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Open every day of the year
No. 453

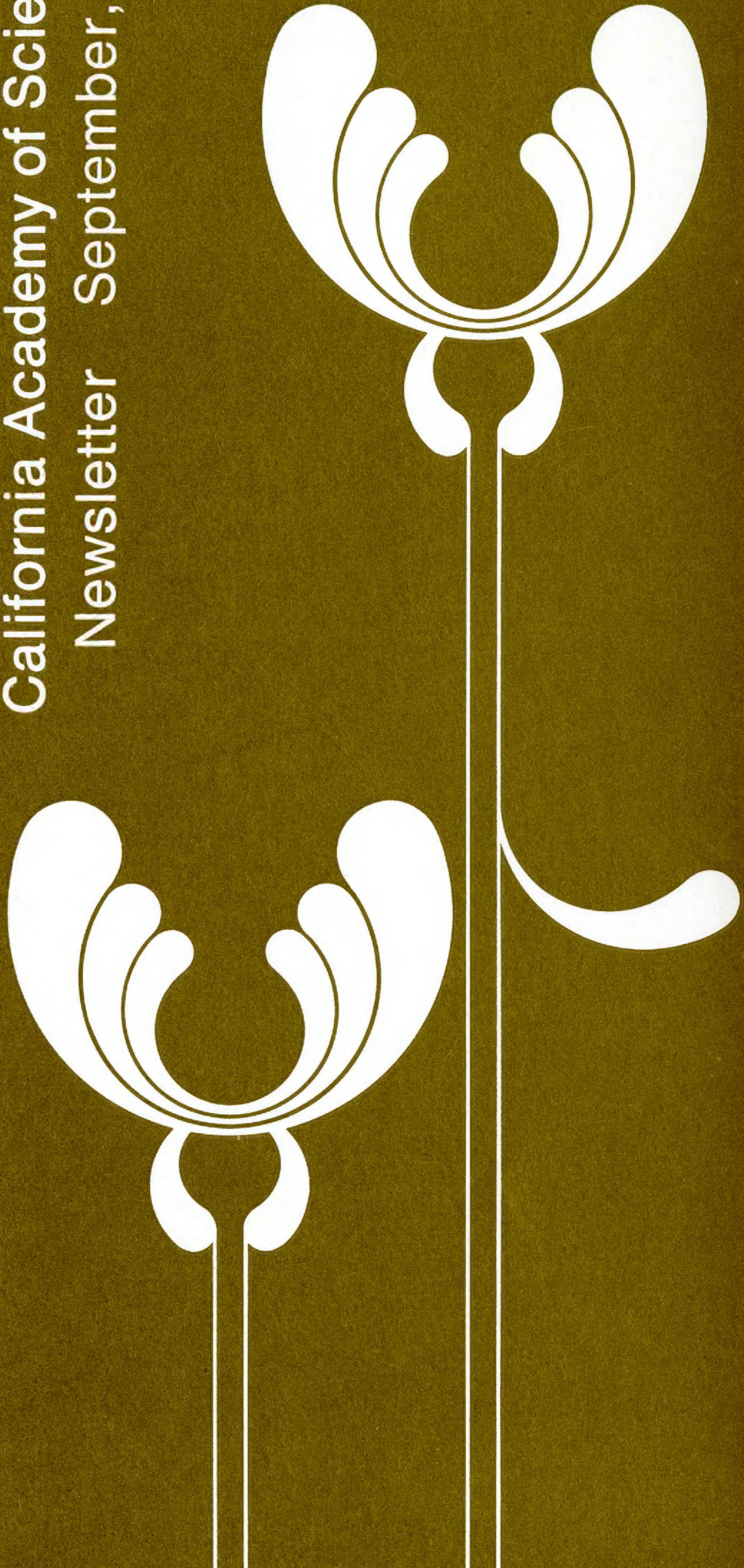


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California Academy of Sciences
Newsletter September, 1977



September Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30, Wednesday, September 14

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, September 14 and 15

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

David Cavagnaro

Subject:

"The Most Beautiful Things in the World"



For those familiar with David Cavagnaro's remarkably beautiful photography, you might suspect that you have already seen "The Most Beautiful Things in the World." Maybe some, but not all. From photos taken during many Academy expeditions and on travels for Time-Life, Inc., for the American Wilderness Series, from slides taken in Baja California, South and North America and the Galapagos, David has put together an intriguing new program for our September meetings with an interesting anthropological twist. David's outstanding photographs and running interpretation make us all aware that we are surrounded and influenced by "The Most Beautiful Things In The World" every day of our lives.

David Cavagnaro and his wife, Maggie, were the resident biologists at the Audubon Canyon Ranch at Stinson Beach for several years before establishing their "teaching homestead", Pippindale,

in Santa Rosa a year and a half ago. Pippindale, named for their son, Pippin, is a center for the development of creative potential located in a peaceful rural environment. Summer student programs and long weekend courses are offered in a variety of subjects including natural history, photography and many home-stead skills.

