



SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

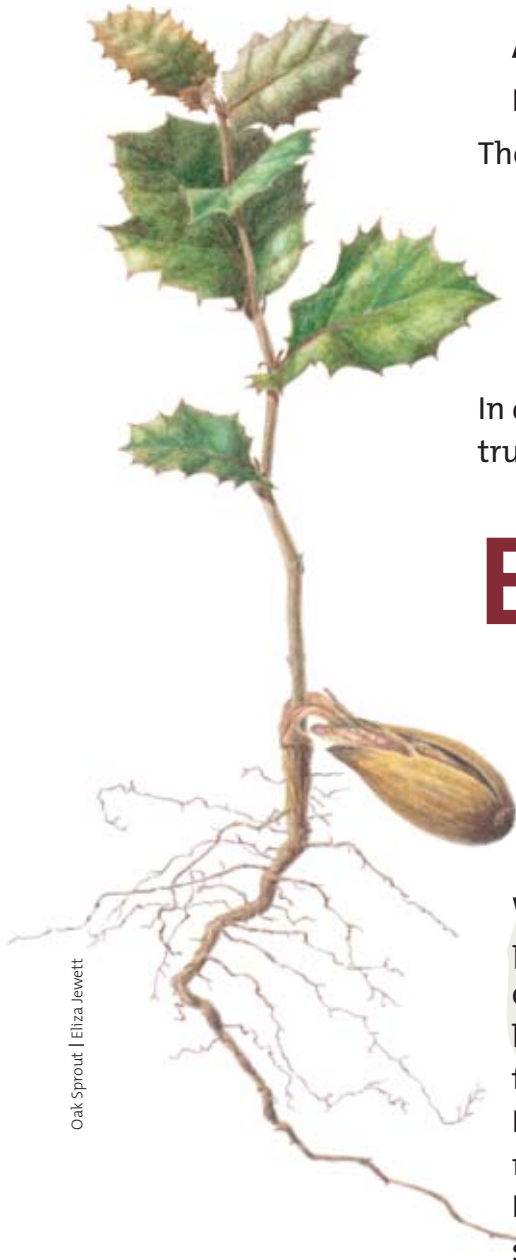
THE Art OF Nature

April 9 - June 4

Reception to meet the artists: **April 8, 2011** | 6:00 - 8:00 pm

The Museum of Natural History welcomes back the Northern California chapter of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators to produce *The Art of Nature*, the 22nd in our annual series of exhibitions featuring science illustrations. While it is possible to enjoy this exhibit for its visual appeal alone, we also use it to demonstrate how important a tool illustration is in teaching natural science. In describing, for example, the life cycle of a flowering plant, a picture truly is worth a thousand words.

— continued on page 2



Oak Sprout | Eliza Jewett

Endangered Neighbors

June 11 - September 10

Reception to meet the photographer: **June 10, 2011** | 6:00 - 8:00 pm

We often hear about the plight of globally-recognized endangered animal species like the great panda or the forest gorilla, but many Northern Californians do not realize that the Monterey Bay area itself is home to sixteen endangered species.

— continued on page 2



Photo | Sebastian Kennerknecht

Western Burrowing Owl, Bay Area, California.

Connecting People with Nature

April | June 2011

NEWSLETTER
Published Quarterly

EXHIBITS + CLASSES

The Art of Nature — continued from page 1

The Art of Nature will include over 60 works in oil, pencil, watercolor, pen and ink, and digital media. In keeping with the permanent exhibit that forms the backdrop for the show, these works depict flora and fauna that are native to Northern California: from moon snails to mountain lions, from roses to red tides.

Artists whose work will appear in the show include:

Krista Anandakutten
Nina Antze
Lee Boerger
Emily Cohen
Sondra Cohelan
Cheryl Crowley

David Fierstein
Cissy Freeman
Megan Gnekow
Katherine Gyorfi
Roger Hall

Jaye Hays
Erin Hunter
Jessica Huppi
Jenny Keller
Kathy Ikeda

Kristen Jakob
Eliza Jewett
Molly Keller
Vance Lawry
Valerie Layne

Elisheva Marcus
Jenny Parks
Lesley Randall
Diane T. Sands
James Wilson



Crab | Molly Keller

Endangered Neighbors — continued from page 1

Some of these species are endemic to the Santa Cruz area, some visit on their way to breeding grounds in Alaska or Canada, and some nest in the redwood forest while spending the remainder of the year at sea. The Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, in collaboration with local conservation photographer Sebastian Kennerknecht, will produce an exhibit to increase awareness of these afflicted species.

