

Thursday 1 January 1987

Read .03" in south gauge. North wind with very thick cirro-cumulus to 4,000' by 2pm. Clouds begin breaking up by 3pm. North wind picks up to 20 mph gusts around 2:30pm, then ease off. Clouds thicken and lower, with drizzle starting at 5pm, continuing until 10pm. Clear sky after 11.

John & Mom here for dinner tonight.

Friday 2 January 1987

Read .04 in south gauge. Thin high cirro-cumulus over all of sky, SE breeze. Fog forming north of Big Creek before noon, below 2,780'. Scattered cirro-cumulus at noon, fog breaking up. Wind picks up after 5pm and clouds cover sky by 4pm. Ceiling at 5,000' + at 5pm. Burned brush in lower terrace and cut and split firewood.

Saturday 3 January 1987

2.15

Lots of fog drip by early AM hours and a little drizzle starts at 7:30am, so there is a *trace* for 2 Jan. Heavy rain by 9am with moderate south wind. Rain eases a little from 10-1pm, then increases until 2pm. Light rain, big drops until 7pm, then heavy rain until 9pm, when wind is from the north and rain decreases. Ceiling below cabin at 9pm. Transplanted 2 ponderosas from lower terrace to trail area between lower gate and firebreak cut-off.

Sunday 4 January 1987

Frost

.35

Read 1.67 in south gauge, 2.15 in north gauge. Frost on grass and dead leaves. Some cumulus on top of Coast Ridge and out to sea at 7am, then cumulus lowers and thickens, ceiling below cabin at 1pm. South wind until noon, then from north. Cold temps, wind below 10 mph. Bar. 29.71 at 9am, 29.61 at 1pm. First robin of the year in south walnut at 9am. Drizzle at 1:30pm, increasing to heavy rain and hail by 3pm, then decreasing to clearing skies at 4pm. Scattered thick cirro-cumulus at sunset, cold north wind. Moderate to heavy for a few minutes every hour or so until 7am, as squalls come over from the north.

Monday 5 January 1987

Very cold north wind gusting to 30 mph. Lots of thick cumulus out to sea and on Coast Ridge. Snow/hail on Andy Pk to 3,500'. 50% overcast at 8am. Read .35" in north gauge,

.33" in south. Cumulus clouds move in and thicken with squalls on and off until I leave for highway at 11:30am. I take Kaye's car and work at David's for a while. Dinner with Charlotte at Nepenthe, back here at 11pm. Some cirrus with light north breeze at 11pm.

Tuesday 6 January 1987

South wind, sprinkles of rain, and ceiling at 4,000' at 7am, with ceiling lowering and heavy rain from 8-9:30am. .15" for 1-5. North wind after 9am, and breaking of clouds after 9:30. Patchy cumulus, cold north wind until more rain at 10am, then heavy hail off and on from 11 to 2pm. Thunder and lightening from 8-9am, then some radio static during hail storm. Hail 1" deep in open, 8mm in diameter. .75" from 10am-2pm. Rain diminishes after 2, then south wind starts up and rain/drizzle until 9pm. Wind from the north after 4pm. Clear sky by 10pm.

Wednesday 7 January 1987

Mostly clear sky with cumulus out to sea and on top of Coast Ridge. Clouds of cirrus in south and west, which are gone by 4pm, as are higher cumulus. Some hail left in shadowy places. North wind all day. Cool temp. Read 1.35" for 1-6-87.

* * *

Wednesday 28 January 1987

There were four mornings in mid-January with heavy ice on all standing water. This cold, dry period had strong north winds along with it, up to 60-70 mph occasionally. I recorded a temp of 28° F one evening at 9pm, when the wind was around 60 mph.

No damage to Bacon Avocado budlets or leaves, although all the Mexicola flowers were killed. New flowers developed on younger parts of the tree, as well as some coming from the dead racemes, within 3 weeks. Quite a bit of foliage damage to the leaves, cracked leaves and windblown, but otherwise OK. A few small fruits (on the lemon that produces) remained through the cold snap. Lots of leaf damage to the Mexican Mock Orange. Lots of leaf damage to young Yerba Pasma, *Gnophalium*, *Lotus scoparius*.

Thursday 29 January 1987

To Pacific Valley School to accompany some kids and video camera to observe Elephant Seals on beach at Alder Creek (between Alder Creek & Villa Creek). Large male with fresh cuts around neck was there, but other male had left. We had reports from tourists of a seal at Sand Dollar, but unconfirmed. May have been other animal seen by students at Alder Creek on 27th.

I pick up Hass Avocado plant brought down via school bus this AM from Mary Wargo, in Wild Cattle Creek. Pack up avocado on Whitey.

* * *

Thursday 5 February 1987

To Pacific Valley School for first day of “official” work. Packed commodities home on Whitey, and she spent an hour or so on a detour on firebreak below Michael’s Pt.

* * *

Sunday 8 February 1987

Planted the Hass Avocado on west side of outhouse.

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Thursday 12 February 1987

Rain starts in around 8-9am, getting heavier throughout day until steady heavy rain starts around 6-7pm and goes on all night.

Worked on choosing fittings for converting drippy faucet below house, along path by garden, into drinking fountain, using old standpipe from trail below water tank. Found a lot of stuff I didn’t know I had in fittings stash in barn.

Big CB discussion of Land Trusts this evening. Walling, Sanderson, Goldeen, Kimball, Stargazer, me.

Friday 13 February 1987

South gauge had just over 4 inches, and North rain gauge overflowing at 7am. Another .35” from 7am to 7:45, when rain stops. Reading for the 12th is a partial estimate. Anderson Peak got over 8” for the 12th, with 7.53” for Goldeen’s, 10+ for Gorda Mtn., 5.5 for Lopez Point area. Chews Ridge reports 11.65”.

Loud roar of water from Partington. Very little water damage here.

Walk up Agony Trail for dinner at Marble Peak. Back here at 1am.

Saturday 14 February

Walked to hiway via Partington Creek. Left home at 1 or 2pm. Met Feinberg and family tearing up the trail and pulling out rocks from banks and crib walls. Met Magee & Eikenberry fixing cantilevered trail near cascade on main creek. To Kaye’s, split wood, have dinner, to P.O., call dad about moving furniture, then to Katy Stock’s to pick up cat food, and she gives me lots of groceries to take home. She is entertaining 5 other ladies.

Walk home in rain, which starts at 10pm. Arrive home at midnight with heavy pack. Rain stops when I arrive.

Noticed trail damage at Tin House Road Jct., and lots of little slides on Tin House Road.

There is a small trickle of water in drainage at 3rd switchback on Tanbark Trail (coming up from hiway), which hasn't had water in it since May of 1983.¹

* * *

Tuesday 17 February 1987

Spent about 3 hours this afternoon digging out bank above trail 50' east of intersection with Tin House Road. Large toyon bush slipped out of bank below trail, making a dangerous spot. Moved a lot of dirt and rock, but makes for a good trail there. Also cut toyon trunk out of road.

Gathered maybe ½-¾lbs. of *Craterellus cornucopioides* at usual place 150' east of pipe below water tanks on lower trail.

Found stock in oak grove by Jim House meadow, chased them to Pine Flat. Caught Whitey with grain. Led her back to barn with horse following.

Had delicious Trompettes des Morts² with butter & garlic over pasta.

Also fixed old gate at upper corral to keep stock above water tank area, but they are a little wild yet to try it.

Wednesday 18 February 1987

Got up this morning to feed chickens and noticed water tank was in smithereens. Heavy East winds last night finally did it in.

Took stock to hiway, dropped by Doug & John's and accompanied John to town. I got some groceries and hay. Back home by 9pm and stock in barn.

Thursday 19 February 1987

Brought glow worm and frog eggs to Pacific Valley School this AM. Put in 4 hours, bringing total to 8 hours since beginning of month.

Pleasant sunny day. Cold trip up hill.

¹ See 3 May 1983

² *Craterellus cornucopioides* AKA Horn of Plenty

Friday 20 February 1987

Madrones begin blooming.