An author, photographer and teacher, you have enjoyed David's many contributions to **Pacific Discovery**, and perhaps read his books, **This Living Earth, Almost Home** and **Living Water**, written with Ernest Braun.

Share some of the beautiful things with David Cavagnaro this month. Come early and enjoy the Academy's "quiet time", without the crowds of the summer. As usual, your membership card admits you through the front entrance at Cowell Hall, (and through the Wattis Hall entrance for the afternoon presentation only). You may be asked to present your card once again at the auditorium door for the matinee.

Special Exhibits

Henry Evans

BOTANICAL PRINTS

September 21 through December 31

Hohfeld Gallery I

Henry Evans, the well-known botanical printmaker, opens an exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences and sees his new book, **Botanical Prints**, published by the W. H. Freeman Co., launched on the same day this month. **Botanical Prints** is the first book exclusively devoted to Henry Evans' work and contains 33 full-color plates and 29 reproductions in black and white, many of which are in the show opening September 21 in the gallery outside the Morrison Auditorium.

Henry Evans has illustrated books and magazine articles and has had over 250 one man shows at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., at the Field Museum in Chicago and the CAS.

This Month Only . . . "Wet Belly Photography" by students of Ernest Braun and Marion Patterson. There is only one way to get a close-up of a sparkingly dewey blade of grass . . . flat on your belly! A large and varied collection of wet belly works by students of these well-known photographers is on display in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery through September.

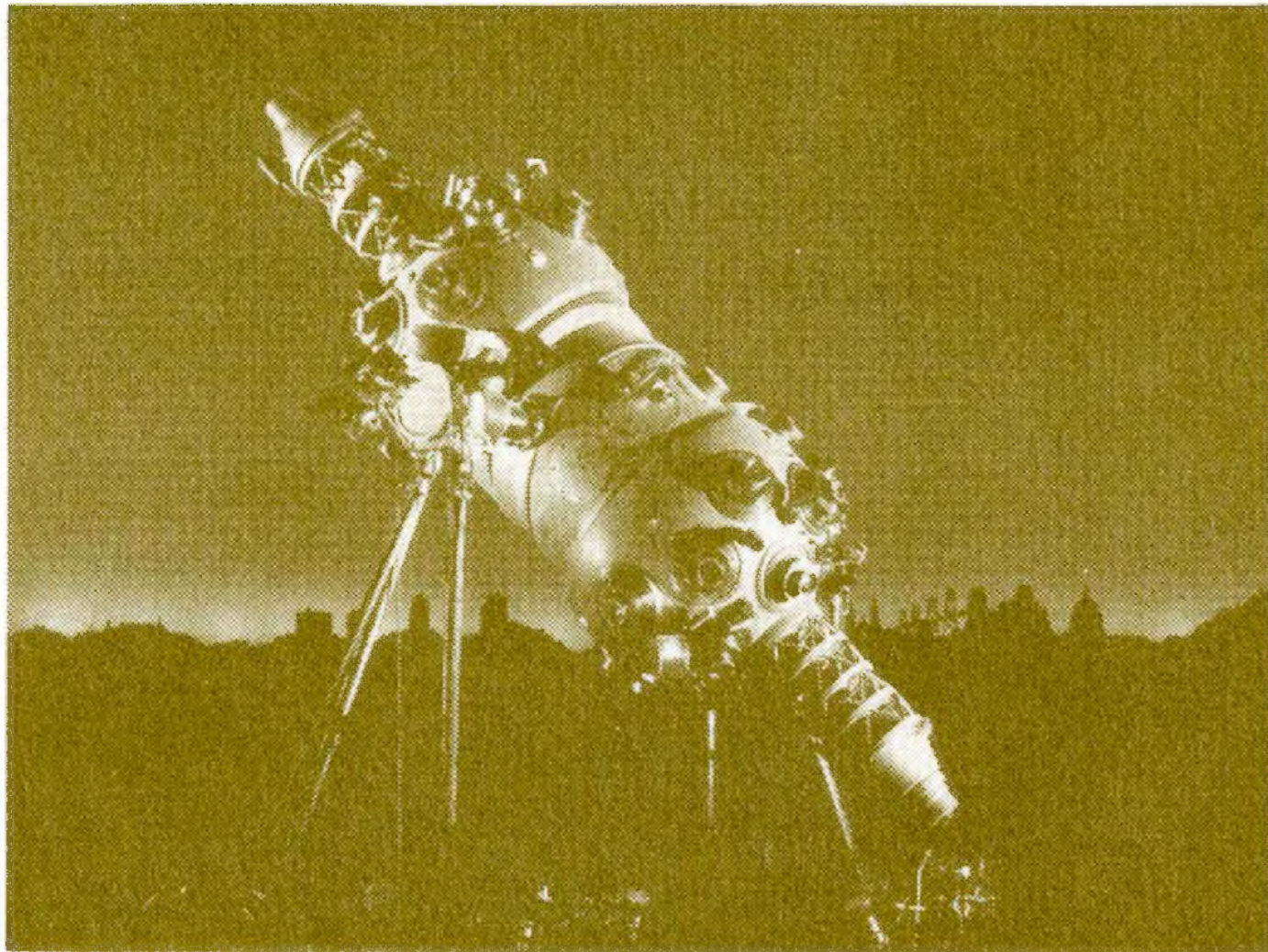
September is the last month to see **New Directions in New Guinea Art**, from the private collections of Victor J. (Trader Vic) Bergeron, and **The Land Collection of Pre-Columbian Art** loaned to the Academy by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis K. Land. The entrance galleries to Wattis Hall, the Patricia Price Peterson and the Atholl-McBean Galleries will be "dark" for one month in preparation of the extraordinary **Art of the First Australians**, the largest exhibition of Aboriginal art and artifacts ever to leave Australia. Opening November 1.

