



SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Summer at the
Museum of Natural History

Super Summer SATURDAYS Saturdays, July 2- July 30

This summer, our family **SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY** programs will feature live animals, musical performances, and arts and crafts projects appropriate for children ages 5+. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note that for performance programs there will be specified start times. Other programs are drop-in. Please see Calendar on page 7 for more details.



JULY 2 | **The Water Beat** with ZunZun

JULY 9 | **Beautiful Bats** – live bats with the Bat Conservancy of Coastal California

JULY 16 | **California Wild** with Wildlife Associates – live native California animals

JULY 23 | **Sensational Snakes** – live snakes with For Goodness Snakes Adventures

JULY 30 | **Endangered Neighbors** with the Banana Slug String Band

Programs free with Museum admission. ☺

Photos | Museum Staff

July | September 2011

Connecting People with Nature

NEWSLETTER
Published Quarterly

EDUCATION NOTES

Wrap-up | The Earth Day Class Project Exhibit

The Museum's 2nd annual **EARTH DAY CLASS PROJECT EXHIBIT** was again a great success. The three winning projects from the Earth Day Class Project Challenge Competition at Earth Day Santa Cruz 2011 were invited to display their work in the Museum's exhibit. Each project presents a local environmental issue, and offers solutions to the problem addressed. The Earth Day Class Project Exhibit offers a close-up look at what Santa Cruz students and teachers are doing to improve the health of our local environment.

This year's featured projects:

Gault Elementary School: Boltage, a close-up look at this alternative transportation tracking program, by Amariah Hernandez' 5th grade class.

Mount Madonna School: Kelp the Otters, There's a reason they're here, don't let them disappear!, an in-depth look at how our actions affect the California Sea Otter population, by James Sri Gyan McCaughan and Jessica Cambell's 5th grade class.

Tierra Pacifica Charter School: The Effects of Oil Leaks on the Environment, a comprehensive look at how often oil is leaked into the environment, and how we can prevent oil leaks in the future, by Justin Trinh-Halperin's 7th/8th grade class. ©

TOP | Gault students answer questions from the crowd about their methods for tracking energy saved by students using alternative transportation.

BOTTOM | Mount Madonna Students give a presentation about what we can all do to help protect sea otters.



Photos | Museum Staff

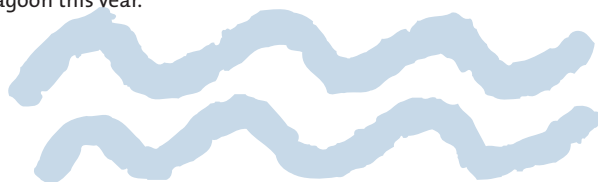


Photo | Dana Bagshaw

A vividly colored male Cinnamon Teal and his mate enjoyed an extended visit to Neary Lagoon this year.

Spring at Neary Lagoon

This school year and spring season has been yet another great success for our program. With a bit of a stormy start and few cancellations in the beginning, we braved the elements then on—from cold and drizzle to warm and sunny. Favorite sightings this season included cinnamon teals, mallard ducklings, and swimming raccoons. With more than 40 tours completed at the lagoon, close to 1000 kids taught and led around the lagoon, and more than 180 docent hours devoted to our programs over the last few months, we ended this season on an exceptionally high note. As our program grows, we have added classes from more schools around our area and brought in new faces to our docent pool: this season we added Dana Bagshaw, Tyler Ladinsky, and Molly Lautamo. We also had the privilege of working with two UCSC interns, Kate Davis and Libby Grace, each contributing their past experience and enthusiasm for environmental education both in field trips as well as in the classroom. ©



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

CLASSES

Endangered Neighbors Gallery Walk

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. *Pre-registration is required. Register online at www.santacruz museums.org.*

COST Members \$8/Non-members \$10 ☺

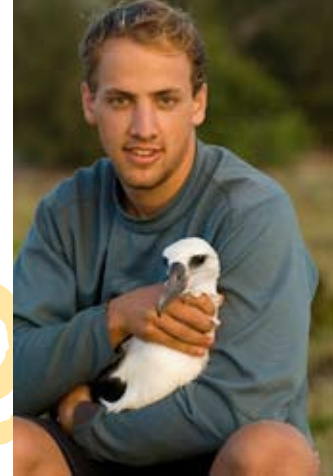


Photo | Frans Lanting



Photo | Sebastian Kennerknecht

Endangered Neighbors Panel Discussion

Thursday, August 18 @ 7:00 pm

What happens when the habitat of both a predator and its prey is endangered? The San Francisco Garter Snake and California Red-legged Frog both make their homes in the wetlands of Santa Cruz County. The conservation needs of these two species are inseparably linked, as the endangered Garter Snake primarily feeds on the threatened California Red-legged frog. Join Nina D'Amore and Sean Barry as they discuss their research of these animals, as well as each species' natural history and their unique conservation challenges. *Seating limited to first 40 arrivals.*

COST Members \$8/Non-members \$10 ☺



Photo | Museum Staff

Goodbye Kristen

This May, Museum staff, volunteers, and board members bid a fond farewell to Education Manager Kristen Van Kley. Kristen has returned to her Midwest roots by moving to Chicago, along with her husband Marty and their son Hayden. We wish her well in the Windy City!