Saturday 21 February 1987

FROST

.19

27.96

Lots of frost in early AM. Cold north wind, what looks like high fog off Pfeiffer Point at 8am moves rapidly in, covering all of sky by 10am. Small snow pellets start falling at 11am and give way to rain a little later. This sleety stuff keeps falling until 1pm, when large, wet flakes of snow start falling. Snow falls thickly until 3pm, then tapers off and is over by 4pm. Cold north wind continues, then clouds clear by sunset.

36° F at 1pm.

Esther starts delivering kittens in wood room around 3pm. 3 kittens born by 11pm.

Sunday 22 February 1987

FROST

Read .19 in south gauge.

Beautiful day, some big cumulus, cold north wind. Snow level remaining at 3,600' at mid-day. Lots of frost everywhere. Puddles are frozen.

Esther still hasn't dropped last kitten when I leave at noon. She is calm and healthy though.

Everything left ready for Judith, and I walk down Tin House Road, arrive at Kaye's around 1pm, or so, then do some quick work at library. Then lunch at Charlotte's with her & Doug & John, Rob & Judith. Goofing off on Clear Ridge that night, sleeping at Charlotte's until rain scares me into my van and out of there at midnight. Spent night near Brewer Bridge in redwoods. Never did rain much, though.

Monday 23 February 1987

.09

28.05

Charlotte gets me up as she drives by. We have breakfast on Alvarado St., and I start my trip to Santa Rosa. Arrive Santa Rosa at 1pm and begin the task of dealing with Anne and other items my father is too chicken shit to handle himself. Snow/hail and very cold while

taking great pains with "valuable furniture." Beautiful drive through Sonoma, etc. Mt. Diablo looming from near Napa or Vallejo. Through good old Lafayette area. Lots of views of Mt. Diablo with snow – Blanco Diablo. Freeways, etc., then spent night in motel in Salinas. Called Charlotte at 8pm to find Judith did not come to Alta Vista due to bad weather. Hail, etc.

Tuesday 24 February 1987

.07
28.12

Drive from Salinas to Goleta 8am-noon. Lots of rain in north Santa Barbara County. Drive ahead of front, meet father at U-Haul, where he loads stuff into his car, banging away at the stuff I took such pains with. Rain starts at 1pm. I leave and drive north of storm, arrive Pacific Valley at 4:15pm, where there is snow falling and visibly coming down on Cone Peak. Lots of snow on all ridges down to 3,000'. It had fallen lower than that in early AM and night before. Some scattered showers as I drive north, but clear and warm at bottom of Tin House Road. Lots of hail on hiway near Esalen/Buck Creek, where a concentrated storm had dumped it. Started walking with 20lb. pack at 5, arrived here around 6:30. Esther is fine. 4th kitten is big and black. Everything else OK.

Wednesday 25 February 1987

Resting up after moving furniture.

Catch stock with difficulty in upper meadow and got them into barn for early take-off tomorrow.

Pleasant sunny day. Snow dusting on north side of Anderson Peak, and becoming quite heavy south of there, down Tin Can Ridge, etc., to 3,000'. Read .16" in south gauge and estimate .09 for Monday and .07 for Tuesday.

I notice some cold damage to unopened Bacon Avocado blossoms, but no damage to Mexicola or Hass.

Thursday 26 February 1987

Up at 5:30 to go to town. Arrived at hiway at 7:45, met Joseph, and we convoy to Aquarium. Meeting not interesting or useful. Tour Aquarium where Dr. Braumman is docenting. Lunch, then to Salinas where Joseph pays off. Then hay, grain, groceries purchased. Meet Joseph again at Rio Grill, etc., convoy down coast, food with J at Ventana, etc. Then pack up Whitey with provisions, riding home, and arriving by midnight.

Friday 27 February 1987

Sunny day. Saw footprints around cabin and in barn from yesterday. Let stock graze near future drinking fountain monument. Took them to hiway, leaving around 4pm. Packed a bale of oat hay and 75lbs. grain on Chink, and groceries on Whitey.

Saw Tani, Lanny, Barbara & Ehren on hiway. Tani headed to Cayucos until ranch sells.

Arrived here at 7:30pm.

More *Craterellus cornucopioides* on lower trail.

Saturday 28 February 1987

Some cirrus most of the day, but sunny and warmer than yesterday.

Hauled firewood from upper corral area. Stock had gotten around makeshift refencing, and were grazing around fallen water tank. Consequently, moved drift fence from near jct of firebreak with trail below cabin to point where old beehive was. Finished after sunset; and a cold south wind blowing.

Large ring around sun in afternoon.

Sunday 1 March 1987

FROST

Cirrus clouds in west and south, and fog on coast up to 1,800' at 8am. Cirrus thicken and move over whole sky by noon, with fog burning off and returning and covering cabin by 2pm. Wind from north, then from south, until 2pm, when it picks up speed and becomes steady from SE, up to 25 mph. Very dark cirrus in west.

Fog burns off by 4-5pm and sun comes out ½ hour before sunset, under heavy cirro-stratus deck. Very thin clouds at night.

Transplanted strawberry (Fraise de Bois) from near root cellar to area under Ponderosa Pines near front gate. Got ca. 50 plants.

Fixed up cairn for drinking fountain in afternoon.

Split 2 wheelbarrows of firewood.

John Molteni died today.

A little frost in early AM and snow still visible to 3,500' on Hot Springs Peak.

Monday 2 March 1987

T
28.12

Heavy cumulus deck over all of sky, ceiling at 3,500' at 8am. Light SE wind. Slight misty drizzle from 7:30-8am. Ceiling raises to 3,800' and some cloud break up in west by 10am. Cumulus mostly gone by 1:30pm, but moderate high cirro-stratus covers sky. Thick cumulus deck rematerializes by mid-afternoon, and is thick until 8-9pm. Sun comes out under clouds at sunset.

Moved dirt from lower barn door to area north of drinking fountain to bring it up to grade. Brought down and split a load of oak from upper flats.

Cloudy off and on through night. Wind picks up in morning.

Tuesday 3 March 1987

Patchy high cirrus, thick in places. Lots of wind waves on ocean, coming in from west. Wind gusting to 40 mph from SE. Warmish. Hazy air.

To hiway by noon, P.O., then to Kaye's for lawn mowing, wood splitting and digging behind garage. Good news from Cinnie.

Leave from hiway with half bale oat and 5 gallons kerosene, arrive here at 9pm.

Very windy still from SE, moon indistinct behind cloud blanket.

Bar. 30.00 in evening.

Wednesday 4 March 1987

1.40
29.52

Billowy cumulus moving in from south in early AM, then decreasing. Thick cirro-stratus up high, and some fog starting at 2,000' around 9am. Strong, gusty SE wind up to 50-60 mph in morning. Very hazy air. bar. 29.95 at 9am. Dark storm front in west by 10am. Cleaned out water bars from house to water tank and down firebreak, then worked from house, down back trail to Tin House and up to Michael's Pt. and home by 4pm. Brought down a load of oak from upper flats and stored in barn.

First sprinkles of rain at 5:30pm. Andy Pk reported wind gust of 62 knots at 12:30pm. Ceiling below cabin by 11pm.

Gathering for John Molteni today at Sand Dollar Picnic. Had a good dinner of *Craterellus* over noodles, from patch near Tin House Road.

Thursday 5 March 1987

3.05
32.57

Heavy rain off and on thru AM. Winds are down to 40 or so, from the SE, at 8-9am. Read 1.4 in north gauge, .60 in south. bar. 29.80 at 8am. Ceiling below cabin. Wind continues, with rain tapering off a bit by 3pm. 29.73 at 5:15. Heavy drizzle after 4pm. South wind at 20 mph.

2 eggs at 4pm, got Chink & Whitey from old corral and fed them in stalls. Cleaned out a few water bars around house. Read 2.05" in N. gauge at 4:45pm and dumped gauge.

Drizzle diminishes slightly thru the night; still falling at midnight thru heavy fog. Almost no wind, but from the south.

Numerous rock slides on hiway at night.

Friday 6 March 1987

.06
32.63

Read 1.00 in north gauge, 1.61 in south, for a total of 3.05 in north gauge. All of sky, except for narrow slit in west, covered with thick, high cumulus, with a 4,500' ceiling. Light north breeze. Mild or cool temp. Partington is roaring. bar. 30.00 at 8am

Drizzle starts around 10am and continues until 1pm or so. South wind starts shortly before drizzle and continues all day.

