



Effie Yeaw Nature Center

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To: Janet R. Baker, Director, Department of Regional Parks
& ARNHA Board of Directors

From: Marilee Flannery, EYNC Director

Subject: December, 2009 Monthly Report

Highlights and Summary

- **Annual Holiday Sale** - The first Saturday in December was ARNHA's annual Holiday Sale at the Nature Center, with outstanding support from local artists and happy shoppers. Nearly \$4,000 (before sales tax) was spent during the 5-hour sale, a record high. In addition to wonderful gifts and books available inside the shop, vendors were out on the courtyard selling their original watercolors and prints, Parkway photography, and handcrafted ceramics. Proceeds from the sale benefit the Yeaw Nature Center's programs.
- **Fundraising Feast** - On December 17th a catered dinner with live music was held in the Nature Center's Assembly Building as a fundraising event. This wonderful evening was arranged entirely by Kayloni Medina, a senior at Rio Americana High School and a member of their Civitas program. Kayloni planned, implemented, and hosted this special fundraising dinner here which, with assistance from other students and food donations from Jack's Urban Eats and INK Food and Drinks, raised **\$1330** for the Effie Yeaw Nature Center's programs!
- **American River Parkway Wildlife Count** - On December 5th a total of 67 wildlife spotters used their keen eyes and ears in 10 areas along the Parkway between Grist Mill and Howe Avenue (plus 4 canoes in the river) to spot a total of 115 bird species. This is the most species ever seen in one year since the count began in 1985. A Clark's Grebe was the new species seen this year that hadn't been seen in previous counts. Fifteen other animal species were noted as well. Jack Hiehle and the other leaders gathered at the EYNC in the afternoon to compile the results. A full accounting is posted on the ARNHA website: <http://www.arnha.org>
- **S.A.R.A. (Save the American River Association) Annual Meeting** - SARA's annual meeting took place in the EYNC's Assembly Building again this year on the first Saturday in December. Approximately 100 people attended this meeting and luncheon. Frank Cirill was honored for his 40 years of work on behalf of the American River and the American River Parkway. Frank received a resolution honoring his work from the County and City of Sacramento and the State Assembly.
- **Volunteer Holiday Party**- December 11th from 12:00 – 1:30 pm about 55 volunteers and staff members attended the annual EYNC Volunteer Holiday Party event to thank the Nature Center volunteers for their many hours of service. Funds from the Volunteer Program account (a special account funded by ARNHA) provided the food and decorations to honor the volunteers. The Assembly Building interior had a festive winter theme for this event organized by Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Washington and other EYNC staff.



Educational Programs

- **Birds of Winter** - Ed Harper, longtime educator, tour guide and noted birder of the Sacramento area, taught a 6-part class covering the finer points of identification, calls and natural history of the many species of winter birds in the Sacramento region. Both beginning and experienced birders took the class to improve their knowledge and skills with a series of lectures and field trips. Participants met at the EYNC three times - December 2nd, 16th and January 6th. They also went on field trips on three consecutive Thursdays to Ancil Hoffman Park, Yolo Basin Wetlands and Nimbus Fish Hatchery. This class is a wonderful example of some of the new and exciting programs now being offered to adults at the EYNC.
- **Holiday Crafts** – Budget cuts prevented the EYNC from offering the usual vacation classes known as Winter Fun Days. Instead we offered a series of craft classes for families in both November and December that were less expensive to host but still quite popular. One of Sacramento’s established and respected artists, Libby Harmor, is also an EYNC staff member. Libby gathered recycled materials and a number of artistic ideas to create the holiday craft classes offered on November 23 & 24 and December 21st & 22nd. Participants made a variety of decorations and useful items with a lot of artistic charm. Participants paid \$6 per class.
- **Art Studio Workshop** – The EYNC held its first in a series of non-instructional art studio workshops. The EYNC offered this three-hour studio time for artists to come into the Assembly Building with their favorite art materials to sketch, paint or chalk the likeness of the posed taxidermy animals, skeletons and furs that we have in our collection. For this first session artists were able to sketch from a full-sized mountain lion mount, cat skeletons and various ducks with wings outstretched. Beginner and experienced artists appreciated the opportunity to draw from these posed animals and said they are interested in returning for other studio opportunities. The participants pay \$7 for the opportunity to attend each workshop.
- **Program Numbers Compared** – The impacts to the EYNC’s budget have resulted in reductions in staff and staffing hours as well as early closing of the Center twice a week. We documented the change in the number of programs presented and the number of people served this month compared with December, 2008. The following table shows a 15% reduction in the numbers of programs presented and a 22% reduction in school students and general population served in December of 2009 compared to 2008:

