (i) expiration of the term of a director, (ii) the death, resignation, or removal of any director, (iii) the declaration by resolution of the ~~b~~Board of ~~d~~Directors of a vacancy of the office of a director who has been declared of unsound mind by an order of court or convicted of a felony or has been found by final order or judgment of any court to have breached a duty under Section 5130 and following of the California Non-~~P~~profit Public Benefit Corporation Law, (~~iii~~v) upon the vote of a majority of the membership to remove a director, ~~(iv) upon the failure of the members, at any meeting of members at which any director or directors are to be elected, to elect the number of directors to be elected at such meeting,~~ or (v) upon removal from office of a Board member by a majority vote of the remaining ~~D~~directors.

Section V.
(Filling Board Vacancies)

~~Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by election or majority approval of the remaining board members for the remainder of the unexpired term. Expired terms on the Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority of members voting by secret ballot before the term(s) expire.~~ Vacancies arising through expired terms on the Board of Directors shall be filled by election by a majority of members voting by secret ballot before the term(s) expire. Vacancies on the Board of Directors arising from the departure of a director prior to expiration of his/her term, or failure to fill a vacancy by election, shall be filled by open election or by majority approval of the remaining Board members for the remainder of the unexpired term. The term of a director is three years. It is intended that not all director terms expire at the same

time, and the Board of Directors may on occasion designate one or more terms to be one or two years rather than three years at the time of the election to make the distribution of expiring director terms more evenly distributed.

Section VI.
(Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Duties)

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall preside over the meetings of the Board and the membership meetings. In the event the Chair is unable to serve, the Vice Chair shall serve in his/her stead.

Section VII.
(~~Executive Secretary~~ Cooperating Associations Liaison Duties)

~~The Executive Secretary will carry out the business of the Association in accordance with the policies established by the Board. It shall be his/her duty to supervise the activities of the Association and shall submit a report at each meeting of the Board of Directors. He/she may authorize the expenditure and co-sign checks of the Association for funds to be used for printing, stationary, secretarial or other employment, and incidental expenses necessary to advance the purposes of the Association.~~The Cooperating Associations Liaison is the formal representative of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. He or she serves as an advisor on all Association activities and advises the Board on Department matters. The Cooperating Associations Liaison attends board meetings but may be excluded from closed sessions at the request of the Board.

Section VIII.
(Treasurer Duties)

The Treasurer is responsible for administering the finances of the Association. This position is not to be filled by a State Park employee. The Treasurer shall account for monies from donations, membership dues, sales ~~from~~ of publications, and other ~~approved~~ items that may be handled by the Association. The Treasurer shall disburse these funds under the direction of the ~~Executive Secretary according to policies established by~~ Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep or supervise the keeping of the Association books and records. All funds received by the Association shall be deposited in timely fashion in the name of the Association at a bank approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep deposit records. The Treasurer shall submit an annual financial report of receipts and expenditures to the Board of Directors at the end of the business year and a budget for the forthcoming year. The annual statement shall be checked for accuracy by an ~~approved~~ external source ~~after which it~~ approved by the Board and shall be submitted to the Board of Directors at their first meeting following the thirtieth day after the end of the business year. The Association membership shall have access to all financial records.

Section IX.
(Recording Secretary Duties)

The Recording Secretary is responsible for taking minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and membership meetings. These minutes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for their approval.

Section X.
(Chair of Volunteer Committee Duties)

The members of ~~a~~ the volunteer organization within the Association as defined in Article IV, Section V shall elect a committee to direct their activities. This committee shall elect a Chair who will serve on the Association Board of Directors as provided in Article II, Section II to represent the volunteer organization.

ARTICLE III
(Amending of By~~-L~~laws)

Section I.
(How Bylaws ~~a~~Are Amended)

The ~~B~~bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the Board of Directors and ratified by a majority of the voting membership attending a regular annual meeting, a special meeting called by the Chair after written notification of the voting membership, or by written ballot.

ARTICLE IV
(Membership)

Section I.
(Membership Qualification)

Membership is open, regardless of race, ~~creed, or color,~~ religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, age, or sex, ~~upon written application to the Executive Secretary,~~ to any person interested in furthering the aims of the Association. ~~A m~~Membership fees are ~~is~~ to be set by the Board of Directors, and ~~is required for voting privilege~~ payment of such fees is required for membership. Membership fees are due on the first of each calendar year and are delinquent after April 1. New members joining after ~~October~~ July 1~~,~~ are credited with membership ~~fees for~~ through the next

calendar year. ~~Other classes of membership (voting and non-voting) may be established by the Board of Directors and fees set.~~

Section II.
(Membership Meeting)

An annual open meeting for members~~,~~ shall be held on a date established by mutual consent of the Board of Directors at any place within the ~~state of California~~ Greater Bay Area designated by the Board of Directors. ~~In the absence of any such designation, members' meetings shall be held at the principal executive office of the corporation.~~ A quorum for a membership meeting is at least 15% of the current membership.