The *Endangered Neighbors* exhibit will consist of twenty-five medium- and five large-scale photographic prints of the endangered animals in their native habitats. For each image, we will provide information about the animals' natural history, the forces that have caused them to become endangered, and suggestions for what people can do to help protect them.

We will offer a range of classes in conjunction with each of these exhibits; please see page 3 for more information. Docent-led tours for school groups of *The Art of Nature* will be available from April 12 - June 3; we will offer a self-guided tour for *Endangered Neighbors*.



Photo | Sebastian Kennerknecht

Brown Pelican portrait, Santa Cruz.

CLASSES

Pre-registration is required for all Museum programs. Register online at www.santacruz museums.org. Call 420-6115 for more information.

Nature Photography | with Sebastian Kennerknecht

Pre-class lecture and discussion: Friday June 17 • 7:00 pm

Field class: Saturday June 18 • Sunrise (location TBA)

Photographer Sebastian Kennerknecht will share his techniques and skills for nature photography in this exciting new class. On Friday night, we will meet at the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History for a lecture and discussion on approaches to nature photography. Saturday morning, we will meet on location for a sunrise shoot, implementing the ideas and techniques we discussed the night before. This class will best serve people who have a basic understanding of their digital cameras but want to take their photography to the next level.

COST | Museum Members \$50/Non-Members \$65

Endangered Neighbors Gallery Walk | with Sebastian Kennerknecht

Friday July 1 • 5:30 pm

Join Sebastian Kennerknecht, creator of the Endangered Neighbors Exhibit, for a private evening viewing of the exhibit. Sebastian will share the inside stories behind the images, and explain the process of creating this important exhibit. Beverages and snacks will be served for participating guests.


COST | Museum Members \$8/Non-Members \$10



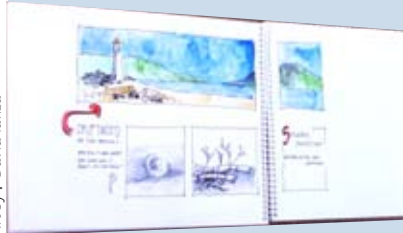
Pre-registration is required for all Museum programs. Register online at www.santacruz museums.org. Call 420-6115 for more information.

CLASSES

Exploring the Santa Cruz Sandhills | Wildflower Season with Jodi McGraw • Saturday April 23 • 10:00 am - noon


Amidst the coast redwood forests that dominate Santa Cruz County, islands of ancient marine sand deposits give rise to unique communities of plants and animals found nowhere else in the world. In this hike, participants will explore blooming wildflowers at the Morgan Preserve, learn about the diversity and fascinating ecology of the Sandhills communities as well as explore aspects of the system's geology, soils, and climate that support them. Open to all ages 10 and up. For more information about the sandhills, visit: www.santacruz sandhills.com. 

COST | Museum Members \$8/Non-Members \$10 .



Art by | David Tanza


Nature Notes and Sketches | with Sarah Rabkin Saturday April 30 • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Do you enjoy the Museum's natural science illustration exhibits? Do you envy the ability to capture nature's details in vibrant images? Science illustration techniques may take years to master, but the essential quality that makes this art so compelling—a capacity for enthusiastic attentiveness—is already yours. This one-day workshop introduces tools for creating your own alluring record of a day spent observing the natural world. We will meet at the Museum amphitheater (or indoors if it's raining) for introductory instruction and exercises; then take advantage of nearby Seabright Beach. Participants are encouraged to view the museum's *Art of Nature* exhibit before and/or after the workshop. Open to ages 14 and up. Families and beginners especially welcome. 

COST | Museum Members \$50/Non-Members \$65



Natural Science Illustration for Kids | with Christine Elder Saturday May 28 • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm


Join us for a fun-filled day of art activities. Participants will learn about the materials and techniques used in illustrations like those on exhibit for the Museum's Art of Nature exhibit. Students will be provided a variety of natural objects, and will receive instruction and lessons in drawing techniques not otherwise taught in formal art programs including: methods for creating realistic drawings, quick sketching techniques for capturing shapes, forms, texture, and mood, and ways to think more creatively. Open to participants ages 10-14. 