Programs	Total Programs Dec. 2008	Total Served Dec.2008	Total Programs Dec. 2009	Total Served Dec. 2009
Drop-ins inside EYNC		2106		1762
Nature Tours	11	392	10	300
Scout Tours	0	0	0	0
Weekend Programs	8	107	3	14
Field Games	0	0	0	0
Maidu Workshop	0	0	0	0
Maidu Field Day	0	0	1	34
Special Programs	8	377	15	429
Aquatic Adventures	0	0	0	0
Ranch Workshop	0	0	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Ranch Program	0	0	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Pond & River	2	80	0	0
Aquatic Labs	2	72	0	0
Methods of Maidu	0	0	0	0
Outreach in Class	4	141	1	29
Special Programs	4	80	3	36
TOTAL	39	3,355	33	2604

Donations to ARNHA in Support of EYNC

- \$ 2000 donated by Anthony Esposito in memory of Sumiko Esposito
- \$ 100 donated by Judy Chrisman
- \$ 50 donated by Richard and Carol Laursen
- \$ 15 donated by Charlene and Vincent Noyes
- \$ 25 donated by Robert and Rita Lowe in memory of John Leis
- \$ 15 donated by Jon R Beck
- \$ 50 donated by Shari and Richard Ellis
- \$ 100 donated by The Joye Family
- \$ 20 donated by Pat and Larry Morris
- \$ 1000 donated by Carl Stillman and Stacey Brown
- \$ 500 donated by The Regence Employee Giving Campaign on behalf of Carl Stillman and Stacey Brown (Carl Stillman is Effie Yeaw's grandson)
- \$ 5 donated by JaNahn Scalapino

This month, donations made in response to ARNHA's Annual Appeal totaled \$6,115.

Grant & Fundraising News

- The Raley's Quality of Life program continues to grow. Donations are made by Raley's on a quarterly basis to the recipients of this program. \$702 will be donated to ARNHA for the Nature Center from this first quarter (October- December, 2009) of our participation.
- A final invoice was submitted to the Sacramento WMA (Weed Management Area) in late December to finish up our 2009 grant funding. This followed some final purchases of native trees and shrubs for planting in the Nature Area and a few landscaping tools to make the staff and volunteer's jobs easier.
- A grant application for underwriting of our Nature Area Tours is being completed and will be mailed to the Kinder Morgan Foundation in early January.
- The American River Parkway Foundation has chosen to fund many projects on the American River Parkway. The Effie Yeaw Nature Center's funding request to help with the popular Nature Area Tours was not funded.

Lynne Pinkerton, the EYNC Grants Administrator, has been busy with "other duties" many days in December, such as overseeing the Holiday Sale, scheduling and billing school programs, scheduling staff, processing accounts receivable and being the Naturalist on Duty. As a result she had less time than desired to research future grants possibilities or to administer current grants.

December 2009 and Fiscal Year-to-Date Report

Service for On Site Programs	Total Programs Nov.	Total Served November	Total Programs Given Dec.	Total Served December	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Programs Given	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Served
Drop-ins		3217		1762		15,288
Walk Ins		2025		1710		10,802
Nature Tours	16	680	10	300	55	2094
Scout Tours	1	17	0	0	7	119
Weekend Programs	5	53	3	14	36	688
Field Games	0	0	0	0	1	36
Maidu Workshop	0	0	0	0	3	130
Maidu Field Day	5	155	1	34	28	1049
Fun Days Program	0	0	0	0	84	1341
Special Programs	7	137	15	429	47	1261
<u>On Site Totals</u>	34	6284	29	4249	261	32,808
Service for Off Site Programs						
Aquatic Adventures	0	0	0	0	3	49
Ranch Workshop	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ranch Program	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pond & River	1	74	0	0	3	177
Aquatic Labs	2	60	0	0	5	150
Methods of Maidu	5	129	0	0	27	863
Outreach in Class	4	123	1	29	11	351
Special Programs	1	200	3	36	16	487
NC Website Visits		5896		3557		35,203
<u>Off Site Totals</u>	13	6482	4	3622	65	37,280
COMBINED TOTAL	47	12,766	33	7871	326	70,088

Statistic totals are collected beginning July 1, 2009, the start of the fiscal year.
The final totals for the 2009-10 fiscal year will be posted in the June, 2010 monthly report.

