

Thanksgiving Week 1984

Mrs. Ruth Brackett
2215 Gasoline Alley
Arroyo Grande, CA. 93420

Dear Ruth:

I don't believe I ever thanked you properly for generously coming to see me - at my invitation - when I was still pretty much confined to my couch or crutches. And you didn't just spend a quick hour with me, but it was two hours we talked. I felt you gave me enough time to really tell you - and portray to you - how a Nipomo Dunes National Seashore could really upgrade the pleasantness of our area (particularly at Oceano and the beach community) and could greatly improve the general quality of life hereabouts. Thank you very much for that time.

I hope the idea appealed to you and that you have thought about it - even dreamed and fantasied about it. I am just convinced it is a wonderful solution to so many of our noisy, exasperating, polluting troubles around here. And I don't think it would be difficult to bring the concept into being if a lot of good grassroots enthusiasm got generated in that direction. It could stem from you. . . .

Sometime - before too much time goes by - if a trip to San Francisco is something you need to do, please allow an extra day, a whole real day, to go out to Pt. Reyes National Seashore and just poke into every part of it and see what has been done there - with wide open wind-blown marine terraces and little beaches and enclaves of charming dunes, and cliffs. The Nipomo Dunes has a more ecologically varied terrain and vegetation and is richer than Pt. Reyes. A very interesting inclusion of a lot of added territory north and south of the Nipomo Dunes could be worked out, just as Golden Gate National Recreation Area has done, including a network of communities and state parks - just as the vast National Trust parks system of England works out protection of whole districts (even including villages). I have a lot of data and maps if you ever want to see it.

Have you been to Oso Flaco Lake lately? Such peace and quiet. It really is getting back to its feeling of being the wilderness it was originally and naturally. I call it a white and wind-sculptured wilderness, not forests with leagues of trees, but a world of dunes laced with green glades and graced with blue lakes - a wonderful world - for families, for people who need the solitude and the beauty - it is a healing place to go from the pressures of contemporary life. Please save Saturday, January 5th, 9 a.m. for the Annual Anniversary Dunes Walk of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club - a very pleasant excursion.

Ever since October when I saw this fun news photo of you tossing Cow Chips, I've meant to send you this: just an extra copy you might use.

And I wish you a good, relaxing, very nice Thanksgiving!

With best wishes,

Kathleen Jones