

Effie Yeaw Nature Center

PO Box 579, Carmichael, CA 95609

Voice: (916) 489-4918

Fax: (916) 489-4983

To: Janet R. Baker, Director, Department of Regional Parks
& ARNHA Board of Directors
From: Marilee Flannery, EYNC Director
Subject: October, 2009 Monthly Report

Highlights and Summary

- **Annual Salmon School Days at EYNC** – Effie Yeaw Nature Center hosted one of the sites for the annual Salmon Schools Day on October 23. 167 fourth grade students came to the Nature Center with their teachers and learned all about salmon through games, crafts, and examining dissected salmon. Nature Center staff led the activities and 13 volunteers assisted with the exciting and educational activities that focused on salmon habitat, life-cycles, anatomy and the names of the different species. Beth Etgen, former Director of Education at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and one of the original developers and founders of Salmon Schools Day, this year participated as a volunteer. She coordinated and oversaw the event with the help of Linda Maurer, EYNC naturalist.

The children went home with paper salmon sculptures and a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the incredible salmon! The EYNC earned \$5,000 for hosting this program.

- **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. It is important to document any changes in the number of programs presented and the number of people served this month compared with October, 2008. The following table shows a 30-35% reduction in the numbers of school students and general population served as well as the number of programs delivered in Oct. of 2009 compared to 2008:

Programs	Total Programs Oct. 2008	Total Served Oct.2008	Total Programs Oct. 2009	Total Served Oct. 2009
Drop-ins inside EYNC		3024		2636
Nature Tours	35	1283	21	873
Scout Tours	3	56	2	31
Weekend Programs	8	147	6	229
Field Games	7	255	1	36
Maidu Workshop	1	57	2	78
Maidu Field Day	16	586	16	585
Special Programs	9	670	6	312
Aquatic Adventures	0	0	0	0
Ranch Workshop	1	12	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Ranch Program	3	114	Cancelled - 0	Cancelled- 0
Pond & River	4	146	1	76
Aquatic Labs	8	228	2	70
Methods of Maidu	14	512	11	377
Outreach in Class	1	19	3	105
Special Programs	3	942	3	109
TOTAL	113	8,051	74	5,517

Donations to ARNHA in Support of EYNC

- \$50 donated by Jeffrey & Dawn-Marie Lillie to the EYNC
- \$40 donated by Don, Diane, Allyson, and Jefferson Scott to ARNHA for support of the EYNC
- 18” x 24” framed and matted full color photo of a Great Horned Owl by Phillip Coleman donated for the ARNHA membership incentive program
- \$25 donated by Rene Carr to ARNHA for support of the EYNC
- \$40 donated by Ed Harper and Susan Scott to ARNHA for support of the EYNC
- This month, donations made in response to a request included in the August ARNHA newsletter, *The ACORN*, totaled \$150, with the majority of this funding going to ARNHA in support of the EYNC. Donations were made by the following individuals: Carol Poelman, Vivian Russell, and Carol Thomas

Grants & Fundraising:

- A proposal was written and submitted to the Non-Profit Resource Center of Sacramento for a \$1,500 “mini-grant” to build an Outdoor Nature Play Area adjacent to the EYNC’s current picnic table area. We knew on October 14th that the proposal was unsuccessful. Four mini-grants were awarded that day at a grant-writing workshop attended by EYNC/ARNHA grant writer Lia Robertson. She observed the selection panel deliberating the merits of each of the dozen grant proposals that were pre-screened for the panel. The workshop was a behind-the-scenes look at what is discussed about the merits of various grant proposals by the grant selection board. Lia learned a lot, but two things stood out to her in her observation of this process:
 1. The grant panel was automatically suspicious of grants written by government agencies. These grants were held to much higher standards and often dismissed with a suggestion that the government has a lot of money and can afford to do this project if it is important to them.
 2. The grants written by people or organizations known to the members of the selection committee had a better chance of being funded – even if the grant was poorly written.
- Free in-class aquatic lab and “Dipping into Creeks” programs are being offered to teachers that booked these programs in past years but not for the current school year. Funding for these programs comes from a \$5,000 grant provided by the Sacramento Urban Creeks Council. The “Pond & River Field Study” a knee-deep exploration of the aquatic invertebrates found in the American River, is being offered to these same teachers for a 50% discount, courtesy of the same grant.

Landscaping:

- It’s planting season! On October 17th and 24th volunteers from the American River Parkway Foundation planted live oak and blue oak acorns on Oat Hill (the face of the bluff directly above the Nature Center). The plantings were carefully caged and arrangements have been made for them to be watered by volunteers Katie & Noah Baygell during the dry season.
- Betsy Weiland donated some native perennials to the EYNC. Volunteers planted these plants and also transplanted some self-sowing perennials in the landscaped area.

October 2009 and Fiscal Year-to-Date Report

Service for On Site Programs	Total Programs Sept.	Total Served Sept.	Total Programs Given October	Total Served October	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Programs Given	Fiscal Year-to-Date Total Served
Drop-ins		2123		2636		10309
Walk Ins		1702		1685		7067
Nature Tours	4	128	21	873	29	1114
Scout Tours	2	36	2	31	6	102
Weekend Programs	4	132	6	229	28	621
Field Games	0	0	1	36	1	36
Maidu Workshop	1	52	2	78	3	130
Maidu Field Day	6	275	16	585	22	860
Fun Days Program	0	0	0	0	84	1341
Special Programs	12	271	6	312	25	695
<u>On Site Totals</u>	29	4719	54	6465	198	22,275
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	27	1	76	2	103
Aquatic Labs	1	20	2	70	3	90
Methods of Maidu	11	357	11	377	22	734
Outreach in Class	2	52	3	105	6	199
Special Programs	4	86	3	109	12	251
NC Website Visits		6420		5814		25,750
<u>Off Site Totals</u>	19	6962	20	6551	48	27,176
COMBINED TOTAL	48	11,681	74	13,016	246	49,451

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.

October 2009 EYNC Volunteer Program Report

73 Volunteers contributed 900 hours and 7 minutes this month!

What Volunteers Accomplished in October for EYNC:

Reception – 129 hours, 25 minutes

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

Animal Care – 97 hours, 40 minutes

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

Landscaping and Habitat Improvement – 62 hours, 27 minutes

Eight 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. Jason Stock is our newest volunteer in our Habitat Restoration/Landscape program.

School Tours – 95 hours and 5 minutes

Sixteen docents assisted in leading our marvelous school Nature Tours this month— two are docents in training!

ARNHA – 357 hours

Nineteen ARNHA Board Members and friends met and worked together attending board 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.

Jack Hiehle Programs – 8 hours

Jack led two Nature Walks this month showing people wildlife and plants on the Am. River Parkway.

Exhibits – 12 hours

Richard Horgan volunteered by maintaining and repairing the exhibits at EYNC this month. Sadly for us, Richard has now retired from volunteering at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Since 1999 Richard has volunteered over 6000 hours for the Nature Center and brought with him not only his considerable know-how and can-do attitude, but also a delightful sense of humor. We hope he continues to visit here well into his “retirement from volunteering.”

Maintenance – 2 hours, 15 minutes

Linda Thomas broke out her painting duds and helped paint stain on the wood fence surrounding the smaller EYNC parking lot.

Clerical and Library – 61 hours, 10 minutes

In October, 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 resource library.

Administration – 12 hours

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 – 4 hours

Lia Robertson assisted on fundraising projects this last month.

Our Volunteers Rock!