## Books

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Birding by Ear (Western): A Guide to Bird-Song Identification - Richard K. Walton and Robert W. Lawson, foreword by Roger Tory Peterson. Three cassette tapes accompany a booklet showing a line drawing of each bird and briefly describing its habitat and voice characteristics. Ninety-one common western species are grouped by their audio similarity into nineteen learning categories characterized by such terms as "hummers," "high-pitchers" and "warbling songsters." Birds also are grouped by habitat, such as "Pacific coastal forests," "urban parks" and "deserts and canyons." Good for the beginning birder or advanced visual birder. HM, 1990, three cassette tapes, 64-page booklet, paperback, \$35.00.

The Cambridge Illustrated Dictionary of Natural History - R.J. Lincoln and G.A. Boxshall. From aardvark to zygotaxis, this well-illustrated reference - written by two scientists from the British Museum - covers 10,000 organisms and habitats on Earth. Most organisms covered in the book are living, but the authors also describe major fossil groups. Reference charts include geologic time scales and ocean currents. Originally published in hardcover in 1987. Cambridge U Pr, 1990, 413 p., paperback, \$14.95.

Computers, Pattern, Chaos and Beauty: Graphics From an Unseen World — Clifford A. Pickover. A well-illustrated look at computer graphics and the creative use of the computer. More than 200 black-and-white computer images and eight pages of color plates illustrate such topics as human speech, molecular interaction and mathematical relationships. Pickover also covers graphic methods for detecting patterns in complicated data and simple techniques for visualizing manifestations of chaotic behavior. Complicated concepts can be skipped by the general reader, who has much to gain from the rest of the book. Includes programming exercises, mathematical recreations, a glossary and further reading lists. St. Martin Pr, 1990, 394 p., illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

Crystals - Ian F. Mercer. Drawn from the spectacular collections of the British Museum, this book covers every aspect of crystallography for the general reader. More than 150 color photographs illustrate how crystals grow, how to collect them, how they react to light and more. Harvard U Pr, 1990, 60 p., color illus., paperback, \$9.95.

Mount St. Helens: The Eruption and Recovery of a Volcano - Rob Carson. Ten years after the eruption of Washington's famous volcano, more than 200 magnificent photographs complement this chronicle of devastation and renewal. The general reader will discover what seismologists have learned about future eruptions along the Pacific Ring of Fire and what biologists have learned about regeneration of life after a volcanic eruption. Sasquatch Bks., 1990, 160 p., illus., paperback, \$19.95.

A Natural History of the Senses - Diane Ackerman. The author takes a passionate look at our five senses - from their mammalian origins to our current clothing-wrapped, perfumed and enclosed perception of stimuli. Ackerman weaves scientific fact with lore, history and poetic description to answer such questions as: Why does music move us? What is our craving for chocolate? How did kissing on the mouth begin? You'll discover that humans have 10,000 tastebuds and cows have 25,000; that ginger is effective against motion sickness; and that polar bears have clear, not white, fur. Random, 1990, 331 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

A Parrot Without a Name: The Search for the Last Unknown Birds on Earth - Don Stap. Stap. accompanied two respected ornithologists to the Peruvian Amazon, which contains the richest avifauna on Earth. Here he explains the rigors of field research - from difficult camping and canoe trips to the necessity of killing birds for taxonomic research. A bird lover's delight and an adventure for the general reader. Knopf, 1990, 239 p., hardcover, \$19.95

Stars and Galaxies: Citizens of the Universe-Donald E. Osterbrock, Ed. A collection of 12 articles that appeared in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN from 1979-1987 on galaxies, luminous stars and supernovae. Begins with a review article on the thousands of stars discovered by William Herschel's 18th century telescopes and covers accounts of exciting discoveries since, including Supernova 1987A. A Readings from Scientific American Magazine book. W H Freeman, 1990, 184 p., color/b&w illus., paperback, \$11.95.

By John A. Meyer

## Lung Cancer Chronicles

Stories about a doctor and the people he treats for lung cancer are interwoven with clear discussions of the disease and of the controversies surrounding tobacco addiction and lung cancer. Meyer gives the general reader a wealth of information about lung cancer — diagnosis, treatments, prognosis, epidemiology, natural history, sample X-rays and CAT scans - difficult to find outside the medical literature. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in America. Of all forms of cancer, lung cancer kills the most people each year. And those deaths could have been prevented: most are the result of years of smoking. The evidence has grown steadily stronger since the Surgeon General's 1964 report on "Smoking and Health," and the link is by now common knowledge. But, even when people learn the facts about lung cancer and smoking, they feel "it can't happen to me." These sympathetic chronicles of ordinary people facing surgery, pain and death bring home the reality in a way dispassionate facts cannot. Together, the stories and the facts make a friendlier, more compelling version of the curt warning: "Cigarette smoking can be hazardous to your health."

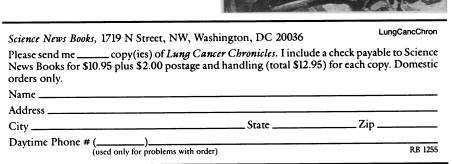
from the publisher

"This is a grim but excellent book, providing factual information for lung cancer patients and their families. Sadly, the general public will probably see dozens of glamorous cigarette ads while a select few will see this book"

– Robert Schmid, LIBRARY JOURNAL

Rutgers Univ Pr, 1990, 233 pages, 9"x6", paperback, \$10.95

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