Living Arts



Amici Musicae

A program of medieval and renaissance music will be performed by Amici Musicae on Saturday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m. in the Wattis Hall of Man. If you don't know what a hurdy gurdy is, come and find out. You will also hear recorders, crumhorns, shawms, and many more. At the end of the program you will be invited to learn a few French and English dances.



Closed for Star Check

For approximately six weeks, beginning September 6, the Morrison Planetarium will close its doors for a 25-year check-up of the star projector and some major "cosmetic surgery". When the doors reopen for the daily sky show, **It's About Time**, and the popular Laserium I and II, you will be in for a comfortable surprise with the most modern in planetarium chairs plus new carpeting and paint.

Watch your October **Newsletter** for opening details.

Be a Docent and tour the world . . .

the natural world that is, of the California Academy of Sciences. Docents are trained volunteers who lead school groups on guided tours of the various Academy halls and also participate in a wide variety of interesting projects at the CAS. A new Docent basic training class will begin October 18, with Dr. Robert T. Orr, Senior Scientist, as the principal lecturer.

Information regarding the Docent program and the training class may be obtained by calling the Docent Council Office at 221-4214, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. any weekday.

HELP! Many departments of the Academy, such as Anthropology and Geology, are in dire need of volunteer typists. If you have an interest in the

natural sciences and a few hours a week to spare, please call Frances Reed in the Membership Office at 221-5100.



Bon Voyage Dr. McClintock, (seated just right of Dr. George Lindsay.)

Dr. Elizabeth McClintock, Curator of Botany, and a member of the CAS staff since 1948 is "retiring"; a grossly inaccurate description of a perpetually active woman. A plant taxonomist, her area of specialization is the identification of the ornamental flora of California. Her guides to the "Trees of the Panhandle" and of the flora of San Bruno Mountain are well known by many. "Putting the proper name to a plant is the key to everything ever written about it. From this first step of identification you can learn about the care and feeding of a particular specimen and determine whether the plant is rare and endangered or plentiful", says Dr. McClintock. One of her valuable on-going projects is her work with the California Native Plant Society, botanists who have developed and published an inventory of the rare and endangered plants of California.

Over the years Dr. McClintock has worked closely with the Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park in identifying and labeling their collection which number between two and three thousand and has written two self-guides for visitors to the facility. Most recently she completed a survey and published yet another guide for the entire Japanese Tea Garden.

Dr. McClintock is a life member of the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy, and is active in many other conservation organizations. After an extended junket to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, she will once again hang her hat at the Botany Department on the third floor of Wattis Hall, the only identification center for California natives and ornamentals in San Francisco.

Retiring? She's not even slowing down!

This month there are two very interesting lectures offered to our members free of charge at the Academy: **Supernovae Explosions — The Key to the Cosmic Mystery?** and **The Mystery of Easter Island**.

Supernovae Explosions — The Key to the Cosmic Mystery? will be presented on Friday, September 16, at 8:00 p.m. in the Morrison Auditorium by Dr. Donald Goldsmith of U.C. Berkeley. In this slide/lecture, Dr. Goldsmith explains why some stars explode, and discusses how supernovae may have been responsible for the formation of our solar system and the evolution of life on earth.

On Friday, September 30, at 8:00 p.m., archeologist, Edmundo Edwards will present **The Mystery of Easter Island**, a fascinating illustrated lecture in the Morrison Auditorium. Mr. Edwards has lived on Easter Island for 15 years and is considered one of the most fluent experts on Easter Island's history and culture. He will share with us his recent experiences in the restoration of the spectacular **Ahu Akiva** where seven statues were re-erected in their original positions.