December 2009 EYNC Volunteer Program Report



64 Volunteers contributed 897 hours and 14 minutes this month!

What Volunteers Accomplished in December for EYNC:

Reception – 95 hours

Nine volunteer receptionists helped assist our Naturalists on Duty at the front desk this month by answering phones, greeting visitors and helping with sales.

Animal Care – 67 hours, 9 minutes

Eleven volunteers assisted EYNC staff Neal Parker and Lara Maddox with the care of the EYNC animal residents, cleaning cages, preparing food, and exercising the snakes, raptors, and other animals here at the EYNC.

Landscaping and Habitat Improvement– 16 hours, 30 minutes

Three volunteers worked on Habitat Restoration (removing non-native species and planting new native plants) and general landscaping around the building and in the Butterfly Garden.

School Tours – 30 hours and 19 minutes

Eleven docents assisted in leading our marvelous school Nature Area Tours this month — and another two are docents-in-training!

ARNHA – 444 hours, 10 minutes

Twenty-four ARNHA Board Members and friends met and worked together attending board meetings, fundraising meetings, hosting the ARNHA annual meeting, taking care of the Discovery Shop, book-keeping, membership, fundraising, and the publishing of *The Acorn* and other publications. Meetings included a special new fundraising committee and a planning committee for a new art event coming this spring, "Painting Where the Wild Things Are."

Jack Hiehle Programs – 13 hours, 30 minutes

Jack led one Nature Walks this month showing 8 people wildlife and plants along the American River Parkway. He also co-led the ARNHA Annual Winter Bird Count on December 5th.

Exhibits and Maintenance – 2 hours, 30 minutes

Richard Garrison assisted on various maintenance projects including cleaning the window blinds.

Clerical and Library – 50 hours, 15 minutes

In December, Elaine Hujambojoie and Hollyn Johnson have assisted us with various office projects and data entry.

Administration –8 hours 30 minutes

Beth Etgen has been volunteering and helping us with administrative duties. She also is assisting as co-manager and buyer for the Discovery Shop.

Fundraising – 157 hours and 16 minutes

Many volunteers helped with fundraising efforts again this month—we are all mobilizing and putting out our best efforts to find money to save the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Some volunteers worked our Annual Holiday Sale. Many other of these hours were logged in under general "ARNHA" hours. Some of these hours were spent in special fundraising meetings. However one person's efforts last month deserve special mention. Our volunteer Kayloni Medina, a senior at Rio Americano High School and member of their Civitas program, planned, implemented, and hosted a special Fundraising Dinner here. With assistance and food donations from Jack's Urban Eats and INK Food and Drinks, and the brisk selling of raffle tickets at the dinner, **\$1330** was raised for the Effie Yeaw Nature Center!



Effie Yeaw Nature Center

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To: Janet R. Baker, Director, Department of Regional Parks
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From: Marilee Flannery, EYNC Director
Subject: November, 2009 Monthly Report

Highlights and Summary

- **Holiday Sale/Fundraiser** - Preparation for the annual Holiday Sale at the EYNC took place throughout November. A simple flyer was created to hand out to visitors and to post. To save money no mailing was done to advertise the sale. Merchandise was ordered, vendors invited, and plans set for the December 5th event.
- **Renaissance Society** – Marilee and Steve Flannery presented a PowerPoint program about the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and the American River Parkway for 100 members of the California State University, Sacramento’s Renaissance Society on Nov. 20th. The members learned about the value of the ARP’s resources, and the programs and recreation that take place in both the EYNC and the ARP. The impacts of the current budget crisis and how this is impacting each was also discussed. Luna, the EYNC’s resident barn owl made an appearance at the program to the delight of the forum attendees.
- **Program Numbers Compared** – The impacts to the EYNC’s budget have resulted in reductions in staff and staffing hours as well as early closing of the Center twice a week. We are documenting the changes in the number of programs presented and the number of people served this month compared with November, 2008. The following table shows a 34% reduction in the numbers of programs presented and a 17% reduction in school students and general population served in Nov. of 2009 compared to 2008:

Programs	Total Programs Nov. 2008	Total Served Nov.2008	Total Programs Nov. 2009	Total Served Nov. 2009
Drop-ins inside EYNC		3524		3217
Nature Tours	20	873	16	680
Scout Tours	3	56	1	17
Weekend Programs	10	229	5	53
Field Games	0	0	0	0
Maidu Workshop	0	0	0	0
Maidu Field Day	9	332	5	155
Special Programs	7	98	7	137
Aquatic Adventures	0	0	0	0
Ranch Workshop	0	0	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Ranch Program	0	0	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Pond & River	2	84	1	74
Aquatic Labs	2	70	2	60
Methods of Maidu	6	210	5	129
Outreach in Class	7	232	4	123
Special Programs	5	124	1	200
TOTAL	71	5,832	47	4845



