



*FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST*  
*San Juan Capistrano*

*"The floral apostles are hieroglyphics of Deity." Mary Baker Eddy*



## *Introduction to How Our Church Came to Be*

**The following explanation of the founding concepts of our church is included in the Affirmation Packet given to people interested in joining our church. The packet can be found on our website: [www.csinsanjuancapistrano.com](http://www.csinsanjuancapistrano.com)**

In January 1994, a group of local Christian Scientists felt the need to establish a voice for Christian Science in San Juan Capistrano, a community of 34,000, one third of whom are Hispanic. Some in this group were interested in reaching out to the community. Others were impelled by a desire to restudy and rethink how best to express church. Still others felt it was time San Juan Capistrano had its own Christian Science Congregation.

For six months individuals gathered at Bob Hansen's photography studio every Monday evening from 7 to 9, to pray, listen, and share unfoldment on church. From the beginning there was great freedom of thought and respect for other's ideas, no matter how different or unconventional they were. A desire to serve the community, along with a desire to reach out to the contemporary newcomer, were two of the themes that developed. A statement of purpose evolved: to demonstrate spiritual growth, unconditional love, and healing, based on the teachings of Christian Science found in the Bible and Mary Baker Eddy's writings, and in accordance with the Church Manual. The group's desire was to evolve progressively the highest spiritual sense of church. It was expected that the demonstration of church would always be a continuing work in progress.

A single room was rented in an office building at 31591-C Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, with Sunday and Wednesday services and Sunday school beginning July 31st of that year. Reaching out to the community by providing lunches to the homeless at Main Beach in Laguna on Thursdays, we fed as many as seventy people and shared Christian Science with them. This activity continued for three years.

At this time the church was called the Christian Science Activity Center to expand ideas of what church could be. The group was not as yet recognized by The Mother Church, a process that takes some time. The name was chosen to convey to the community that here was a place where people would find interesting activities related to spirituality. Early on at members' meetings, which continued weekly for the first year or so, community leaders were invited to share their challenges with us so that we could understand community needs and find ways, metaphysically and otherwise, to help. These leaders included the Mayor, the Police Chief's representative, the Director of Gang Prevention, the Director of the Women's and Children's Shelter (Laura's House), the Founders of Mainstream (a group of seven drug rehab houses), the Manager of the Public Library, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce. These meetings were followed by metaphysical work on the problems shared by the speakers, and often Wednesday readings, financial contributions, and follow up.

Much thought continued regarding how to make our services comfortable and welcoming, as well as inspiring, for the newcomer. Everyone attending the Sunday Service was given a program so that the newcomer will know what to expect throughout the service. Dress was very informal. A search for contemporary hymns, solos, and music is still ongoing. Friendliness was characteristic, and our guest book was well-used. In addition, we invited people to write down a problem they would like prayerful support for and these needs would be announced to the congregation prior to silent prayer.

These practices continued, and as a result some wonderful healings have taken place, in partial fulfillment of Mrs. Eddy's definition of church as an entity that "affords proof of its utility." (S&H 583:12-19) From the beginning, there has been a conviction that the most important business of church is spiritual. As a result, members meetings explore how to demonstrate church spiritually, and reports or money issues, for example, are given a very minor part of the meetings. Similarly, Mrs. Eddy's emphasis on self-knowledge has resulted in open and trusting sharing in meetings as well as much soul-searching and self-evaluation of how we can fulfil the church's purpose. The goal of all members to love each other as well as the world unconditionally reduces criticism and encourages openness. Rather than focusing on the shortcomings of a member, the question demanded of love is "How can I support this person in his or her spiritual growth?"

In an effort to recognize that everyone is equally loved of God, every effort is made to avoid hierarchy. For example, the church board consists of every member. We elect a 5-member "Facilitating Team" to ensure that the operations and business of the church are carried out smoothly. However, this team does not make decisions that affect the members or impact the direction of the church. All decisions and issues are discussed openly among members and friends in our monthly workshops.

We believe that while the concept of "membership" has a certain administrative value, we wanted to avoid any sense of exclusivity. From the beginning, it was our intent to minimize any sense of who is "in" versus who is "outside" of our church. Hence all of our meetings and workshops are open to anyone interested in helping to further our mission, or simply learn more about being an effective church. Also, most of our church positions are open to both members and non-members. The primary qualification is a simple desire to help carry out our purpose. A related value has been the desire that everyone learn each of the jobs in church. This has been demonstrated most to date in the readership. The readers only need to be members of The Mother Church. While elected by the entire membership, the readers change weekly or monthly. Many who have never read before now have this privilege and can develop these skills.