Ceiling at 4,000' thru most of afternoon, clear on coast. Sun comes out from under cloud deck just before sunset.

Planted the other half of the fava beans. Started preparing onion patch on upper terrace. Split wheelbarrow of oak.

Clouds break up after sunset, with clear sky and frost, ¼ moon.

Large hatching of termites from under stove. Noticed after 3pm.

Saturday 7 March 1987

.02

32.65

Complete overcast at 7am, ceiling at cabin. Clear on coast, but fog forming at 1,800' by 8:30am. Very light breeze from SE, 2-4 mph. Read .06 in south gauge, bar. 29.92 at 8:45am.

Ceiling lowers to engulf cabin by mid-day, then rises and begins to break up by 4:30pm. Sun comes out around 5:30pm. North wind after 3pm. Very light breeze. Fog in and out all day.

Planted 30 yellow and 90 red onion starts in upper terrace.

Dug a deep hole for fruit tree on east side of chicken pen. Stored 4 wheelbarrows of DG, from bottom of hole, next to barn to fill in holes in stall floors.

Small hatching of termites. Started around 2pm.

Clear at 10pm.

Sunday 8 March 1987

.06
32.71

Rain about 5-5:30am, and a fine drizzle falling on and off 7 thru 11am. Read .02 in south gauge at 8am, .05 by 10:45am. Very light SE breeze. Ceiling below cabin. bar. 29.95 at 9am.

Slight occasional drizzle until noon. Incident of cumulus/fog mass until 4-5pm, then clouds pull away. North wind after 2pm.

Fog in and out after 5pm, below cabin, with lots of dark cirrus in west and elsewhere. Clear sky and no fog by 10pm.

Heidi Hopkins & Paula Pemmington hike over for lunch, leave by 3pm.

Dug another hole for fruit tree above chicken pen. Yielded 5 wheelbarrows of DG.

Monday 9 March 1987

Read .06 in south gauge. Light north breeze, cool temp. Clear sky. Clear on coast. Bright and sunny and clear air. bar. 30.05 at 9am.

To hiway at 11am, P.O. (\$), lunch with Anne McGowan, see Brian, go to bank, buy groceries. Delivered items in Pebble Beach for Anne Norman to pick up and I took scenic drive thru the old neighborhood.

Arrived at Doug & John's around 7pm, had dinner with them and Virginia Varda.

Back here by 1am, in cold moonlight. Cold S. wind.

Tuesday 10 March 1987

.72
33.43

Fogged in at 6am, which clears by 7am, and lots of cirrus in early morning. Cold south wind. Thick cumulus bank in west moves over sky, with ceiling at 4,500-5,000'. Complete overcast by 11am. Ceiling at 4,000' by noon. Sprinkles of rain fall by 1pm on and off until fairly good sprinkles by sunset. Light rain/heavy drizzle thru the night.

Wednesday 11 March 1987

Trace
33.42

Cabin socked in during AM, with occasional brightness. South wind, with a couple of rain sprinkles from 9:30-noon. Ceiling lifts in afternoon, and at 3,800' by 5pm. Cumulus cover is extensive, with a little bright sunlight getting thru. Bright clear patch in far west at 5pm. Read .72 in north gauge at 8am.

Cut some ripgut grass around clover patch.

Sun actually comes out after 5pm, with fog north and south on coast up to 800'.

Brought down stock and 1 load oak from upper flats.

Thursday 12 March 1987

1.2
34.63

Very light SE breeze. Thin, high cirrus throughout sky, with thick cumulus beyond Pfeiffer Pt. Cumulus moves over sky rather quickly, mostly overcast by 7:30am. Fog on most of coast to 800'. bar. 30.03 at 7am. Looks like I'll get wet during school commute.

Light drizzle by 9am, when I get to Partington Rd. I drive off Partington Ridge Rd. ¼ mile or so up from hiway and ride van down ravine to stop just short of vertical drop-off to hiway. Mocho & I are both banged up and walk back up to road. Spent most of day at Sam & Eby's with Peter H. checking me out and Judith visiting. John L. comes by and helps me get things out of van, and also helps pack up Mocho in pack bag on Whitey. I

ride horse and arrive here at 7:30pm. Very tired and sore. Mocho with 104° fever and not too mobile. Call Dr. Williams at 10:45pm and give Mocho aspirin.

Friday 13 March 1987

Sun is out in early AM, with some cirrus. Cool SE wind most of day. Cumulus develop on top of Coast Ridge by mid-morning, with ceiling lowering to engulf cabin just before sunset. Clear later in night, by 9pm. Cold temp.

Read 1.2" in north gauge, .62" in south.

Mocho better, fever down with aspirin and I am giving him 400mg terramycin 4 times a day, per Dr. Williams.

Saturday 14 March 1987

.78
35.41

Dark looking clouds in west and south, white cumulus everywhere else, ceiling at 5,000' at 8am, and 4,000' by 10am. Cold north and south breeze, ceiling at 3,800' and drizzle falling at 11am. Wind mostly from SE at noon, with light drizzle and ceiling below cabin.

Split firewood stacked in barn and cleaned out stalls.

Mocho has 103.5° fever at noon and I give him aspirin. He was up and around, outside and up to barn and eliminated well.

Rain increasing thru day, becoming hard for a while from 1-2pm. North wind starts after 2:30 or so, with hard rain for a while from 3-3:15pm. Rain is over by 3:30, and semi-clearing by 4. Cold north wind and scattered cumulus at sunset. From 9pm or so thru early AM of Sunday there are scattered flurries of small, dry snow pellets falling here. I slept on couch, kept fire up all night.

Sunday 15 March 1987

.03
35.44

Snow flurries until 4-5am. Partial clearing at 7-8am, but more on the way. Read .78" in south gauge, ca. .75-77" in north. Lots of rainbows over Partington canyon in late AM – and early afternoon. Occasional rain squalls, very light, until 1pm, then mostly clear in afternoon, with cumulus on Coast Ridge all day.

More clouds in evening and occasional squalls a couple of times in the night. Cold north wind all day.

Mocho's temp. at 39° (102.2° F), he is better.

Snow level down to 3,000' at 8am, and rising thru day as it melts off.

Monday 16 March 1987

Read .03 in south gauge. Masses of cumulus in south and west in early AM, gone by 9am. Mostly north wind in AM, though much milder in temp. and force. Some pretty cumulus around mid-day on Coast Ridge, and some thin, high cirrus, but otherwise clear. In afternoon there is very little wind, with light warm breeze from south and occasional east gusts. Some fog on coast in afternoon. Cirrus in far west at sunset.

Mocho running around after tennis ball. 39° C, talked to vet and will take him in on Thurs.

Some snow still visible around top of Hot Springs Peak.

Tuesday 17 March 1987

Mostly clear sky with some cumulus in far west and south and a little thin, high cirrus. Wind gentle and mild from north and SE. Air fairly clear.

Some fog forming at 2,000' in afternoon, but not lasting. Cirrus increase through afternoon. Thick cirrus in west and around sunset. SE wind in afternoon.

Brought down wheelbarrow of oak from upper flats and split and stacked it.

Daffodils below cabin bloom today.

Wednesday 18 March 1987

.03
35.47

Very light breeze from south and north and cold temp. Lots of long, thin cirrus, and cumulus bank in far west and south. Wind pretty much steady to 15 mph after 10am, cold temp. Cumulus moves closer, reaching here by 11am. bar. 29.96 at 11am. Rubis Peach starts blooming today.

Brought down stock and staked them below cabin on flats.

Brought down 1 wheelbarrow of oak and split and stacked it.

Stock in barn for trip tomorrow.

Clouds thicken thru day with ceiling around 4,000' at sunset. Snow falls in the early AM hours of the 19th.

Thursday 19 March 1987

Trace
35.47

Cold north wind with patchy cumulus. Dusting of snow down to this elevation from early this AM. Just a few flakes frozen to wooden surfaces here, but a good covering on top of Coast Ridge. It melts as soon as the sun hits it. Clouds clear off thru the day, but there is a trace of rain from 8am to noon.