Magnificent color slides bring the legends, monuments and people of Easter Island to life in **The Mystery of Easter Island**.

Both of these lectures are free of charge on a space available basis.

One more highlight this month is the Aquarium Society's Annual Fish Show, on September 9, 10 and 11 from 10 to 5 p.m. in North American Hall. This very popular event displays unique home aquariums, art and educational displays on both fresh and saltwater species.

Basic Techniques in Nature Drawing:
Tuesdays, September 13 - November 15
7-10 p.m.

This course is designed for students with little or no experience in drawing. The objective is to develop within the student a sensitivity to form and contour in the observed natural world with emphasis on the discipline of draftsmanship, rather than creative self-expression. The course is taught by Grant Schar, art instructor at City College and the cost is \$50 plus materials fee.

Exploring the Universe:
Wednesdays, September 21 - December 7
7-9 p.m.

In this introductory course in astronomy taught by Dr. Lee Simon, Director of the Morrison Planetarium, we will survey our solar system and beyond; pulsars, black holes, other galaxies, plus an overview of UFO's and the search for extra-terrestrial life complete our exploration. Several sessions will be held in the Planetarium Sky Theater. One field trip. \$40 for members; \$50 non-members.

Travel Photography:
(No classes October 10 or 24)
Mondays, September 19-November 7
7-9 p.m.

This practical course will cover the basic information people require about the proper use of their camera equipment, including types of cameras, films, lenses and accessories. The instructor, photographer Monte Hartman, includes important information which will enable the traveler to maximize the photographic potential of his trip, such as photography of people, architecture, landscapes and more. \$25 members; \$35 non-members.

Ice Age Ecology:
Tuesdays, September 20 - October 18
7-9 p.m.
Chicago covered by a mile of ice? Paleo Indians spear-hunting mammoths south of Tucson? The Farallon Islands on the "coast" of ancient California? Death Valley holding a lake hundreds of feet deep? Such questions are answered by biological consultant, George Batchelder, in this study of the ecology and geology of the last few million years. One week-end field trip planned. \$35 members; \$45 non-members.

Below Pacific Tides:
Mondays, September 26 - November 28
(No classes October 10 or 24)
7-9:30 p.m.
Designed for divers, but of interest to anyone who likes marine biology, this class, taught by our Invertebrate Zoology staff, will unravel the mysteries of the deep, discussing the biology and inter-relationships of the flora and fauna beyond the tidal zone of our ocean.

To Register:
Pre-registration is encouraged however, students may sign up at the front door the first night of class, space permitting. Class fees, \$35 members, \$45 non-members, are refundable up to the second class meeting, less a \$5 service charge. To pre-register, send a check for the full amount, along with your name, address and daytime telephone to the Education Office at the Academy.

Note: Exploring the Universe, Ice Age Ecology and Below Pacific Tides are offered for S.F. State Extension credit for a small additional fee. Inquire the first night of class.

Other classes coming up in October and later include, Care of Fresh and Saltwater Aquarium Fishes, Biology of Insects, a special one-day seminar in Marine Aquarium Keeping, Pomo Basketry, Wildlife Photography, Telescope Workshop, and a one-day seminar in Marine Mammals. Telephone or write the Education Office for information on these and watch for details in the **Newsletter**.

Australia and New Zealand:
September 30 through November 3
A few spaces are available for this popular trip led by Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr. Cost per person on a twin basis is approximately \$3,620, including land and air travel. Single supplement, \$475. Limited to 30. Contact Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. Telephone (415) 346-4400 for details and reservations.

Baja California Camping Safari
October 8-16
Join a camping safari in Baja California this fall. Four-wheel drive vehicles will carry the group from San Diego to Bahia de los Angeles and back through some of the most unusual and lovely areas of Baja California. The geology is interesting and the flora is fascinating. We will have the opportunity to explore the islands of the bahia by small boat where the bird life is abundant and the snorkeling is good. All camping equipment is provided. The final night will be spent in Catavina, at the El Presidente Hotel. Call the Academy's Travel Office for further details at 221-4214, Ext. 211. Limited to 20 members. Cost is \$450.00 per person plus airfare between San Francisco and San Diego (approximately \$70). Deposit: \$100 per person.

Pinnacles:
Saturday, October 15, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Leaving the Academy at 8 a.m., we will travel by bus to the Pinnacles under the leadership of geologist Charles Chesterman. The Pinnacles feature good hiking trails, birds, flora, and interesting caves and rock formations. Those who wish can participate in a hike over good trails led by Mr. Chesterman. Participants will bring their own picnic lunch, but will have a cannelloni dinner in a private room at Cademartori's, San Juan Bautista's outstanding restaurant, on the return trip. The bus should return to the Academy by 9 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person, which includes transportation and dinner. Trip is limited to one bus. Members only.