Section III.
(Special Meeting)

A special meeting of the members may be called at any time by any of the following: ~~The Board of Directors,~~ the Chair of the Board of Directors, a majority of the Board of Directors, or ten or more Association members.

Section IV.
(Action by Written Consent ~~W~~without a Meeting)

Any action that may be taken at an annual or special meeting of the members may be taken without a meeting ~~and without prior notice~~ if written ballots are received from a number of members at least equal to ~~the~~ a quorum ~~applicable to a meeting of the members~~ as defined in Article IV, Section II, and a majority of those ballots support the action. All such written ballots shall be filed with the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Cooperating Associations Liaison and maintained in the corporate records. All solicitations of ballots shall indicate the time by which the ballot must be returned to be counted, not to be less than 21 days after the ballots were mailed out.

Section ~~VI~~ V.
(Volunteer Organization~~s~~)

The Board may establish a volunteer organization~~s~~ within the Association to further the interpretive and educational purposes of the Association. The Board of Directors shall adopt rules and guidelines concerning the training and conduct of volunteer groups. All volunteers must be current members of the Association.

ARTICLE V
(Fiscal Policy)

Section I.
(Authorization of Expenditures)

The ~~Executive Secretary~~ Treasurer shall not authorize an expenditure of more than a maximum amount established by the Board of Directors and in accordance with the annual budget adopted by the Board of Directors, without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, unless such expenditure is in payment of obligations incurred as a result of action previously approved by the Board of Directors.

Section II.
(Authorization for New Ventures or Expenditures)

All ~~new~~ ventures ~~in the activities of the Association, such as a major new publication, handling of a possible controversial sales item, the purchase of costly objects for museums, the development of interpretive facilities in any State Park System area, or the purchase of land~~ that may incur financial obligation or potential liability for the Association shall be approved by the Board of Directors, and expenditures shall be specifically authorized ~~for such purposes~~ by the Board of Directors before ~~the Executive Secretary or~~ the Treasurer may make disbursements in these matters.

Section III.
(Fund Disbursements)

~~The Treasurer shall make no disbursements of the Association's funds, other than commercial resale purchases and payrolls, without authorization from the Executive Secretary.~~ Checks are to be signed by the Treasurer plus one of the following persons: the Chair, the Vice Chair, or the Recording Secretary. ~~All funds shall be deposited in timely fashion in the name of the Association at a bank approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep deposit records. The Treasurer shall balance the accounts at the end of each operating year.~~

Section IV.
(Cash Control ~~and Deposits~~, Investments, and Gifts of Association Funds)

Whenever the cash balances of the Association are deemed to be in excess of actual needs for the immediate future, the Board of Directors may authorize the investment of any surpluses for interest-earning purposes in United States Government Bonds and/or in savings accounts in banks or savings and loan associations where deposits are guaranteed by the ~~F~~federal ~~G~~government.

Such deposits shall be made in the name of the Association with the authority for the making of deposits and withdrawals vested in the Treasurer of the Association. The Board of Directors is further empowered to authorize loans or donations to other cooperating associations for the purpose of furthering their educational work therein, when deemed advisable.

Section V.
(Petty Cash Fund Disbursement and Accounting)

Petty cash funds ~~shall~~ may be established in amounts set by the Board of Directors. ~~There shall be no cash disbursements except those made by the Executive Secretary from petty cash funds which are authorized for this use.~~ Reimbursement to each of these petty cash funds ~~shall~~ may be made ~~by check~~ at any time by request ~~of~~ to the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Treasurer. Such reimbursement must be supported by valid receipts to cover all expenditures made from the fund.

Section VI.
(Auditing of Records)

The Department of Parks and Recreation shall be duly authorized to audit the records and review the internal controls of the business operations and to evaluate the benefits accruing to the Department of Parks and Recreation from its cooperation with the Association.

Section VII.
(Contract for Operations in Coe Park)

The Association's operations in Henry W. Coe State Park are dependent upon the execution of a formal contract with the Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

ARTICLE VI
(Contracts)

Section I.
(Authority to ~~s~~Sign Contracts)

Upon approval by the Board, ~~t~~The Chair shall have the authority to sign contracts binding the Association ~~except for signing checks and disbursement of funds as provided in Article V~~.