Donations to ARNHA in Support of EYNC

- 16 wildlife photographs were donated by Chris Knight for the Holiday Sale
- \$50 donated by Tess McCarthy for support of EYNC
- \$120 donated by Jay and Claire Michael for support of EYNC
- Four watercolor paintings were donated by Peter Rogers for the Holiday Sale
- 31 knitted hats were donated by Elizabeth Williamson for the Holiday Sale
- 16 handmade bracelets donated by an anonymous donor for the Holiday Sale
- Donation from Phil Coleman of a 13" x 19" full-color Great Horned Owl photo for ARNHA as a membership incentive gift
- Donation from Mary Wilson of colored pencils and markers in response to our "Wish List" of supplies needed for our children's programs

Other Donation and Grant News

- Donation from Jeffrey and Dawn-Marie Lillie of \$50 in support of the EYNC
- Many donations of abalone shells, pine cones etc. for the Maidu Cultural Heritage Program:
 - Greg Cabral of Carriage Drive Elementary School – abalone shells
 - Savannah Ridenour of Carriage Drive Elementary School – acorn caps
 - Callie Hanson of Newcastle Elementary – abalone shells, pine cones and pine nuts
 - Max of Nevada City School of the Arts – bag of valley oak acorn caps
 - Jacob Robinson of Carriage Drive Elementary – bags of acorn caps
 - Allen Haynes of Carriage Drive Elementary – bags of acorns and caps
 - Ethan Limhenco of St. Michael's Episcopal Day School – abalone shells
 - Al Rodriguez allowed EYNC staff to gather black oak acorns and Manzanita on his property in Placerville
 - The Reed family donated a truck load of fire wood for Maidu Programs

A grant evaluation report was turned in to the American River Parkway Foundation at the end of November. Their grant (through ARNHA) of nearly \$12,000 was received earlier this year and was used to install security cameras in the EYNC parking lot and around the buildings. Since the security system installation was completed in March no reported break-ins have occurred. The cameras also let EYNC staff monitor school groups arriving and check on other people and activities of interest.

Lynne Pinkerton, the EYNC Grants Administrator, has been busy with "other duties" many days in November, such as scheduling staff hours, scheduling and billing school programs, processing accounts receivable, observing and presenting school programs, and being the Naturalist on Duty. As a result she had little time left to research and write proposals for future grants or to administer current grants.



Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving!

November 2009 and Fiscal Year-to-Date Report

Service for On Site Programs	Total Programs Oct.	Total Served Oct.	Total Programs Given November	Total Served November	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Programs Given	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Served
Drop-ins		2636		3217		13,526
Walk Ins		1685		2025		9092
Nature Tours	21	873	16	680	45	1794
Scout Tours	2	31	1	17	7	119
Weekend Programs	6	229	5	53	33	674
Field Games	1	36	0	0	1	36
Maidu Workshop	2	78	0	0	3	130
Maidu Field Day	16	585	5	155	27	1015
Fun Days Program	0	0	0	0	84	1341
Special Programs	6	312	7	137	32	832
<u>On Site Totals</u>	54	6465	34	6284	232	28,559
Service for Off Site Programs						
Aquatic Adventures	0	0	0	0	3	49
Ranch Workshop	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ranch Program	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pond & River	1	76	1	74	3	177
Aquatic Labs	2	70	2	60	5	150
Methods of Maidu	11	377	5	129	27	863
Outreach in Class	3	105	4	123	10	322
Special Programs	3	109	1	200	13	451
NC Website Visits		5814		5896		31,646
<u>Off Site Totals</u>	20	6551	13	6482	61	33,658
COMBINED TOTAL	74	13,016	47	12,766	293	62,217

Statistic totals are collected beginning July 1, 2009, the start of the fiscal year.
The final totals for the 2009-10 fiscal year will be posted in the June, 2010 monthly report.

Effie Yeaw Nature Center's November 2009 Events

Interactive Exhibit: Bountiful Harvest – An Exploration of Maidu Culture

All programs are FREE but **donations are most welcome.**

Gifts from the Earth

Explore the ways Maidu Indians used plants for food, medicine, clothing and shelter. Join a naturalist for a guided tour of the village and the Nature Area to see some of these plants in their natural habitat.

