Calaveras Big Trees Association

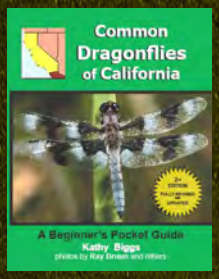
2016 Spring Seminars

May 21 "Roosevelt's Tree Army" Presented by Sharon Giacomazzi.

The enduring legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corp in National Forests.

Sharon Giacomazzi is an avid Central Sierra Nevada hiker, as well as a Sierra history buff. In the past 30 years she has trekked about 12,000 miles in and around Yosemite National Park. Sharon has been an outings leader for several environmental organizations, community colleges, as well as a leader of her own history hikes. To date, Sharon has three historical hiking guides in publication and a fourth book of short hikes, maximum five miles, maximum 500-foot elevation gain in the works.

May 28 "Dragonflies" Presented by Kathy Biggs



The talk will probably be followed by a short walk to look for dragonflies in the park.

Kathy worked as an educator in her hometown of Sebastopol, CA in the Gravenstein School district for 18 years before becoming an author/publisher/dragonfly/wildlife pond spokesperson. Kathy's love of dragonflies led her to become the author of California's first dragonfly guide, published in 2000, *Common Dragonflies of California*. It sold out at over 14,000 copies and the new revision and complete update of this guide is now available - published May 2009.

June 4 "California's Golden Geology of the Sierra Nevada"

Presented by Nancy Muleady Mecham

The geology of California with a special look at the Mother Lode and gold mining. Join Doc Nancy for an in-depth look at the fascinating element, gold. What are its unique properties, what is the geology behind the Mother Lode Story, and how did we get our hands on it throughout time. Doc Nancy is an Adjunct Professor of Biology at Northern Arizona University as well as a Visiting Lecturer for the University of Virginia Semester At Sea Program where she taught biology around the world. She also teaches part time at Columbia College. She was selected by the United States as a Fulbright Scholar and traveled to the Russian Federation teach at Gorno-Altaisk State University in southwest Siberia and to conduct research in remote protected areas.

Nancy is a retired United States National Park Ranger and lives in the Sierra Nevada with her family. When not working on her research on Giant Sequoias she loves to backpack. She has completed solo hikes of the John Muir and High Sierra Trails through the Sierra Nevada, hiked through the Alps on The Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt, and is a Pacific Crest Trail section hiker. She is the author of several books.

The Fall Seminars will be announced at a later date

All Seminars will be held in Jack Knight Hall at Calaveras Big Trees State Park from 10:00 am-12 noon There is a day-use fee to enter the Park. The seminars are free and open to the public. Pack a lunch, bring the family and plan on spending the day among the Giant Sequoias. For more information call Calaveras Big Trees Association at (209)795-1196 or visit our website at www.bigtrees.org