Finally, an effort is regularly made to keep the big picture. We are engaged in sharing ultimate truths with the world, truths which can literally save the world from sin, disease, and death, war, poverty, and the various ills of mortal belief. It is both a great privilege to know these truths as well as a responsibility to share them. Commitment to this task is the nature of membership in this church. It is a demanding, joyous, and rewarding role.

In late 2004, we secured a new location at 31897 Del Obispo, Suite 120, and our first service was held March 20, 2005. The move was necessitated by our need for more adequate space for our Sunday school. A teleconference line and an internet connection were added so that those at home or who do not live in the area can listen live to our Sunday and Wednesday services. Our Sunday school classes are available on Zoom video conferencing. In 2017, we became First Church of Christ, Scientist, San Juan Capistrano; however, you will find that you are joining more than a church. You are becoming part of a family that will love, support, and, yes, sometimes challenge you to go up higher.

Sincerely,

The Members of First Church of Christ, Scientist, San Juan Capistrano

### **Founding Purpose**

Our purpose is to promote unconditional Love, spiritual growth and healing based on the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy.



## *Our March Tithing Recipient:* **OUR FATHER'S TABLE**

10% of donations collected during the month of April will go to Our Father's Table. If you wish to give additionally, please make your checks out to "FCCSSJC" with "OFT" in the memo line.



### **Prayer Requests**

Your prayers are invited....

- To support the healing progress of the homeless in our community including those whom Our Father's Table has already helped guide toward restored and renewed lives.
- In support of OFT's team of compassionate volunteers reaching out to meet the homeless where they are and developing connections and building friendships.
- To support their important efforts to connect our homeless brothers and sisters with the complex network of resources toward meeting each individual's specific needs.
- To support Our Father's Table leadership team in their dedication to ending homelessness one deserving person at a time
- To assure an abundance of resources and supplies needed in their outreach to the homeless...offering not a hand out but a hand up.

**Gina Serial, OFT Foundress, will give  
a presentation to our congregation  
after church this coming Sunday,  
April 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.  
Join us in the room or on teleconference!**



Our Father's Table was founded by Gina Serial in 2014. OFT's mission is to walk alongside our brothers and sisters experiencing chronic homelessness and connect them to services and agencies with the goal of ending their cycle of homelessness and ensuring their journey back to RESTORATION. OFT is the light at the end of the tunnel!



Our Father's Table has a solution that breaks the cycle of chronic homelessness, one person at a time.

Our work is important because it addresses homelessness at its cause, knowing chronic homelessness is a symptom of a deeper-rooted problem.

Our unique whole person approach puts us in the center of their life as mentor, advocate and most importantly genuine friend, giving unconditional love and guidance.

Monthly "Angel Wings" angels provide support such as meals, blankets, bus passes, gas for volunteers to provide rides, toiletries, mail delivery, holiday goodie bags and ongoing hotline support.





## *Growing Church Workshop & Open Forum*

*This coming Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.*

Join us for our fourth GCW-OF of 2019 next **Monday night, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the room, on our teleconference line or on the internet.

The Agenda and a video from the Christian Science Monitor will be sent out at the end of the week. Come, listen and share --- your thoughts, ideas and inspiration are needed and much appreciated!



## *Monthly Inspiration Meeting*

*Healing Envy!*

Join our active throng in our 6<sup>th</sup> month of study, taking up and gaining inspiration and healing with regards to another one of the 7 deadly sins mentioned in the Bible - the healing of the so-called green-eyed monster: *Envy!* The meeting will take place on teleconference only on **Monday, April 22nd at 7 p.m.** Links to relevant articles found in JSH by our dedicated Reading Room staff are listed below.



## *JSH Articles dealing with "Envy" to spur your study*

1. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1982/1/84-2/cherishing-another-s-good>
2. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1946/8/48-33/leave-all-for-christ>
3. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1962/4/64-16/understanding-god-as-all-heals-envy>
4. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1951/9/53-37/what-is-that-to-thee>
5. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1933/10/36-8/the-love-of-god>
6. <https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/1979/12/81-49/preserving-the-tenth-commandment>







**\*\*\* All three photos on this page were taken by our talented keyboardist, Candi Daggett, on hikes near her home in the Anza Borrego desert!**

## *New Activity on the Reading Room Teleconference Line*

Each Wednesday, on the teleconference Reading Room beginning at 1:00 p.m., the Host will read from a Mary Baker Eddy biography for the first 30 minutes. Anyone is welcome to call in and listen, or join in the reading. The remainder of the Wednesday shift will be devoted to the reading of JSH articles and testimonies of healing. We hope to see you there!