ARTICLE VII
(Records and Reports)

Section I.
(Annual Report to Members)

The annual report to members referred to in and to the extent permitted by the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law is expressly dispensed with, but nothing in these bylaws shall be interpreted as prohibiting the ~~b~~Board of ~~d~~Directors from issuing annual or other periodic reports to the members of the Association as they consider appropriate. However, the Association shall provide to the Board of Directors, and to those members who submit a request ~~it~~ in writing, within 120 days of the close of its fiscal year, a report containing the following information in reasonable detail:

(a) The assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the Association as of the end of the fiscal year.

(b) The principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds, during the fiscal year.

(c) The revenue or receipts of the Association, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes, for the fiscal year.

(d) The expenses or disbursements of the Association, for both general and restricted purposes, during the fiscal year.

(e) Any information required by California Corporation Code section 6322.

Time to Renew!
by Margaret Enns

Don't forget to take a minute now to renew your membership in the Pine Ridge Association for 1992. Your dues in the Pine Ridge Association will be due on January 1, 1992. All new members who joined the PRA after October 1 of this year, however, are credited with membership throughout 1992 and thus do not have to remit any funds at this time.

And, why not consider giving a PRA membership to a friend as a gift this holiday season?

Your membership dues enables the Association to continue to provide programs to the public and to help us be interpretive guardians of Henry Coe State Park.

Highlights of Single Membership Levels:

The basic membership dues of $10 includes one vote in the Pine Ridge Association elections of board members, a

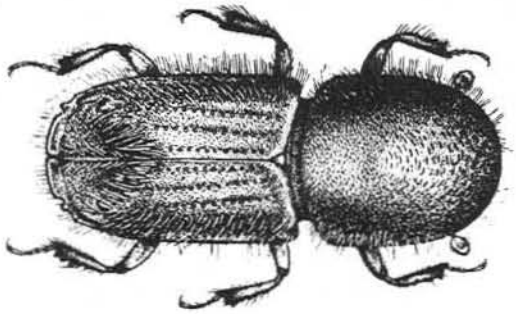
subscription to *The Ponderosa,* a 10% discount on purchases at the Visitor Center, and advance notice of special events and ticket availability. *Sponsors,* individuals who donate amounts from $50 to $99, will receive, in addition to the benefits for the basic membership, a choice of a gift item (e.g., a Coe Park T-shirt or an autographed copy of the new edition of Winslow Briggs's trail guide). *Benefactors,* individuals who donate amounts from $100 to $299, will receive, in addition to all of the above benefits and privileges, one free ticket to each special event (such as the Mother's Day Breakfast and the Fall Barbecue) and an invitation to join a special interpretive activity in the back country. *Patrons,* individuals who donate amounts of $300 or more, will receive all of the above benefits for one year plus basic membership indefinitely.

Highlights of Family Membership Levels:

The basic membership dues of $20 includes *two* votes in the Pine Ridge Association elections of board members, a subscription to *The Ponderosa,* a 10% discount on purchases at the Visitor Center, and advance notice of special events and ticket availability. *Sponsors,* families who donate amounts from $100 to $199, will receive, in addition to the benefits for the basic membership, a choice of a gift item (e.g., a Coe Park T-shirt or an autographed copy of the new edition of Winslow Briggs's trail guide). *Benefactors,* families who donate amounts from $200 to $599, will receive, in addition to all of the above benefits and privileges, *two* free tickets to each special event (such as the Mother's Day Breakfast and the Fall Barbecue) and an invitation for family members to join a special interpretive activity in the back country. *Patrons,* families who donate amounts of $600 or more, will receive all of the above benefits for one year plus basic family membership indefinitely.

Please send your dues to Coe Park Headquarters in the enclosed envelope that is addressed to the park; please do not enclose your dues with your ballot.

Thanks very much for supporting the Pine Ridge Association!



California fivespined ips beetle

Thanks for the Support[1]

by Lee Sims

The seventh Mother's Day Breakfast was held at the park in May under sunny skies. More than 335 people enjoyed the fine fresh food, good old-time music, and a wonderful outdoor breakfast. We are grateful for their support of Coe Park and the Pine Ridge Association. The event raised about $1,000 that will be used to support interpretive activities at the park.

