

Flutter By ... Butterfly ...



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**Treep'n'Sea
Living**

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Flutter by, butterfly . . . but don't
bypass Santa Cruz for Pacific Grove. Hun-
dreds of the showy orange and black in-
sects now make Santa Cruz their winter

and is shunned by insect-eating birds
because of its bitter flavor.

It was first observed spending the
winter in Santa Cruz back in the early

home instead of flying on over Monterey Bay to "butterfly town"—as Pacific Grove is known world-wide.

All winter, on warm days, the stately Monarch butterfly may be seen floating over Santa Cruz flower gardens. He may be seen in great numbers, sometimes hanging in clusters, in the park behind Santa Cruz Museum and in the ravine at Natural Bridges State park.

Always commonly called the "milk weed butterfly" the Monarch lays its eggs on that succulent but bitter plant, flies 2000 miles in its annual migrations,

1966 when a stained glass window opened "clusters of hundreds hanging in the eucalyptus trees near Natural Bridges."

The royal butterfly has been coming to Pacific Grove for 100 years or more to roost in the pine trees on the Monterey peninsula.

In this area a butterfly banding program has been carried on for the past few years. A monarch lives about ten months, never makes the long migratory trip more than once.

Great mystery—what triggers their annual migration? How do they know to set their "compasses" for Monterey Bay?