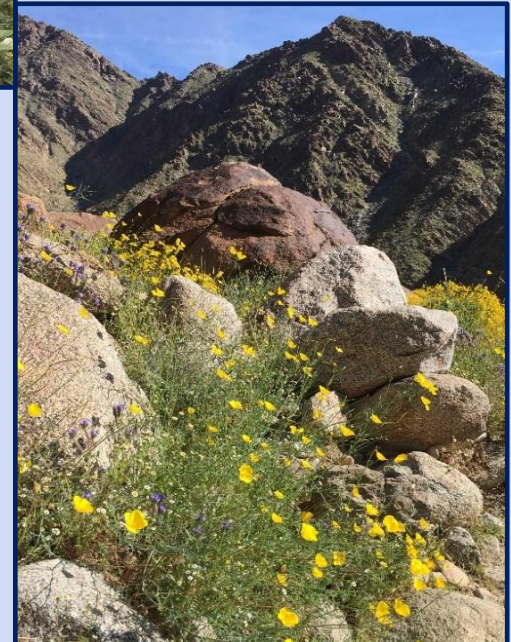
***Where the most beautiful  
wildflowers grow, there  
man's spirit is fed  
and poets grow.  
Henry David Thoreau***

***Like wildflowers, you must  
allow yourself to grow in all  
the places people thought  
you never would.  
E.V.***

## *Join in prayer with the Committee on Publication*

### Let's address and heal one imposition each month!

This month, the invitation is extended to prayerfully address the imposition that Christian Science is dangerous to children. The recent vaccination debate needs prayer to calm the heated fears of the nation and other public commentary touching on this issue. Our deep prayerful response to heal the fears and hearts of our community through "the mind of Christ" will usher in the healing transformative nature of Christ to do its work in the world. A Committee on Publication shared the following: "Sunday School is God's gift to the community." The child-like thought is not vulnerable. It is the essential answer to the stirring in mortal thinking, bringing it back to its native innocence and purity in order to spiritualize the world. (See the attached COP Report for related citations.)







## *Alternate Rep Needed*

We are in need of another team member to share the position of San Juan Institutional Representative along with Heather Bauer. Every other month this person will attend the local Orange County Institutional Committee meeting. These meetings are usually 90 minutes long and are extremely inspirational and full of helpful information. The meetings are held on Zoom video conferencing, where you have the option to log in onto a computer and view participants on screen, or you may choose to attend solely by dialing in on the telephone. For more information email Heather Bauer: [bauercs@bellsouth.net](mailto:bauercs@bellsouth.net)

## *New in our Reading Room- Stop by and visit!*

Andrew Brewis' NEW CD ***Listen...for Thy Voice*** features original settings of treasured messages such as The Lord's Prayer, as well as several poems, many from the Christian Science hymnal. Andrew, known for being part of the Newsong Group, is the pianist and singer and is joined on several tracks by a bass. His music displays a "fresh, contemporary perspective."



## *Telephone Team Host Needs*

Friends, the telephone host team would love you to join them in greeting callers Sundays and/or Wednesdays. You would be signing up once or twice each month, as needed. Training and support will be provided. This is open to anyone and is a great way to get to know others on the telephone. If you are interested, please contact Linda Vara at [lindavaracs@yahoo.com](mailto:lindavaracs@yahoo.com) or any of the other phone hosts and they will get you started!



# Members in Print and Around Town

Deborah Huebsch

***Beyond Political Division***

***Christian Science Sentinel***

***April 1, 2019***

<https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/2019/4/121-13/beyond-political-division>



Heather Bauer

***Free from Hip Pain***

***Christian Science Sentinel***

***April 8, 2019***

<https://sentinel.christianscience.com/issues/2019/4/121-14/free-from-hip-pain>



Heather Bauer

***We Don't Have to be Held Hostage by Allergies***

***Daily Lift: March 14, 2019***

[https://www.christianscience.com/christian-healing-today/daily-lift/we-dont-have-to-be-held-hostage-by-allergies?utm\\_source=iContact&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=christian-science-daily-lift&utm\\_content=](https://www.christianscience.com/christian-healing-today/daily-lift/we-dont-have-to-be-held-hostage-by-allergies?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=christian-science-daily-lift&utm_content=)



Author Alan Hess

***Hollywood Modern, Houses of the Stars***

***Appearing at LCAD on April 12 from 7 to 9 p.m.***

Alan Hess, architect, author, lecturer, critic, and advocate for 20th century architectural preservation, will be appearing at Laguna College of Art + Design (LCAD) on Friday, April 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. to discuss his new book, *Hollywood Modern: Houses of the Stars*. Hosted by Laguna Friends of Architecture, there will be a talk, slideshow, and book signing. The public is invited to get a peek inside homes of Hollywood celebrities.