COST | Museum Members \$40/Non-Members \$55



Photo | Lynn Guenther

Art and Nature Explorer's Camp | with Christine Elder Monday - Friday June 20 - June 24 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Spend the week exploring the great outdoors and create a nature journal and exciting artwork that reflect your experiences in nature. Our explorations will include Seabright Beach, Arana Gulch, Wilder Ranch and the Natural History Museum. Exciting visual presentations, demonstrations and lots of hands-on opportunities using quality tools and materials will inspire campers to produce thoughtful, expressive artwork. Art projects include scientific illustrations in watercolor and pastel, printmaking, sculpting in metal and clay and making a 3-D map; plus campers will learn many creative techniques for journaling. All classes meet at the Museum of Natural History except Wednesday when we'll have a special field trip to Wilder Ranch. 

COST | Museum Members \$150/Non-Members \$175



Photo | Lynn Guenther



EDUCATION NOTES

NEW INTERNS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT | Ethan, Libby, Katelin



The museum's education department has some new faces and renewed energy this season:

LIBBY GRACE, a senior Environmental Studies major at UCSC, will be helping as a Neary Lagoon intern. Libby's experience in environmental education and her passion for teaching youth about nature will be a great asset to our program.

ETHAN TRATNER is our Museum School Tour intern this spring. He has been leading Bones tours since the New Year, and will take on Art of Nature tours starting in April. Ethan is a history student at UCSC and hopes to pursue a career in museums upon graduation.

KATELIN DAVIS will be continuing on as an intern for the Neary Lagoon program. She will be focusing on the 5th grade Watershed Walk program.

Thanks to all of our interns for improving our programs and working to give our participating students the best possible learning experience. ☺



Photo | Museum Staff

Photo | Museum Staff



Connect with Nature Series Wrap-Up

This winter, the museum presented Connect with Nature, a brand-new series of natural-history lectures for adults. The series kicked off with a hike in the **Sandhills of Scotts Valley**: Jodi McGraw led a group of about 30 participants on a beautiful and informative walk through the Morgan Preserve.

In **Behind the Bones** Frank Perry, guest curator of the Bones Exhibit, gave an inside look at this popular temporary exhibit. Glenn R. Stewart, director of the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group

and his trusty peregrine falcon, Sophie, visited the museum for a fascinating lecture about **Peregrine Falcons**. The final installment of the series brought Mark Hylkema, State Parks Archaeologist and Ohlone expert, to the museum to talk about the **Lifeways of the Ohlone**. Participants were inspired by Mark's vast breadth of knowledge and passion. ☺



ABOVE LEFT | Sophie the Peregrine Falcon.

ABOVE RIGHT | Frank Perry shares his expertise about Bones.

Photo | Museum Staff

Photo | Museum Staff

Bones School Tours

Over 20 school groups visited the museum during January and February to take part in Bones Exhibit Tours. The students learned about the functions and importance of bones, worked together to assemble a life-sized human skeleton puzzle, and completed an in-depth scavenger hunt of the amazing Bones Exhibit. ☺

Docent Training

Do you have a desire to learn about the natural world? Do you enjoy sharing your knowledge with others? Become a docent! Museum docents are volunteer tour guides, trained by museum staff to lead school programs at the museum and off-site field locations. Our popular Art of Nature school tours will be the focus of this upcoming training session. Monday, April 25, 10 am @ the Museum. Pre-registration is required. Visit our website at www.santacruz museums.org to register. ☺

News from Neary | Gearing Up for a New Season

As this new season kicks off, while Peter Wampler is drinking out of a coconut in Indonesia, Matt Miller has been gearing up for a busy spring at Neary Lagoon. Adding several new 5th grade Wetland Walk Programs to our schedule, this busy biker has been just that, busy. In an effort to reduce the Museum's footprint, Matt has been using his new Yuba Mundo Utility Bike to transport backpacks and binoculars to and from Neary Lagoon as well as projectors, puzzles, and wetland/watershed kits to elementary schools within range of the Museum. This bike is equipped with full fenders and a waterproof bag, with ample room to carry a classroom on wheels. During his internship at the Museum in the Spring of 2010, Peter and Matt would ride to schools for presentations or to the lagoon for a field trip. Matt shall continue this tradition, braving the wind and rain this spring in order to keep the wheels rolling on our great Neary programs. ☺