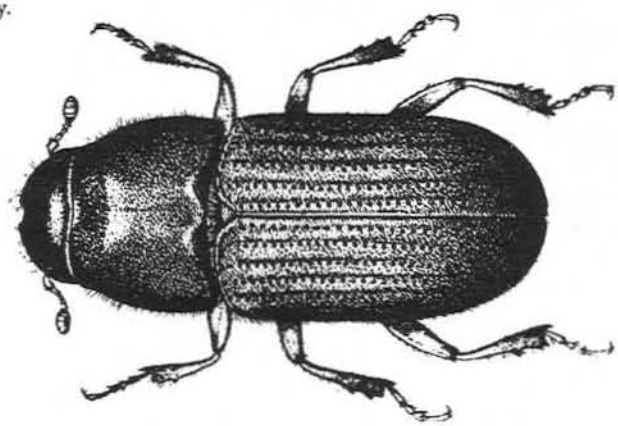
We would like to thank several local businesses whose contributions helped to make this event a success: Carl's Produce in San Jose for donating all of the potatoes, Dom's Restaurant in Morgan Hill for cooking the potatoes, Kentucky Fried Chicken in Morgan Hill for providing biscuits at cost, Kajiko Nursery in Morgan Hill for providing flowers at cost, Daisy Fresh Egg Farm in San Martin for donating some of the eggs, Bob Nagahara in San Martin for donating some of the strawberries, and Lucky's Market in Morgan Hill for storing the food.

Special thanks also to Live Oak High School kitchen staff for their assistance in preparation of the food, the San Martin Horseman's Association for the use of their field kitchen/barbecue, and California Division of Forestry for the loan of equipment.

Lastly, I would personally like to thank the approximately 35 volunteers of the Pine Ridge Association. Without their personal support and energy, the breakfast would not have been possible. This year, for the first time, we had cloth napkins—over 400 of them sewn by Coe Park Volunteers.

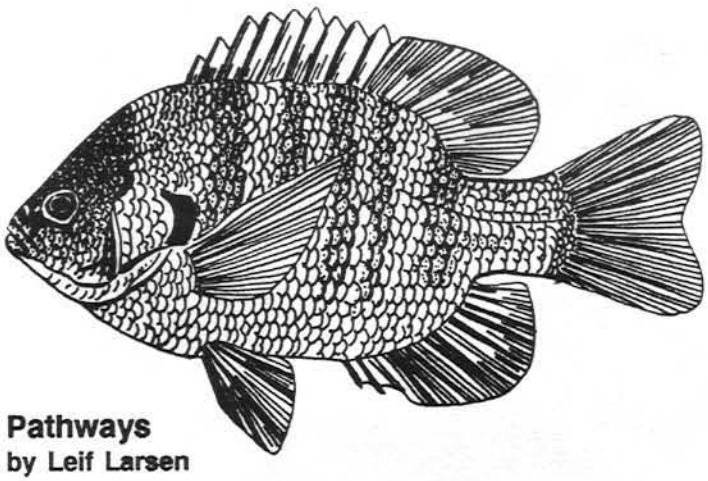
Many thanks—I love working with each and every one of you.

[1] This article was adapted with permission from a letter that Lee, Chair of the Mother's Day Breakfast, submitted to the *Morgan Hill Times* in May.



Western pine beetle

Bluegill



Pathways
by Leif Larsen

Did you ever stop to ponder how the path you walked on through a thicket of red-branched manzanita or gray-green chaparral got there? Perhaps it was made by deer or other wild creatures over time. Maybe it was used by the native Americans, or by feral pigs and cattle introduced by European settlers. Many of the paths of Coe are of this nature. However, a growing number are being planned, constructed, and maintained by volunteers.

The efforts of volunteer community organizations, schools, businesses, citizens of local communities, and neighbors of the park may have been instrumental in the development and maintenance of this path. Exactly who was responsible is not important. Those who helped recognize the effort involved, take pride in their accomplishments, and will never again take for granted the path upon which they walk. They know the cost.

The Henry W. Coe State Park Citizens Advisory Committee (a.k.a. the Trails Committee), after completion of their initial task of supplying input for the General Plan, has since 1986 taken leadership in the mapping, planning, and construction of trails throughout the park. However, the committee was only the catalyst. It was the efforts of volunteers from Live Oak High School, the Pine Ridge Association, San Martin Horseman's Association, and the citizens of local communities that supplied the manpower. Specialized Bicycles donated publicity and water bottles, and Carls Jr. contributed a BBQ with all the fixings to the trail workers.

I normally feel uncomfortable in singling out any individual contributors for fear of forgetting someone, but I must thank the faculty and students of the Live Oak Civics Department. Without their support, the amount of trail construction would be severely limited.

Perhaps what Kay Schmidt-Robinson's husband said to me after last April's Trails Days says it all. I can't remember his exact words, but they were something like this: "I really wish the newsmen could have been here today to see and report on what these kids have accomplished." I couldn't agree with him more.

In the greater scheme of things, it probably is not important to know exactly how much of an effort an individual gave or an organization contributed. It is, however, extremely important to recognize that effort or contribution. There is nothing more rewarding for anyone than to know their efforts are appreciated. The next time you run into someone whom you know worked or supported trail construction, thank them. They deserve it.

Seasons Greetings
from the Staff of The Ponderosa
and the PRA Board of Directors

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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 experience at Henry W. Coe State Park through education and interpretation.