

January Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 9, 1980

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, January 9 and 10

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

Carl Sisskind

Subject:

"Underwater Parks and Reserves of California"

For most people there is the quite understandable belief that the out-of-doors belongs to all of us. Until very recently that meant the land, trees, mountains, lakes, streams and the incomparable coastline. In California that concept has been extended beyond the meeting place of ocean and shoreline to include the underwater environment itself.

Ten years ago a bill was signed into law creating the California Underwater Parks system. As a result of that legislation, a series of underwater parks and reserves has been established along our coast; great outdoor museums of natural history where visitors may look and enjoy the scenery without taking or disturbing their inhabitants. These first underwater parks are important first steps in the formal recognition of both the beauty and fragile future of our near shore underwater heritage.

Our guest speaker, Carl Sisskind of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, will describe in his illustrated slide lecture the history of this unique park system and take us on an underwater tour of several sites now protected under the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Sisskind has been involved with the project since its beginnings and is currently Information Officer for the Deep Sea Diving Project at Scripps which investigates sea floor spreading and continental drift.

Special Exhibits

Underwater Explorations, a color photographic show of scenes from California's system of underwater parks and reserves opens January 10 in Hohfeld Gallery I. (See "January Meetings" for more information.)

Continuing exhibits include **New Botanical Prints by Henry Evans** in Cowell Hall Galleries; **Nudibranchs: Gaudy Slugs of the Sea** by Edwin Janss, Jr. in the Atholl McBean Gallery; and **Monumental Stone Carvings of the Ancient Maya**, photos by Rufus Diamant in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery.

Morrison Planetarium

The questions and puzzles of black holes are explored in the new Morrison Planetarium show, **Star Death — The Birth of Black Holes**, beginning January 11. Sky shows are presented Monday through Friday at 2:00 p.m. and on weekends at 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30. Don't forget . . . as a member there is no admission charge.

On weekends at 11:00 a.m. see **Exploring the Skies of the Season**, a look at the current night sky over San Francisco and an enjoyable program for the whole family.

Laserium

Enjoy the current Laserium light concerts in the Morrison Planetarium. See **Laserium Light Years** featuring the Music of the 50's, 60's and 70's, and **Laserium Starship** at the following times: **Starship** on Friday evenings at 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30 p.m. **Light Years** on Saturday evenings at 5:00, 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30 p.m. and on Sunday evenings at 5:00, 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. An added show can be seen Tuesday, January 1 at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are available through all BASS outlets and remaining tickets go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before showtime. Admission is \$3.25. Members are reminded that this is **not** a regular planetarium show **nor** are your planetarium passes usable for this attraction. For further information call 752-4264.

Special Events

Science: Our Common Heritage, is theme of the 146th annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) opening in San Francisco on Thursday, January 3, with a series of free public lectures to which members of the Academy are cordially invited. In all there are nine distinguished lecturers who will address themselves to some of the most important topics in science and technology at issue today. Limited space in this "Newsletter" prohibits lengthy descriptions but following is a list of speakers, titles, dates and times. (All of these free lectures take place at the San Francisco Hilton.)

Thursday, January 3, 1980 — 8:30 p.m.

Simon Ramo, Director, TRW

The International Contest for Technological Superiority

Friday, January 4, 1980 — 1:30 p.m.

**Charles Gillispie, Prof. History of Science
Princeton University**

Is the Inwardness of Science Extraneous to History?

8:30 p.m.

**Rosalyn Yalow, VA Hospital, Bronx
RIA — A Serendipitous Tool for Biology
and Medicine**

Saturday, January 5, 1980 — 1:30 p.m.

**John Ziman, Prof, Physics, Univ. of Bristol,
England**

Science — The New Model

8:30

**Abraham Pais, Prof. Physics
Rockefeller University**

Reflections on Einstein's World

Sunday, January 6, 1980 — 1:30 p.m.

**John Pierce, Prof. Electrical Engineering
Cal Tech**

*The Science of Communication and
Science Magazine*

8:30 p.m.

**Kenneth Boulding, Prof. Economics
University of Colorado, President AAAS**
Science, Our Common Heritage

Monday, January 7, 1980 — 1:30 p.m.
William Nierenberg, Director Scripps
Vice Chancellor UCSD
Cyrano, Physics — and Possibly Aristotle

8:30 p.m.
Victor Weisskopf, Prof. Physics MIT
Science, Technology, and Culture

Also of interest and free . . . 50 interesting science films shown January 4 and 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. continuously at the St. Francis Hotel.

If you would like more information call 221-5100, ext. 227

It's a new year, and new decade, and the Academy is in need of new volunteers! If you would be interested in devoting your time to one of the several departments needing extra help, contact Frances Reed of the Development Office at 221-5100, Ext. 237.

In Celebration of the Gray Whale
Throughout the month of January several events (and one special visitor), will highlight the annual migration of the gray whales on their way to the warm lagoon waters of Baja California from Alaska.

January 7 — the arrival of "Sandy," the 40-foot sculpture by artist Larry Foster of General Whale, who will reside on the front steps of the Academy through the month.

January 19 — Free whale films and lectures in the Morrison Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

January 22 — Marine mammal photographer, Bill Curtsinger and author, Kenneth Brower, will present a free slide/lecture presentation in Morrison Auditorium followed by a book signing party at the Nature Company's Museum Shop in Cowell Hall of their spectacular new work, "Wake of the Whale". Lecture begins at 7:30 and is open free of charge to the public.

Education and Travel Notes

Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Kashmir
February 11 — March 20, 1980
A total eclipse of the sun, the pastoral beauty of Sri Lanka, the wildlife and architectural wonders of India and Kashmir and game viewing from elephant-back in Nepal are but a few of the fascinating experiences in store for Academy members on this fabulous journey. Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr lead our tour. Cost, including airfare, is \$4350. Please call Siemer & Hand, Ltd. at (415) 788-7186.

Pueblo II, Northeast Arizona
June 6-15, 1980
Our ten-day tour focuses on the ancient Native American cultures of Northeast Arizona as participants visit museums, pre-historic living sites and areas of spectacular scenic beauty. Highlights include the Hopi Mesas, Canyon de Chelly, the Grand Canyon and the museums of Northern Arizona. Dr. Dorothy Washburn leads our tour. For information, call Gulliver's Travels at (415) 346-4400.

Alaska
July 11-26, 1980
Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr lead Academy members on a two week tour of America's "last frontier". Highlights include the Columbia Glacier, Mt. McKinley National Park, the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes" and Glacier Bay National Monument. For information, please call Siemer & Hand, Ltd. at (415) 788-7186.

Six Academy Courses begin this month. Registration is by mail and details are in the Activities Calendar available through the Education/Travel Office.

**Earth-Shaking Events:
Volcanoes and Earthquakes**
January 9-February 6, Wednesdays
7-9:00 p.m.
\$30 members

A Survey of Western Culinary Tradition
January 10-February 14, Thursdays
7-9:00 p.m.
\$25 members

Travel Photography
January 14-February 18, Mondays
7-9:30 p.m.
\$35 members

An Introduction to the Life History of Marine Mammals
January 15-February 5, Tuesdays
7-9:00 p.m.
\$30 members

Taxidermy Workshop
January 16-March 5, Wednesdays
7-10:00 p.m.
\$50 members

Form and Structure: Drawing From Nature
January 24-March 27, Thursdays
7-9:30 p.m.
\$50 members

(Note:
This issue of the "Newsletter" is a little short on space thanks to the tremendous success of the latest membership drive at the Academy. We have decided to list as many of our new members as possible this month (those who have joined between mid-July and October 31, 1979).

Thank you for your support!

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