Photo | Museum Staff



Earth Day Santa Cruz



EARTH DAY SANTA CRUZ is coming up on April 16th at the San Lorenzo Park Benchlands. The event will take place from 11 am - 4 pm, rain or shine, and will feature educational information, activities for kids, live music, food vendors, eco-shopping, and of course a Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History booth! 🌀



Earth Day Class Project Exhibit | May 3 – May 28

The Museum will be partnering with Earth Day Santa Cruz to present the Earth Day Class Project Challenge again this year. This contest asks classrooms to create environmentally-themed projects for display at Earth Day Santa Cruz. The winning projects will be awarded cash prizes and a place in the Museum's Earth Day Exhibit. 🌀

Super Summer Saturdays

This summer's Saturday programs will feature live animals, crafts, and musical performances. Super Summer Saturday programs are free for kids, and adults pay museum admission. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

- July 2 | **The Water Beat with ZunZun**
- July 9 | **Live Bats**
- July 16 | **Live California Animals with Wildlife Associates**
- July 23 | **Live Snakes**
- July 30 | **Banana Slug String Band** 🌀

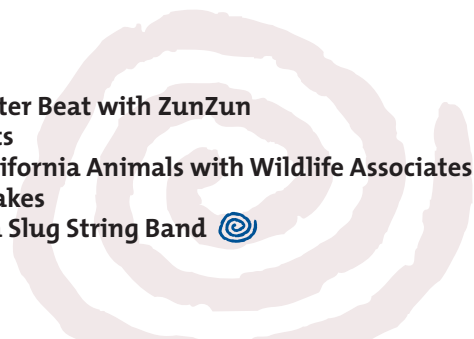


Photo | Tyler Karaszewski

Pollination Celebration

The Museum will be celebrating National Pollinator Week by holding our first ever Pollination Celebration on Saturday, June 25 at 10am. The event will kick off with a lecture on local pollinators by Chris Lay from the UCSC Museum on Natural History Collections. Then we'll head outside, where participants can help us plant a new bee and butterfly garden while learning about ways to attract pollinators to their own gardens. Open to all ages, free with Museum admission. 🌀

Tales from the Tank

In an effort to make our touch tank animals even happier, museum staff and volunteers have begun monitoring the salinity of the water in our tank. Using a hydrometer we can measure the relative amount of salt (which will rise as water evaporates) and gradually add fresh water so that the salinity is in the optimal range for our animals. Many animals like the pink sea star are sensitive to changes in salinity so it is important to maintain a well-balanced tank. Be sure to check in regularly with our touch tank- there's always something new to observe! As always we welcome volunteers to join us on our bi-monthly outings to the tide pools for specimen collecting; if interested please contact liz@santacruz museums.org.



Photo | Museum Staff

Volunteer Matt Taylor uses a hydrometer to measure the salinity of the water in our touch tank.

DID YOU KNOW? The pink sea star (*Pisaster brevispinus*) has been known to reach a diameter of over two feet! 🌀



Photo | Museum Staff

Volunteers in Action

In addition to the many hours that our volunteers spend supporting the Museum, they also find time to venture out and lend a hand to other organizations. A group of Museum volunteers celebrated January's Martin Luther King Day of Service at Elkhorn Slough Foundation. We pulled weeds at a habitat restoration site while enjoying beautiful weather and an impressive view of the Reserve. We are planning another volunteer visit to the Slough in April, so stay tuned for details. 🌀

Museum volunteer James Turk and his friend Sue remove poison hemlock from a hillside overlooking Elkhorn Slough, making room for native plants to thrive there.

MUSEUM UPDATES

Photos | Museum Staff



Visit from the Discovery Museum

Education staff from the San Jose Children's Discovery Museum and the South Bay regional coordinator of the CREEC (California Regional Environmental Education Community) stopped by the Museum on February 3 to get a closer look at the Bones Exhibit and accompanying education program. The Children's Discovery Museum is working on creating an upcoming Bones Exhibit of their own. ☺

Sandy Derby and Jenni Martin from the SJCDM, Amity Sandage from CREEC, and the Museum's own Kristen Van Kley.