Saturday the 7th at 10:30AM

Autumn Birding

Discover why autumn is a great time of the year for bird watching. Join a naturalist for a guided walk to welcome back some feathered travelers. Bring your binoculars! **Sunday the 8th at 10:30AM**

River Nature Stroll

Meet Jack at the old Fair Oaks Bridge on the north side of the river. **Friday the 13th at 8AM – 12 Noon**

Habitat Improvement

Come and help Jack improve the Nature Area. Call Jack at 967-0777 if you can help with this project.

Sunday the 15th at 8:00AM

EYNC Nature Walk

Meet wildlife expert Jack Hiehle in the parking lot at the Nature Center (in Ancil Hoffman Park) and take a guided walk through the Nature Area. **Tuesday the 17th at 8:00AM**

It's the Season for the Salmon

Come learn about the challenges facing the amazing Chinook that travel thousands of miles in a cycle that has continued through millennia. Take a stroll to the American River with a naturalist to catch a glimpse of the migrating salmon. You may see some that remain in the riffles here to spawn.

Saturday the 21st at 10:30AM

Great Gobblers

Beards, wattles and snoods--what strange things to find on a bird! Look and listen for wild turkeys as you explore their world on this guided walk through the Nature Area. **Sunday the 22nd at 10:30AM**

CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING DAY

The ARNHA Board of Directors

This dynamic group of people from all walks of life meet on the second Wednesday each month to plan and take action on how best to support the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and the American River Parkway. The Board is involved in many activities, from publications to special events. If you would like to participate in this important effort, please call Jamie at 489-4918, x 224.

Help support Nature Center programs by joining the American River Natural History Association

ARNHA, a nonprofit organization since 1981, supports educational and interpretive activities in the American River Parkway in cooperation with the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. It provides critical fundraising, volunteer and advisory support for the Nature Center's mission to introduce thousands of school children each year to the beauty and diversity of the Parkway. Here visitors of all ages learn the importance of conserving and protecting our most precious natural resource. Due to County budget cuts, the Nature Center needs your help more than ever. **Join ARNHA** at the Nature Center or at www.arnha.org. Check out the member benefits!



November 2009 EYNC Volunteer Program Report

Volunteers contributed 896 hours and 25 minutes for this month!

What Volunteers Accomplished in November for EYNC:

Reception – 98 hours, 30 minutes

Eight volunteer receptionists helped assist our Naturalists on Duty at the front desk this month by answering phones and helping with sales. Because we are now closed on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, we no longer use volunteer receptionists for these shifts.

Animal Care – 68 hours, 43 minutes

Thirteen volunteers assisted EYNC staff Neal Parker and Lara Maddox with the care of the EYNC animal residents, cleaning cages, preparing food, and exercising the snakes, raptors, and other animals here at the EYNC.

Landscaping and Habitat Improvement– 27 hours, 10 minutes

Five volunteers worked on Habitat Restoration removing non-native species and planting new native plants and general landscaping around the building and in the Butterfly Garden.

School Tours – 76 hours and 37 minutes

Fifteen docents assisted in leading our marvelous school Nature Tours this month's school tours—and another two are docents in training!

ARNHA – 368 hours

Twenty-four ARNHA Board Members and friends met and worked together attending board meetings, fundraising meetings, hosting the ARNHA annual meeting, taking care of the Discovery Shop, book-keeping, membership, fundraising, and the publishing of *The Acorn* and other publications. Meetings included a special new fund-raising committee and a planning committee for a new art event coming this spring, "Painting Where the Wild Things Are."

Jack Hiehle Programs – 4 hours 30 minutes

Jack led one Nature Walks this month showing 8 people wildlife and plants at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center.

Exhibits and Maintenance – 4 hours

Fred Kendle assisted on unloading and storing a returning exhibit, and Linda Thomas continued painting/staining the fence by the parking lot.

Clerical and Library – 62 hours, 15 minutes

In November, Elaine Hujambojoie and Hollyn Johnson have been assisting us with various office projects and data entry. Colleen and Rich Draffin have helped update and organize our staff resource library.

Administration – 18 hours 40 minutes

Beth Etgen has been volunteering and helping us with administrative duties. She also is assisting as co-manager and buyer for the Discovery Shop.

Fundraising – 161 hours and 15 minutes

Discovery Shop Many volunteers helped with Fund Raising Efforts this month—we are all mobilizing and putting out our best efforts to find money to save the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Many of these hours were logged in under general "ARNHA" hours. However one person's efforts last month deserve special mention. Our volunteer, Liz Williamson, knitted at least 32 beautiful caps and gave them to the Nature Center Discovery Shop to be sold at our annual Holiday Sale. She spent close to 150 hours knitting these caps for us!