To hiway to meet Katy and borrow her truck for a town trip. I leave stock for Al to shoe at laurel tree. Mocho checked out OK at vets and I buy groceries. Talk to Peña re: van towing, and drop by Katy's at sunset and pick up Subaru for me to use. Leave hiway at 7pm, arrive here at 8:30. Cold ride up hill.

Friday 20 March 1987

.85
36.32

Cold SE wind all day with thick cirro-stratus layer, which thickens by mid-day into strato-cumulus, with a ceiling at around 5,000' by 3pm. Thick cumulus by sunset, with ceiling at 3,500' and piling up out to sea.

Rain begins to fall by 2am, with hail a little later. Wind is from the north after 5am on the 21st.

Brought a wheelbarrow of oak down from upper flats; split and stacked it.

Bar. 29.92 at 3pm.

Saturday 21 March 1987

.16
36.48

Hail until 7am, cold north wind and ceiling at 3,400'. Clouds break up after 7, with cumulus squalls moving in from west every hour or so. Some hail at 9am, then clearing and a good snow flurry 11-11:30am. More around noon. Wind gusts up to 15 mph. Read .85" in north gauge and .74 in south gauge at 8am. Bar. 29.81 at noon, with clearing sky.

Hail or snow flurries every hour or so, lasting 10 minutes per event. This continues from about 1pm through 10pm. Some large, wet flakes around 3pm and 5pm.

Wind from the north all night, but decreasing after midnight.

Heavy hatching of termites from under the stove from 7-10pm.

Sunday 22 March 1987

.40
36.88

Clear and cold in early AM. North wind until midday. Read .16 in south gauge, ca. .10 in north. Flecks of snow all over roof, benches, etc. until sun melts them. Heavier snow from last night above 3,400'.

Some puffy cumulus with ceiling at 2,500-3,000' on Coast Ridge and sometimes here, which burn off and reform throughout afternoon.

Heavy mats of cloud in far west at 4pm, moving closer until all of sky is covered by 7pm.

South wind after 10-11am, and cold temp.

Brought down wheelbarrow of oak from upper flats, split and stacked it.

Monday 23 March 1987

.10
36.98

Rain starts around 2-3am. Light south wind, which picks up around 6am. Some heavy rain from 6:30-7am. Wind is from the north after 7:30am, and rain becomes heavy drizzle. Read .40 in north gauge, .34 in south.

Drizzle dries up by 10am or so, with rapid clearing and a few puffy cumulus on top of Coast Ridge by 1pm. Cold north wind.

John Cluett and sister, Isabelle, and her husband, Mike, and daughter, Lucy, walk thru on way to hiway via Swiss Camp. Leave here at 4pm.

Tuesday 24 March 1987

FROST

Frost in early AM, south wind before noon. Fine day, sunny, with north wind later in day. Read .10" in south gauge.

Walk to highway and meet Brian Steen and we drive to Vanderveens' and J. Hudson's to discuss my work on botany of their easements. Then I drive Subaru to Kaye's, spend afternoon and evening there. Drinks with Kaye & Toyis & Burt & John Roberts(!) Then hike back up hill. Arrive here at 9pm. Cold north wind in evening.

Wednesday 25 March 1987

Clear and warming temp. Very little wind.

To hiway, leave here at 10am, walk down and drive to Partington, where Mike Peña & Mark are hoisting van from "Blackberry Gulch." Judith & Robert there also. Van is up by noon and I clean out salvageable hay, tools, etc. David L. & Craig H. come by and haul hay to Kaye's. I have lunch at Fernwood, see Mary F. and go to library. Tow truck (flatbed) from town picks up van at 4:30-5pm.

I walk up Tin House Road, leave at 5pm, arrive at 6:30pm. Warmer air, light north wind, clear sky.

Collected stock on firebreak below water tank and put in barn for night.

Thursday 26 March 1987

Clear and warmer. Light north breeze.

Got up at 5 and fed stock, left here at 7:15am, arrive at hiway at 8 and got ride from John L. to Pacific Valley School for "science." On way back up coast, picked up faring from Limekiln drinking fountain below the chimney to transplant to my new drinking fountain.

Leave hiway at 4:30 or so, arrive here on Chink at 5:45. Turned stock loose in upper pasture, which is getting scant.

Buried a hen, who must have died yesterday, in a fruit tree hole this AM.

Friday 27 March 1987

Warmer, with clear sky and variable breezes, mostly from north, but drifting to NE sometimes. Apricot trees start blooming this AM. Bees very active. Muscat grapes are almost leafed out, as are Chardonnay.

Termite hatching starts about 3pm, moderate in quantity. Gusty east wind picks up after 5pm.

Patchy fog to 200' on coast, increasing thru the afternoon to almost total coverage, then diminishing in late afternoon.

Planted Simpson, Bibb and Romaine lettuces in upper terrace, and got potato patch started in swing patch.

Saturday 28 March 1987

Gusty east or NE wind until 7am, then calm with light south breeze at 11am. Warm temp. No fog on coast. Bar. 29.95 at 11am.

Planted 24 red potato starts and about a dozen Baltic Ambers in swing patch. Planted beets, carrots and spinach in upper terrace.

Brought down a wheelbarrow of oak from upper flats and split it.

Persimmon starts leafing out.

Sunday 29 March 1987

Warm and mild. SE breeze. Clear sky, clear on coast.

Picked up 40-50lbs. of limestone from water tank flat for Douglas' truffle tree, loaded on Whitey and rode down to tea at Lafler, by pool. D & J in good form and Howard Bradford, Edmund K., Barbara & John Batz, and lots of others, and tenants, and Judith. Doug presented me with a loquat seedling with advice to plant in front of house. A good time.

Back up here by 8:30pm. Warm evening, and madrone trees are like gardenias.

Monday 30 March 1987

Warm SE wind with thick cirro-cumulus in early AM. Balmy feeling air is calm in lee of ridge. Madrones are very fragrant in AM and at night.

To hiway, to Katy's and then to town in Subaru, to Hudson Estate office and bank, and feed, groceries, new battery for car. Leave town by 5pm, to Katy's for a drink, then up the hill with groceries, arrive here around 9:15pm. Cool in evening with thin, high cirrus.

Ocean flat and glassy and air is very clear today.

Tuesday 31 March 1987

Warm SE wind gusting up to 35 mph. Lots of high cirro-cumulus and cirrus. Hazy air. Clear on coast, ocean not as glassy as yesterday.

Bar. 29.85 at 9am.

Cut a lot of ripgut and piled up to mulch around grapes in front yard. Cut ripgut around barn also.

Cirrus buildup in west at sunset. Thin, high cirrus throughout day and night.

Emilia Newell died, either today or yesterday, at home, of cancer.

Wednesday 1 April 1987

Trace
36.98

Warming breeze from SE. Air a little hazy, fog bank far out to sea and some cirrus far out in south, but clear overhead.

Bar. 29.90 at 9am.

Cleaned stalls and hauled down a load of compost for upper terrace.
Cut ripgut around 3 fruit trees and piled for mulch.
Prepared 3 beds for planting after lunch.

Planted chard, peas and beans in upper terrace in afternoon.
Brought down load of oak from upper flats and split and stacked it.
Brought down stock and put in barn for tomorrow.

Clouds start moving in fast in afternoon, with wisps thickening into cloud layer, which covers most of sky by sunset.

Judith calls tonight to report receiving \$40,000 from Lucile Packard for Friends of Library.

Thursday 2 April 1987

.04
37.02

Up at 5 to feed stock. Slight drizzle had occurred last night, with wet benches and ground outside. Visible slight drizzle around 7am. Ceiling below cabin by 6, with patchy cumulus before that. Clouds break up again by 8am, with north wind all morning. Clouds thicken later and some rain falls in early afternoon, while I'm at Pacific Valley School. Slight trace sprinkle there around 2pm.

John L. drives me to Pacific Valley School, meet him at 8am at highway. Then back up coast via the baths, and dinner with Charlotte & Wally, just in from Fla., at Nepenthe. Back up here by 9pm.

Clouds break up thru afternoon, but lots of fog and moving cirrus. Clear on ride home, except for thin cirrus. Thick fog forms at this level after 9pm, then evaporates a little later.