Museum Buzz | Our New Blog

We are proud to announce that the Museum of Natural History now has a blog. The interactive blog will feature special peeks inside our collections, opportunities to ask an expert your natural history questions, a place to share your memories of the Museum, and much more.

Join in the conversation by visiting <http://santacruz museums.org/blog> today! ☺

From the Director's Desk | Our Collections

Natural history museums serve as accessible places for popular science education. For our Museum, we use the exhibits and our outstanding educational programs to **connect people with nature**, our mission. Behind the public face of most museums lies the world of collections. In our case, more than 15,000 artifacts are stored below the exhibit floor representing a variety of scientific disciplines; zoology, paleontology, botany, entomology, anthropology, and human culture. Collections universally are the foundation for research on evolution, ecology, climate change, biogeography, and native people. The collections presently under the care of the Santa Cruz Museum Association (SCMA) officially belong to the City of Santa Cruz. One of the many goals within the Strategic Plan for our Museum is to inventory and assess the collections. Our research associate, Frank Perry, is now working to identify those artifacts that do not fit within our mission, especially those that clearly fall outside of a natural history collection. These artifacts will be removed from our collections and transferred to build strengths within other institutions and museums where they can be best cared for and maintained. Once transferred, the city will transfer ownership of the remaining collections to the SCMA. Our Museum will then be prepared to build our collections, make best use of these artifacts in exhibits and in expanded educational opportunities, and support a growing interest in research focused on our diverse regional biodiversity.

For more information about Museum collections, visit *The Director's Desk* on our new blog, the Museum Buzz at <http://santacruz museums.org/blog> ☺

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

In partnership with Central Coast Wetlands Group, the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History will present an exhibit to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the beauty and ecological importance of lagoons along the central coast.

EXPLORING COASTAL LAGOONS OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA:
A Journey Through Art, History, and Science

October 15, 2011 - January 21, 2012



A historical image of the San Lorenzo River.



March 2011

- 16 Wednesday – 5:45 - 8:00 pm
SCMA board meeting
- 17 Thursday – 7:30 - 10:00 pm
General meeting Santa Cruz Bird Club
Officers meet at 6:30
- 18 Friday – 10:00 am - noon
Volunteer Garden Work Day
call Jaime if interested at 420-1168

April

- 8 Friday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Opening reception for new exhibit
The Art of Nature
- 9 Saturday – 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
The Art of Nature opens to public
through June 4, 2011
- 9 Saturday – 10:00 am - noon
Pilkington Creek Cleanup
- 9 Saturday – noon - 2:00 pm
The Art of Nature | Scientific Illustration
Demonstration featuring artists Megan
Gnekow and Diane Sands.

- 12 Tuesday
The Art of Nature school tours begin
through Friday June 3
- 14 Thursday – noon - 10:00 pm
**Thank You Thursday at Santa Cruz
Mountain Brewery** - \$1 from every pint
sold goes to the Museum,
402 Ingalls Street # 27, Santa Cruz

- 15 Friday – 10:00 am - noon
Volunteer Garden Work Day
call Jaime if interested at 420-1168

- 16 Saturday – 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Earth Day Santa Cruz at San Lorenzo
Park Benchlands

- 20 Wednesday – 5:45 - 8:00 pm
SCMA board meeting

- 21 Thursday – 7:30 - 10:00 pm
General meeting Santa Cruz Bird Club
Officers meet at 6:30

- 23 Saturday – 10:00 am - noon
Exploring the Santa Cruz Sandhills:
Wildflower Season with Jodi McGraw
Open to ages 10 & up. Register in
advance at www.santacruz museums.org

- 25 Monday – 10:00 am - noon
Docent Training for Art of Nature tours.
Sign up at www.santacruz museums.org

- 30 Saturday – 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Nature Notes and Sketches with Sarah
Rabkin. Ages 14 & up. Register in advance
at www.santacruz museums.org