Tien Langlois

***Are You Proud of Me Yet?***

***TeenConnect***

***Christian Science Sentinel***

***February 26, 2019***

<https://sentinel.christianscience.com/web-originals/2019/are-you-proud-of-me-yet>



# TWO UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Join us for this special lecture event

## God's-eye View of You!

**Saturday April 6, 2019 1:00pm**

An introductory talk will be given by Dr. Laurance Doyle of the Carl Sagan Center, SETI Institute, followed by a lecture by Fujiko Signs, CSB, of the Christian Science Board of Lectareship.



Dr. Laurance Doyle



Fujiko Signs, C.S.B.

Dr. Doyle, astrophysicist, and quantum physicist, will discuss the ground-breaking ideas going on in the physics world today and the concept that both Jesus and Mary Baker Eddy were true scientists, applying the scientific method to prove revolutionary truths about the spiritual nature of the universe and the illusive nature of matter.

**Both speakers will participate in a lively, open Q & A session**

Fujiko Signs, CSB, a practitioner and teacher of Christian Science, talks about the relationship between consciousness and reality, and in her talk "God's-eye View of You", she expands on this deeper view of reality.

**Doors open 12:30pm - Tickets Available \$15.00 - Event 1:00pm - 3:45pm**  
**Purchase advance tickets on-line : GodTalksCS.org only \$12.00**

**Orange Coast College Robert B. Moore Theater**  
2701 Fairview Road ( at Arlington Drive ) Costa Mesa, CA 92626

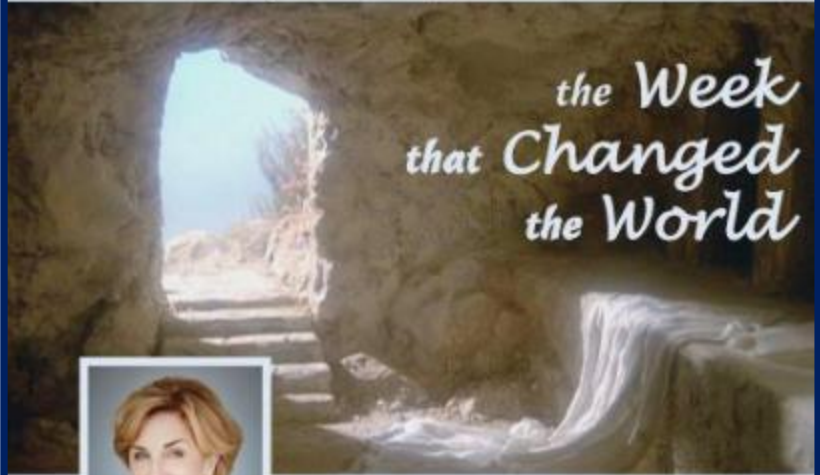
**FREE PARKING**  
Inquiries call: 714.801.7953

[www.GodTalksCS.org](http://www.GodTalksCS.org) <https://www.facebook.com/GodTalksCS>


Find us on facebook.

## An Easter talk

Join us as we walk through each mounting event that led to the resurrection.



### the Week that Changed the World



**Madelon Maupin**, an internationally recognized Bible Scholar paints a vivid picture of the Biblical world — unravelling the historical, political, and religious issues of the four Gospels in such a way that listeners have said, "She makes the Bible come alive." While this is "the old, old story", as the hymn conveys, it is always filled with new inspiration to enlighten and bless us today. Slides and a handout, included to help you follow along. More information on Madelon is available at [bibleroads.com](http://bibleroads.com)

**Sunday, April 14**  
**from 7-8:30 pm**  
To be held at:  
First Church of Christ, Scientist,  
Pasadena  
80 S. Oakland Ave. (at Green St.)  
626 793-5151  
free parking available  
[www.ChristianSciencePasadena.com](http://www.ChristianSciencePasadena.com)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

For those unable to attend the Joint Lecture this coming Saturday in person, there is a previous lecture and a Q&A on the same topic by Dr. Doyle and Fujiko Signs on YouTube:

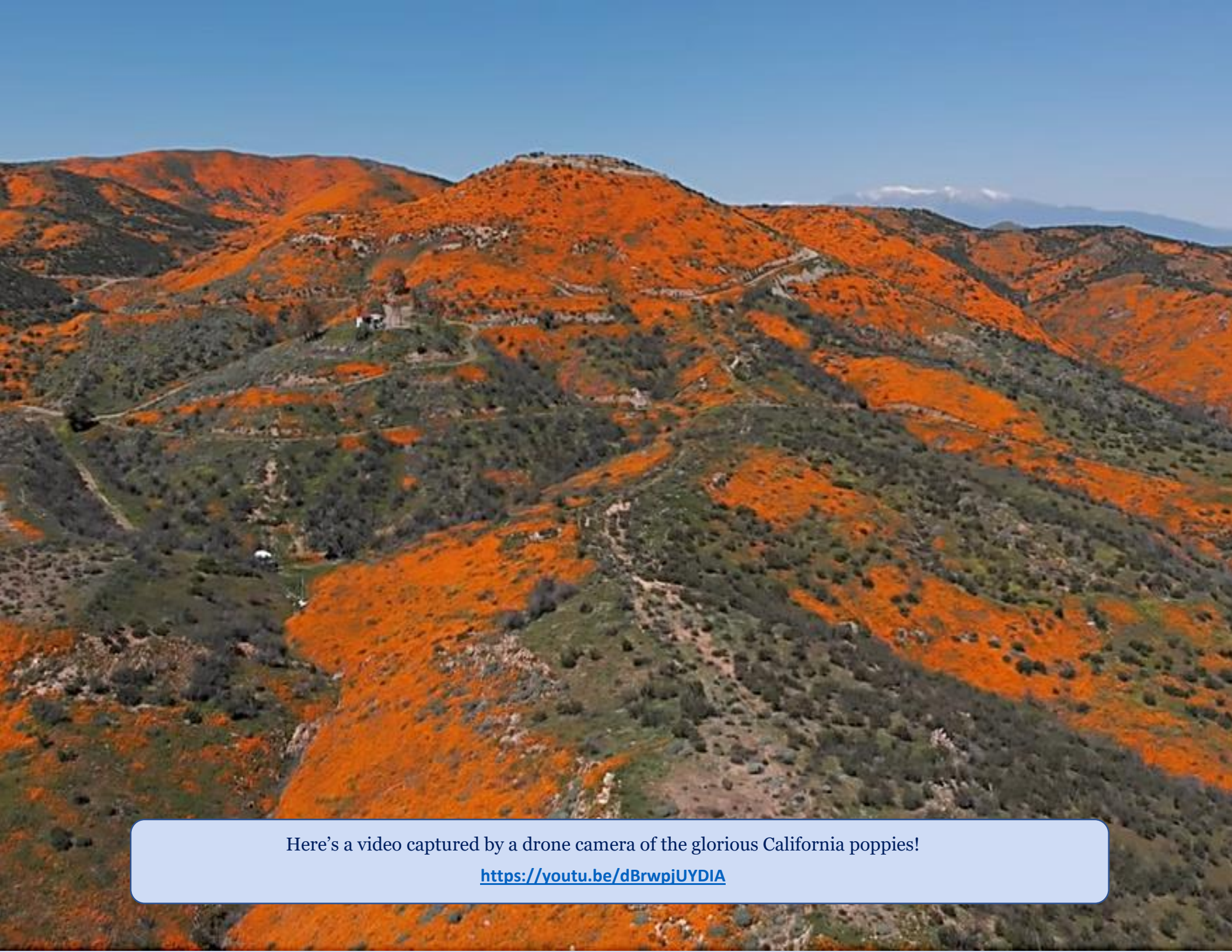
Lecture: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZ1WvFez27w>

Q & A: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLFNcGYkZmg>

And here is a picture of Laurance Doyle in a fascinating article in the March 2019 National Geographic:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2019/03/extraterrestrial-life-probably-exists-how-do-we-search-for-aliens/#/search-for-life-laurance-doyle-seti-principia-dolphins-six-flags.jpg>





Here's a video captured by a drone camera of the glorious California poppies!

<https://youtu.be/dBrwpjUYDIA>





31897 Del Obispo, Suite 120, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. Teleconference: 805-309-2350 - Access Code: 12111#

[www.csinsanjuancapistrano.com](http://www.csinsanjuancapistrano.com)