Surf is very high today. Colder temp.

Friday 3 April 1987

.12
37.14

Read .04 in south gauge. South wind with lots of low puffy cumulus moving in from west, with cirro-stratus above. Cumulus periodically socks cabin in, then moves on, generally getting thicker thru AM. Lots of static bursts on radio from lightening. Temp. much colder than yesterday morning. Around 11am, wind shifts from south to north, or NW, and increases to 30-40 mph. Cabin socked in at noon, bar. at 29.58. Rain starts and lasts for an hour at a moderate rate, and by 3pm is over. Clouds steadily break up and sky is mostly clear by sunset. Cold north wind through the night.

Heavy 1/4" diameter hail reported 12-1pm in Willow Creek/Alder Pk. area, and at 8am today a "tornado" touched down just north of Salinas and wrecked some hot houses. Today "M.J." lit off the cabin at the "Edge of the Wild," on the W.C. side of Plaskett Ridge, and involved several acres of brush. Hail storm put it out + USFS and locals.

Saturday 4 April 1987

Clear sky with heavy cumulus bank out to sea in west and south. Light north breeze in early AM, becoming SE by 9am, choppy whitecaps on ocean. Cool temp. Cumulus builds on Anderson Pk. and Hot Springs Pk. and Gamboa and San Martin Top in mid-AM. bar. 29.84 at 11:30am.

Cumulus thickens above South Coast, but it remains clear here all day. Ceiling is at 2,500' or so down there.

Clear at sunset, except for a little cirrus and a line of cumulus in the west.

Wind becomes westerly around 1-2pm, then gusts from the north after 3pm.

Mucked stalls, brought down wheelbarrow of compost for swing terrace. Cut a lot of ripgut around fruit trees and beehives.

Tilled part of lower terrace.

Sunday 5 April 1987

Variable breezes, mostly from west. Mild temp. Line of cumulus in far west and south, and a patch of "buttermilk," around 7am, but mostly clear with a little cirrus here and there. Large patch of thin, high cirrus in west by noon.

Small hatching of termites at 8-9pm.

Monday 6 April 1987

Beautiful warm day.

Brought down 2 loads of oak from upper flats.

Brought down stock and fed them in prospective fruit tree sites near chicken coop. Then, in afternoon, down to hiway to pick up 100lbs. of grain. Pretty afternoon for a ride, lots of madrone perfume, green oak leaves, etc.

Put stock in barn for night and fed them fresh cut oats from manure pile.

Small hatching of termites in afternoon.

Tuesday 7 April 1987

Warm and pleasant morning. Watered garden, etc. and left here for hiway at 11. Go to P.O., make phone calls at Pt. Sur, and meet Anne McGowen around 2pm. Then Land Trust, then Monterey, and groceries. Arrived at Tin House Road at 7:45pm. Nice ride up hill, mild temp.

Pork chops for dinner at 11pm.

Opened all windows in house to cool it off; first time this season.

Wednesday 8 April 1987

Warmer and breezy today, with winds variable throughout day.

Cut a lot of ripgut around fruit trees and cabernet grapes.

Split 2 wheelbarrow loads of oak and left it out to dry.

Started preparing melon patch on south edge of swing patch.

Thursday 9 April 1987

Up at 5, fed stock, left here by 7:15. Clear and warm up here, hazy on coast up to 300'.

Met John, and to Pacific Valley School. Fairly good day there. Left hiway around 4:30pm, arrived here around 6. Turned stock loose, watered garden and fed chickens.

Warm and clear with a few cirrus in PM here. Fog started to form a little at Pacific Valley.

Friday 10 April 1987

Warm and breezy wind, from the north mostly, although also from the west and south. Choppy whitecaps on the ocean. Fog out a short distance to sea in mid-AM, retreats in afternoon. A few cirrus in AM, and then a “buttermilk” pattern from the west in mid-afternoon. Thicker cirrus in far west moves over sky by sunset. Ring around sun in morning, and a ring around the moon for a while around 9pm.

Tilled part of lower terrace, mucked stalls, brought down load of compost for melons, disbudded some grapes. Lettuce, spinach, chard, beets are all up.

Bees are very busy today, with lots of madrone, lilac, etc. to work on.

Saturday 11 April 1987

Thick, high layer of cirrus over all of sky in early AM, with some fog up to 2,000' on coast, and a fog layer on Hot Springs Peak flowing from East. Fog burns off by 10am, cirrus breaks up a little, and cumulus layer forms over Gamboa Ridge by 11. Wind from the west after 10am, from the east and north before that. Much cooler temp. than yesterday. Cirrus have moved to south by noon, and a thick band of cumulus is in far west. Ocean is very choppy or whitecapped.

* * *

Tuesday 14 April 1987

Mocho died at 10pm.³

* * *

Friday 1 May 1987

Brought Cisco home today.⁴

* * *

Thursday 7 May 1987

.20
38.64

³ Mocho had never fully recovered from the accident. Vet started exploratory surgery and discovered that Mocho was suffering from advanced cancer. Jeff was very upset and it was a month before he began writing regularly again.

⁴ New puppy.

Lightening strike below Prussin house and east of Steven's Flat, around 4pm, burned oak snag and 30' X 100' area of forest.

Nasty wind storm up here. Tore up grapevines, stripped lemon bushes. East and SE gales up to 80 mph. Lightening strikes mostly to the east and north in Salinas Valley and Gabilans. I reported a strike on the south flank of upper Andy Pk. – turned out to be Ponderosa Pine pollen blowing out during severe wind. No Forest Service response – I 10-22 them.

* * *

Friday 15 May 1987

Fog rises up to cabin or just below. Cool temp. here.

To hiway. Coastlands with watercress, to town, groceries, back to Coastlands, cut weeds, eat stew, back home by 11pm. We are above fog by about 50', but it comes in by 11:30pm.

Saturday 16 May 1987

Thick overcast most of day, with ceiling at 1,200' and top of clouds at about 3,800'.

To Kaye's for May party and multiple birthdays. Lots of everybody.

Back here by 11pm, with stars barely visible above fog.

Sunday 17 May 1987

.01
38.65

Thick overcast up here all day, with ceiling at about 2,000'.

To Pacific Valley School for Blanco Diablo's 89th birthday party.

Back here by 8pm.

Monday 18 May 1987

.14
38.79

Heavy mist in early AM, becoming light drizzle throughout day. Ceiling below cabin all day with low visibility. Read .01 in south gauge at 8am. South wind all day.

Cleaned outhouse, put 1 wheelbarrow of night soil in each of 5 fruit tree holes.

Tuesday 19 May 1987

.20
38.99

Read .14" in south gauge. Light drizzle from 8am to about 10am. Ceiling rises to 3,000' by noon, then lowers. 43° at 8am. South wind thru noon.. Lowering and rising of ceiling all day, then finally lowers by 4pm to below cabin. Brought in photovoltaics around 6pm. Drizzle by 7pm, very fine. Continues off and on through night. South wind continues. Cold at night.

Wednesday 20 May 1987

.01
39.00

Read .20 in north gauge, .15 in south. Cold south wind, 5-8 mph. Ceiling below cabin. Not much drizzle from 6:30-8:30. Then a slight drizzle for an hour or so.

Cleaned out bee-room in barn.

More drizzle in late afternoon, continues thru evening and at night. Some dripping off eaves at night.

Thursday 21 May 1987

T
39.00

Read .01 in south gauge.

Fog seems thin here in AM, with south wind and slightly warmer temp.

To town, bank, groceries, etc. Puppy shots for Cisco and taping of horse-stomp damage to foot this AM. Back home by 7:15pm.

Al Tyler shod horse & mule today.

Fog much thinner, with ceiling at Michael's Pt. when I leave hiway, and go thru fog, which is at cabin level, barn clear! Fog lowers and lowers before sunset, clear to coast by 9pm.

Warmer temp. in afternoon.

* * *

Tuesday 26 May 1987

Read .09 in south gauge.

Sky filled with cumulus from sea level to 6-8,000'. Drizzle out to sea at 9am makes pretty rainbows. Drizzle here around 10-12am. Cumulus ceiling around 2,000'. In and out here, sometimes in cloud, but mostly clear.