May

- 7 Saturday – 8:00 am
Human Race

- 14 Saturday – 10:00 am - noon
Pilkington Creek Cleanup

- 18 Wednesday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm
SCMA Annual Members' Meeting
Guest Speaker: Executive Director, Dan Harder

- 19 Thursday – 7:30 - 10:00 pm
General meeting Santa Cruz Bird Club
Officers meet at 6:30

- 20 Friday – 7:00 - 9:00 am
Volunteer Tidepooling call Liz if interested
at 420-6115

- 20 Friday – 10:00 am - noon
Volunteer Garden Work Day
call Jaime if interested at 420-1168

- 28 Saturday – 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Natural Science Illustration for Kids with
Christine Elder. Ages 10-14. Register in
advance at www.santacruz museums.org

June

- 4 Saturday – 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Last day to see **The Art of Nature**

- 10 Friday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Opening reception for new exhibit
Endangered Neighbors

- 11 Saturday – 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Endangered Neighbors opens to
public through September 10, 2011

- 11 Saturday – 10:00 am - noon
Pilkington Creek Cleanup

- 15 Wednesday – 5:45 - 8:00 pm
SCMA board meeting

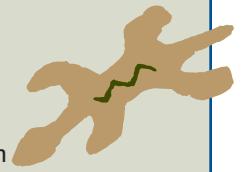
- 17 Friday – 10:00 am - noon
Volunteer Garden Work Day
call Jaime if interested at 420-1168

- 17 Friday – 7:00 pm
Nature Photography with Sebastian
Kennerknecht. Pre-class lecture and
slide show for registered participants.

- 18 Saturday – Sunrise
Nature Photography with Sebastian
Kennerknecht. Location TBA. Register in
advance at www.santacruz museums.org

- 20-24 Monday - Friday | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Art & Nature Explorers' Camp -
ages 7-12. Register ahead of time at
www.santacruz museums.org

- 25 Saturday – 10:00 am
Pollination Celebration | More information
at www.santacruz museums.org





New SCMA Members and Donors **Welcome**

THANK YOU!

Ark Animal Hospital ≈ Julie Blank ≈ Andrew and Sophia Castro and family ≈ Sabine and Jeffrey Crawford ≈ Wynnifred d'lyon-Jahnigen ≈ Tiffany De Priest ≈ Jan and Royce Fincher and family ≈ Betty Gaddam ≈ Bruce Heyer ≈ Stan Iversen, Suncrest Nursery ≈ Louis Mitchell ≈ Sandy Nash ≈ Song Nelson and Ron Goodman ≈ Helen Paul ≈ Darlyn Phinney ≈ Brent J. Porter DDS ≈ Erik Schoennauer ≈ Isabelle and Michael Scott ≈ Wendy Sickels and Gregory Whitley ≈ Barbara Sonnenshine ≈ Joyce Victor ≈ Anita Webb

Annual Members' Meeting

Guest speaker | **Dan Harder**

Executive Director
Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History



**Wednesday
May 18
6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Reminder

MUSEUM SUMMER SCHEDULE

starts on June 6.



OPEN
Wednesday
through
Sunday
until Labor Day.



Board of Directors

Patty Quillin, *President*
Naomi Gardner, *Vice-President*
David Tanza, *Treasurer*
Rainbow Epstein, *Secretary*
Hilary Benton
Joni L. Janecki
Glenn Nelson
Larry Pageler



Museum Staff

Liz Broughton, *Museum Administrator*
Dan Harder, *Executive Director*
Jaime Karaszewski, *Outreach Coordinator*
Lise Peterson, *Operations Manager*
Kristen Van Kley, *Education Manager*
Matt Miller, *Education Assistant*
Jesse Shank } *Museum Attendants*
Mary Verutti }



SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

1305 East Cliff Drive | Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831.420.6115 | www.santacruz museums.org
FAX 831.420.1137 | Surfing Museum 831.420.6289
E-MAIL | staff@santacruz museums.org

Museum of Natural History
Tuesday – Saturday | 10 am–5 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

Summer Schedule | beginning June 6
Wednesday – Sunday | 10 am–5 pm
Closed Monday and Tuesday

Surfing Museum
Thursday – Monday | 12 noon–4 pm
Closed Tuesday and Wednesday

Nonprofit Org.
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April | June 2011

Members' NEWSLETTER