Brought down compost for corn, watered and spaded corn patch, planted beets.

A little warmer than yesterday. Cold north wind all day.

* * *

Tuesday 14 July 1987

Soberanes Creek botany for Land Trust.

Dinner at Keith & Connie's.

* * *

Thursday 30 July 1987

10 eggs from 11 hens today.

Heard sea lions at Grimes Pt. this AM.

Friday 31 July 1987

Heard sea lions this AM.

Light SE breeze, 75° at 10am.

Clear, a little hazy.

Hot temps. High 80s, little breeze.

Saturday 1 August 1987

SE wind up to 20 mph, pleasant, 75° at 7am. Hazy air, no clouds.

To Mill Creek for Debbie Zachary's birthday. Fog came in around sunset, up to 800'. Hot up here all night.

Sunday 2 August 1987

Fog up to 8 or 9 hundred feet. Light SE breeze, hazy air, no clouds. Temp. 75° at 8am.

Monday 3 August 1987

Hot, little wind, SE until 4pm, then from north. No clouds, fog on coast up to 800', then patchy after noon, and thick after 6pm.

Around 90° by 3-4pm.

Air is clear above fog.

Lots of baby spiders hatching in house. They are black widows.

Tuesday 4 August 1987

90° by 11am. Fog on coast up to 600', patchy cover north of McWay at 11am. Light breeze. A line or two of small, high, puffy cumulus, with virga in southern sky, moving to north thru AM.

To Swiss Camp and met Judith, talk about library, etc. and I show her the area. Walk back via woodyard and I carried back a 17' 2" X 4" for wisteria trellis.

Very hot in afternoon. A light 2-5 mph breeze now and then from NW, but not enough. Patchy fog on coast in PM. 10 eggs today.



Alta Vista in September, 1987. Wisteria vine visible to right of ladder.

* * *

Monday 5 October 1987

First day of business at new library. Trip to town.

* * *

Thursday 15 October 1987

Laid pipe from upper end and cast iron to water tank T. Worked on angles, etc. for water tank hook-up.

Friday 16 October 1987

Finished up connection to water tank.

Saturday 17 October 1987

Attended opening of Big Sur Library. Saw film of setting up branch libraries in Big Sur in 1916! Lots of people there. Got back here by dark.

* * *

Tuesday 20 October 1987

T

Mixed clouds throughout day.

Felt one, lone, miniscule drop of rain on face at around 2pm. So did J., there, and Marilu, at Marble Peak.

Laid pipe from water tank T to lowest hayfield T.

Gaudy sunset with vivid bit of rainbow over Lost Valley.

Wednesday 21 October 1987

.05"

Trace of rain in mid-morning, just enough to begin to lay down the dust, then evaporated by mid-afternoon. SE wind, high, thick cirro-cumulus.

Laid pipe from lowest hayfield T to upper hayfield T.

Beautiful sunset when sun emerges under cloud.

Sprinkle of rain starts around 8pm, and continues off and on thru night, as a light to heavy occasional drizzle.

Thursday 22 October 1987

.50"

.55"

Read .05 in north gauge, .05 in south gauge at 8am.

Patchy sunlight at dawn, ceiling around 5,000', lots of cumulus piles and anvil clouds, etc., then clouds thicken, with a ceiling around 4,000'. Rain starts in at around 8am, with showers off and on throughout day, with some brightness and sun in between. Mostly cloudy, though. Wind up to 40-45 mph out of SE in mid-morning through mid-afternoon. Spectacular rainbow over Anderson Pk. at 5pm. Sprinkles and showers off and on thru night.

Friday 23 October 1987

.30

.85

Read .50" in north gauge, .36" in south gauge, at 8am.

Showers off and on from 6:30am to 8am. Wind 5-15 mph out of SE. Ceiling below cabin. 55° F at 8am.

Runoff just beginning to appear on trails. Heavy drizzle/shower at 8:18am.

Drizzle and rain off and on until about 2-3pm. Ceiling lifts to 4,000' by 2pm, above 5,000' by 4pm.

Thin, high overcast, stars, at 10pm.

Saturday 24 October

Read .30 in north gauge.

Mostly clear north of Pfeiffer Pt., with clouds at 5,000' at 7am, 4,000' by noon and thick and solid south of here.

SE wind 15-20 mph, cool. Ocean smooth with very regular pattern of swells from the west.

Clouds break up steadily through afternoon, with some cirro-cumulus remaining in west at sunset.

Sunday 25 October 1987

Some fog on top of Coast Ridge at dawn, and cirrus in west. Clear elsewhere, air hazy, ocean glassy. Gusty NE to east wind up to 20 mph around dawn, decreasing by 8am. Warmer temp.

Harvested 378 walnuts.

Monday 26 October 1987

.02

.87

Patchy cirro-cumulus in north and west, with thick cloud deck in SE. Wind up to 30 mph from SE in early AM, decreasing to 5-15 in mid-AM. Clouds move closer, with front moving over cabin by noon. Warmer temp. 75° even with cloud cover.

Fixed cabin roof over porch; just finishing nailing when slight sprinkle occurs at 5pm. Then sprinkle/drizzle from 8pm – 10pm. Ceiling above 5,000'. Mild temp. throughout night.

Winds are from SW and west at night. Some static on AM radio.

Tuesday 27 October 1987

1.15

2.02

Read .02 in south gauge for last night's rain.

Total overcast by 8am, although in early AM stars were visible. 72° outside at 8am. Light breeze from SE. Looks like some rain out to sea.

Wednesday 28 October 1987

.03

2.05

Read 1.01 in south gauge and 1.15 in north gauge.

Thick cloud cover here, with rain up to 6am. South wind, up to 15 mph, decreasing by dawn. Clouds lift by 8am with some sunlight. Fog up to 2,000' at dawn, reaching cabin when I leave here at 9am.

To town with Wally. Back here by 10pm. Slight drizzle.

Thursday 29 October 1987

T
2.05

Read .03 in S. gauge.

Fog thru much of day. Ocean visible when ceiling gets high enough.

Cut some firewood.

Very slight drizzle in late afternoon.

Clear by 10pm, but clouds move over in middle of night and disperse before dawn.

Friday 30 October 1987

Nice sunrise, with lots of thin, high cirrus. High ceiling lowers to 4,000' by 8am, 3,500' by 9am, becoming thick cirro-cumulus. Light SE breeze. 55° F outside.

Finished cementing the 2" PVC pipe and prepared a PVC "T" for new orchard.

Cloudy skies at sunset and looks like rain. Ceiling at ca. 5,000'.

Saturday 31 October 1987

.02
2.07

Good shower of rain for a few minutes around 7am.

High overcast all day with a few breaks now and then. Just a trace of rain around sunset, with very faint rainbow over Anderson Peak.

Patchy clouds through night.

Sunday 1 November 1987

Read .02 in south gauge.

Cloudy, with ceiling at 3,000' much of day, raising to 4,000' by 4pm; clear above with cumulus in west by sunset. **COLD** north wind after sunset. 40° at Marble Peak at 9pm. 45° here at midnight.

To Marble Peak at 4pm for Pony Duke's 50th B-day. Lots of people and food. Back here by 11pm.

Monday 2 November 1987

T
2.07

North wind until 3pm, when it starts out of SE. Splatter of big raindrops from 1-2pm. A few cumulus on Coast Ridge and out to sea, increasing thru afternoon, with almost total cover by 2pm. Scattered clouds at sunset. Cold temp. 60° F max.

Installed 1" "T" at leaky spot in main line above chicken shed. "T" will supply new orchard.

Marble Peak reported hail and sleet there at 3pm.

Transplanted a dozen Coulter pines from area around new "T" to bulldozer trail below water tank. Hopefully, they will someday block off the Andy Pk. dome.

Tuesday 3 November 1987

.09
2.16

SE wind. Cool. Clear sky, with a little cirro-cumulus in SE. Warmer, by a few degrees, than yesterday.

Connected up the 2" pipe and turned it on at 4pm. No leaks! Water tasted a little soapy at first.

John & Marilu brought Maryellen Duke and Mina & Millard Cox to visit, and they were here for turning-on.

Wednesday 4 November 1987

.09
2.25

Read .09 in south gauge.

Fierce wind from NE and east comes up around 3am. Rain starts then. Winds up to 80 mph. No damage at 4am. Rain lets up around 7:30am. Winds continue through 9am. Ceiling around 5,800', patchy clouds out to sea, but solid rolled cumulus above.

More rain around 11am, off and on from then to 4pm. Winds are diminishing, but still get up to 40 mph in mid-afternoon.

Sun comes out at sunset for an incredibly rich crimson 10 minutes, during which there's a fine rainbow (double) over Andy Pk., pot of gold in gully below water tank.

Lunar rainbow over Partington Canyon at 8pm, with full moon revealed over Anderson Pk. for a few minutes.

Thursday 5 November 1987

.22
2.47

Light rain thru early AM. Read .09 in south gauge. SE breeze up to 20 mph. Ceiling below cabin until 8am, then up to 3,000'. Heavier rain, a good shower, around 8:45am. Rain showers become drizzly by 11am; no rain after noon. Ceiling lifts and clouds begin to break up, with partial clearing at sunset. SE wind all day.

Planted 16 Coulter pines on firebreak ridge below water tank.

Sky clear for a while around 10pm. Full moon.

Friday 6 November 1987

T
2.47

Read .22 at 8am.

Mostly solid overcast at 7am, with some light leaking thru. Ceiling at 4,000'+. Ceiling at 3,500' by 8am, and a slight drizzle falling. 50° at 7am, light wind from the SE. Drizzle continues until about 10am. Some moderate clearing, then more thick cumulus covering cabin in mid-afternoon. That comes with north wind, which continues lightly thru PM. Some high cirro-cumulus and low cumulus at sunset, then sky thickens later at night. Clear by midnight.

Saturday 7 November 1987

Clear sky except for a little cirrus in west. Wind from the south at 9am.

Cut several loads of firewood above chicken shed and moved them down to cabin (5-6 wheelbarrow loads).

Alan Eichman visited.

Sunday 8 November 1987

Cirrus increases from west, with a thin, streaky high layer over most of sky by sunset. Patchy fog develops in afternoon, forming 3 layers of fog, from top of Anderson down to coast.

Split and stacked firewood; there is about ½ cord now in Sunny Boy's room.

Ate several ripe figs and a good big handful of ripe Muscats. Weeded middle lemon and found ca. 30 lemons on it!

Monday 9 November 1987

T
2.47

Very fine, slight drizzle around 6:30-7am. Just enough to dampen the roof. Ceiling about 4,000'. Clouds break up after 7:30am. Clear sky, except for a little cirrus here and there, after 2pm.

Mild temp. in afternoon, light breeze from north, occasionally shifting to south.

Sally Stock & friend, John, visit.

Large veil-like swarms of tiny flies or midges flying just above broad leaf trees – walnuts and oaks. Swarms occupying a cubic yard. Look like curtains of constantly shifting particles, visible only when back lit by sun. Visitor thought the trees were smoking.

Tuesday 10 November 1987

Warmer today, with SE breeze most of day. Scattered cirrus.

Hooked up 3/4" black plastic water line to "T" for water tank, and ran it over the ridge to the pine trees on firebreak.

A couple of lost hikers near dump on back trail left hour after sunset. I sold them a flashlight and sent them on down Tin House Road.

Mars was brilliant in west after sunset, changing color with shifting haze in west.

Wednesday 11 November 1987

Warmer today, light SE breeze. A little hazy with some very thin, high cirrus.

Finished connecting pipe over ridge and watered trees.

Went to spring and checked flow. Both sources were low – a quart or so per minute from White Pine and Alder Springs each.

Thursday 12 November 1987

Lots of thick cirrus up high, and fog out to sea. SE wind.

To town with Richard Russo, who takes me around to do my town trip. Bought hay, grain, groceries, kerosene, did laundry, paid bills, made phone calls.

Packed up a full load on Whitey & Chink. Stacked hay and grain under tarp at bottom of Tin House Road.

Arrived here at 7:30pm.

Friday 13 November 1987

.86
3.33

Rain starts around 7:30am, and continues throughout day. Light north wind throughout storm.

Ceiling above 3,000' throughout. Temperature mild, around 55°.

Saturday 14 November 1987

Read .86 in south gauge.

Nice clear day. Cool air.

To highway and packed up 150lbs. of COB,⁵ and 100lbs. chicken feed.

Met Charlotte & Wally at bottom. Bob Pavlik & friend walked by and helped pack.

Arrived here after sunset.

Sunday 15 November 1987

Mild day, clear sky.

Brought up two and a half bales of hay in afternoon.

Til, from Esalen, came thru from Coast Ridge Rd. on mountain bike. Met him at bottom of Tin House Road.

⁵ "Corn, Oats & Barley" Livestock feed

Water pressure here has dropped – must be problem at spring.

Monday 16 November 1987

.05
3.38

Pleasant day, light south breeze. Scattered cirrus all day, becoming thick in afternoon.

Brought up last load of hay, two and a half bales.

Met Richard Jays on Tin House Road on mountain bike.

Jo Kooyman stopped while I was packing.

Went to spring in AM to check problem – the large two and a half foot dBH Alder tree had fallen across inlet to 2” line at 1st spring. The tree had peeled off the vertical rock face below upper spring ledge. It landed on trail, pointing toward home. Spring flow has doubled.

I managed to wiggle under unsteady tree and insert ½” plastic into 2” pipe. The tree must have fallen on Saturday, or very early Sunday. Spring must go back to being called “Sunshine.”

Tuesday 17 November 1987

.97
4.35

Read .05 in south gauge at 8am.

Rain started here at 3:30am. Light wind out of the south. Large drops for a few minutes.

Light drizzle at 8am. Ceiling above cabin.

Ceiling lowers by mid-morning. Periods of heavy rain, with drizzle the rest of the time. Drizzle/rain stops by sunset.

Clear by 10pm.

Wednesday 18 November 1987

Read .97 in north gauge.

Mild temp. Mostly SE breeze, up to 20 mph. Clear on coast, and a little hazy. Some cumulus in AM on Coast Ridge, and cirrus in west in afternoon, otherwise clear.

Cut stump regrowth in orchard area above chicken coop. Stacked it for burning, and located more firewood.

Thursday 19 November 1987

Strong SE winds, up to 50 mph, in early AM – lots of scattered cirrus, with patchy fog on coast up to 800'. Hazy air.

Cut firewood and brought down 10 wheelbarrow loads from above chicken coop.

Wind continues all day. Some cirrus in far west at sunset.

Friday 20 November 1987

.69
5.04

Mostly clear at 6am, then clouds move in from west very quickly. Wind is gusting up to 40 mph from SE. Ceiling at 4,300' by 7am, with cloud deck south to Lopez Pt. Ceiling at 3,500' by 8am. Rain starts at 8:30am, with showers increasing until wind shifts to north at noon. Then heavier rain until about 2pm. Wind up to 30 mph, temp. 43° outside. Rain turns into drizzle, which stops by 4pm - .65" in south gauge. Drizzle starts at 5pm again – off and on till 8pm.

Clear at 8:30pm. Cold north wind.

Saturday 21 November 1987

Read .69 in south gauge.

David Hagemeyer and a couple of others come by for lunch. He reported death of Kenny Meyrose in car wreck at Chinaman's Point – Little Sur, happening yesterday afternoon.

* * *

Monday 23 November 1987

Katy Stock and brother, Jackson, and sisters, Judy & Sally, visit. Help with rock hauling, nut picking.

Tuesday 24 November 1987

Jackson, Sally & Judy leave. Help with timber hauling and wood carrying.

* * *

Thursday 26 November 1987

Visited John & Marilu for dinner with Altree.

* * *

Saturday 28 November 1987

David Nelson visits.

Sunday 29 November 1987

First Frost

Frost in garden, on bare dirt and some grass at 7am. 42° outside.

David Nelson shows me a number of good mushrooms – notably *Boletus edulis*⁶ and *appendiculatus*⁷ from old camp area.

Leaves in afternoon with Katy Stock.

Monday 30 November 1987

1.60

6.64

Tuesday 1 December 1987

.03

6.67

Read 1.60 in north gauge, .93” in south gauge.

Burned piles of stump regrowth cuttings in upper orchard above chicken shed.

Wednesday 2 December 1987

.04

6.71

Read .03 in south gauge.

⁶ King Bolete (Porcini)

⁷ Butter Bolete

Burned brush and goat branch piles north of barn and chicken shed.

Marilu and her father, Augier Biddle Duke, visit. He went to Yale with Hugh Chisholm, knows his son.

Thursday 3 December 1987

.30
7.01

Read .04 in south gauge.

Burned stacks of goat branches outside barn and cleared and burned north side of ridge from house to barn.

Patchy clouds to thick overcast. Strong south wind.

Friday 4 December 1987

2.00
9.01

Rain starts at 3:30am, big drops, then tapers off until 7am. .30 at 8am. Heavy rain and wind up to 70 mph. Had to fix chicken shed roof and outhouse door. Rain slows 1-2pm. .70 at 2pm. Heavy rain after 3pm, with bar. at 29.55 at 3. North wind at 3:30pm, bar. 29.58 and static bursts on radio. 1.2" at 5pm, south wind at 20 mph. Ceiling below cabin.

* * *

Friday 11 December 1987

Mild temp. – high 60's to 70° in afternoon.

Took off 3 frames of fairly light honey from upper hive. Reduced it to 1 deep super and 1 deep + 1 medium supered brood chamber. Took off 1 deep super with 7 empty frames.

Took off 3 frames of slightly darker honey from lower south hive and replaced them with empty frames from upper hive. Took off a medium super from this hive and grafted it to lower north hive. Left lower south hive with a deep super + 1 deep brood chamber. Will check lower middle hive later.

Saturday 12 December 1987

Cold NE wind all day.
Clear air. 39° at 4pm.

Filled in water line.

A line of cumulus in west at sunset.

Fixed upper barn door on south side.

Sunday 13 December 1987

31° at 6am, strong NE wind up to 60 mph, becoming steadily calmer, 0 mph at noon. 1" of ice at 8am on dishes. Very clear air.

High temp. ca. 48°.

Wind dies down slowly throughout day. Calm by 6pm.

Lemon bushes look tired. Hass avocado by outhouse has new foliage rather burned. Other avocados OK.

Monday December 14 1987

Thin, high cirro-stratus, cold temp. 40° at 6am. Still air. ¼" of ice in AM.

Searched for livestock in McWay for Al Tyler tomorrow. Can't find them, so will cancel shoeing.

Tuesday 15 December 1987

.40

12.89

Searched for stock in McWay, Tin House, etc. until 2pm.

High winds today from SE. 40 mph in early AM, reaching 90 or 100 by mid-afternoon. Had to drive spike into the first rafter down from the top on north side of barn roof at south end. It was lifting off the diagonal beam. During the night, 15' of the top course of roofing paper came off the north side of barn. House roof OK, and same with chicken shed and outhouse.

Cold temp. 45° to 40°. A little hail and rain fell in mid-AM, then came big drops in scattered showers. Fortunately, not a lot of water with this wind.

Power off in Big Sur.

The fruit dryer was picked up and slammed against fence by back gate.

Wednesday 16 December 1987

.25
13.14

Read .40 in north gauge.

Still very windy, with rain off and on through the day.

Nailed cover onto the south lower hive. It had blown off in night. Bees inside were moving around over combs in super.

Barometer gets down to 29.33 from 3-6pm.

Wind change to NE around midnight.

Thursday 17 December 1987

Read .25 in north gauge.

Clear sky except a few cumulus on top of Coast Ridge, increasing in afternoon. Mild temp., bright, and SE breeze.

Found stock on point above Big Slide, at the bottom of the oak grove above John Waters. Waters Point.

Lots of down trees on Waters Ridge, especially below Michael's Point and above Jim House Spring. Found a mallow in brush regrowth on ridge below my lowest property line.

Friday 18 December 1987

Al Tyler

Al Tyler shod stock today.

Hitchhiked to Big Sur for groceries and mail. Made phone calls.

Back here at 5:30 in cold fog. Clear on top of Coast Ridge. Fog clears off in night.

Saturday 19 December 1987

Clear and sunny all day, with some scattered small cirrus.

Cold SE wind.

Alan Eichman visits. Says he is renting a house in Seaside from Twig Buckley.

Sunday 20 December 1987

FROST

Extensive frost on grass this AM. 40° or so at 6am.

Clear sky, hazy air below 2,000', with patchy fog on coast up to 1,000'.

Started digging up front yard to plant clover. Took 7 wheelbarrow loads of fill up to barn to fill in Chink's stall.

Monday 21 December 1987

.06
13.20

Sunny with cirrus up high and fog on coast, moving in here in afternoon. North wind. Thick buttermilk sky at sunset and lots of other clouds. Drizzle in early AM hours of 12-22.

Sick today with 99.5° + phlegm in nose and upper chest.

Tuesday 22 December 1987

T
Snow, Ice

½" of ice.
Read .06 in south gauge. Mixed cumulus, cirro-stratus at various elevations. North wind 5-10 mph.

Drizzle of rain for a few minutes in mid-day.

Brief snow flurry around 8pm.

North wind with temp. around 32° at sunset.

Strong, cold wind all night. 29° low temp.

Slept in front room and fed fire. Feeling better today.

Wednesday 23 December 1987

ICE

1.5" ice.

Cold wind, 60 mph and 32°

Slept in front room.

Thursday 24 December 1987

ICE

½" of ice.

Clear and cold.

Found stock just above Big Slide at 1pm.

To Kaye's for dinner with David & Charro & Sam, John & Maggie, Burt T. & John Roberts, the Bayless', Jan, Smokey. Katy Stock brought me back to Tin House Road.

Back here by 2am. 32° at 2, 40° by sunup.

Slept in front room.

Friday 25 December 1987

Clear and cold, with some cumulus coming up in mid-day and dissipating by sunset. 50° during day. Got down to 40 at night.

Saturday 26 December 1987

T

Cumulus build up all day, solid overcast by sunset with ceiling at 4,000' and some rain out to sea. Sprinkle here at 6:30-7:00pm. Cold south wind all day.

Fixed mud room door, finally, with bolts. It's been 2 years.

Sunday 27 December 1987

1.90

15.10

Sprinkles off and on all day. Strong SE winds, up to 50 mph. Ceiling mostly just above cabin, lower occasionally, then permanently after sunset.

Heavy rain between midnight and sunup.

Hail in early AM, up to 8am on 12-27.

Monday 28 December 1987

HAIL

.65

15.75

Read 1.90 in north gauge.

Hail in early AM, and variable winds, mostly from north, but switching sometimes to SE.

Wind is 25 mph from SE at 8:30, with hail and rain. Hail ca. 1/8" diameter.

Hail and rain off and on thru day.

Quite a bit of hail late at night. Heavy hail at 3am, large pellets, coming in from north and south alternately.

Very cold - 32° at 3am.

Tuesday 29 December 1987

SNOW

.50" (5" snow)

16.25

bar. 29.99 at 8am

Hail visible on ground at 4am, mostly melted by 5am by rain. Snow started about 6am, with big 1" clumps of flakes coming down from 7:30-9:30am, then smaller snowflakes until 1:30, when snowfall stops. 29° at 8am. Larger flakes fell on the south wind, smaller flakes fell on the north wind. 5" of snow by 2pm, with none under big trees. Sun shines off and on until sunset, which was a colorful one. Looks like more snow tonight.

Snow flurries off and on through night, with clearing by 3am.

1' of snow at Marble Pk. Dusting of snow at Mucho Junko, but melted by sunset, with solid snow above Hopkins. Trees are breaking everywhere from snow's weight. Lots of snow on avocado branches, but it was easily brushed off. No apparent damage.

Wednesday 30 December 1987

Clear except for scattered cirrus in early AM, then patchy cumulus here and there on top of Coast Ridge. Lots of big cumulus off shore all day.

Still plenty of snow in fields and on roof, but melting fast.

39° at 10pm.

Thursday 31 December 1987

35° at 6am, 53° at 2:30pm. Clear, with thin, high cirrus increasing in afternoon. 30 sq. ft. of snow left on roof by sunset.