The Museum is looking forward to introducing our new Education Manager in our next newsletter. ☺

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.



MUSEUM UPDATES

Member Profile

Did you know that there are between 600 and 700 members of the museum? Not everyone has the time to meet them all in person, but we'd like to acquaint you with one in each newsletter.

How did you first find out about the MNH?

Susie Fork | Research Biologist

I had heard from my friend that there was a great little natural history museum in Santa Cruz and wanted to check it out.

What led you to join?

I have always been a fan of natural history. When I was little, one of my big dreams was to create a natural history museum in my room, with collections of bones, shells, pressed plants. I also prepared museum skins of birds that hit our windows to add to my collections.

Name one of your favorite events here.

The Super Summer Saturdays — now I take my own kids to show them all the cool things about animals and their habitats.

What is your favorite item in the Museum collection?

The Bones exhibit.

Animal, vegetable, or mineral?

Insects are my big passion, particularly ants!



Photo courtesy of Susie Fork

The Art of Nature

Our thanks to the many volunteers who helped make *The Art of Nature* a success. Special thanks to Diane T. Sands, president of the Northern California Guild of Natural Science Illustrators, for helping us to produce this exhibit.

OUR VOLUNTEERS | Glenn Bartz | Nora Britton | Kathleen Church | Debra Clark | Joan Davisson | Linda Fessette | Linda Flake | Christina Floyd | Diana Gerkey | Karen Hill | Gloria Lee | Elaine Posner | Juan Rodriguez | Jim Rolens 🌀



A reception guest enjoying a preview of the featured artwork.

Photos | Museum Staff

The Sibley (“Dee”) E. Bush Jr. Endowment

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has established the Museum's first endowment. With a generous gift from the estate of long-time supporter and docent, Sibley “Dee” Bush, the endowment provides permanent support for our docent and volunteer programs. The \$50,000 gift will remain as principal while a portion of the interest will be made available annually to the Museum to support our vibrant volunteer and docent programs. The larger portion of the interest generated will be reinvested in the principal and provide increasing support for the Museum. After more than a century, this endowment is a solid step forward in sustaining a viable financial future of our Museum. Please contact Dan at the Museum for details on how you can help grow this endowment and support the Museum. 🌀



Welcome New Board Members

The Museum staff and board are pleased to welcome two new members to the Board of Directors: Hilary Benton and Donna Meyers.



Photos | Museum Staff

HILARY BENTON grew up in England where her favorite day trip as a small child was a visit to see the dinosaur skeleton at the Natural History Museum in London. She graduated from the University of London with a Ph.D. in Physiology in 1984 and developed a research career that brought her to California in 1990. Hilary now teaches Biology at Cabrillo and Foothill Community Colleges and has served as a docent at the Museum since moving to Santa Cruz in 2006. The mission of the Museum to connect people with nature and inspire stewardship of the natural world is closely aligned with her interests in science education and her passion for the wonderful environment we have around us in Santa Cruz County. She is excited to participate in advancing the role that the Museum plays in our community.

DONNA MEYERS has been a resident of the Central Coast for over 20 years. She has more than 16 years of experience in coastal and watershed management, specializing in habitat restoration, floodplain management, endangered species conservation and water quality. She holds a B.A. in Biology from UCSC and a Masters in Environmental Planning from California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo. Donna has served on national, state and local advisory committees on watershed planning and policy and has managed the preparation of several watershed and restoration plans for rivers in the Central Coast. Donna is currently a board member of the California Watershed Network and is Director of Conservation for the Big Sur Land Trust. ☺



Photos | Museum Staff

Progress in Pilkington Creek

Over the last few months, the habitat restoration site at Pilkington Creek has been quietly thriving. After an initial and normal die-back over the winter, the natives that were planted late last year have flourished in the spring weather. Volunteers have also watched as non-native blackberry and alum lily have sprouted after every rain. They have patiently removed these unwelcome plants to make way for native soap lily, stream orchid, dogwood, and lupine. Residents and visitors to the Seabright neighborhood have already noticed other changes in and around the creek: there is less trash accumulating in the area, increased visibility across the creek creates a safer neighborhood, and there has even been a reduction in the mosquito population.



Photo | Museum Staff

Volunteer and Seabright resident Nancy Lenz tends the native plants growing adjacent to Pilkington Creek.

During the early summer months we will continue to pull weeds in the planted areas, but the real excitement will begin in August. From August 1 to October 15, the Department of Fish and Game will allow us to start another phase of invasive plant removal, and we'll be gradually working our way along the stream toward the ocean. With continued support from Museum volunteers and neighborhood residents, this project should last well into the future. If you're interested in helping out by donating your time or other resources, or to check on our progress and plans for the future, please visit <http://pilkingtoncreek.org> ☺



Photo | Museum Staff

From left to right, Laura Smith, Jenny Anderson, Sara Wood Smith, Don Peattie, Lise Peterson, Cynthia Mathews.

Human Race 2011

Honoring a long-standing tradition, Members and staff of the Museum joined the family of Pat Smith in the annual Human Race on May 7. ☺



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS MEMBERS and DONORS for gifts received in the year ending May 1, 2011.

GIFTS OF \$10,000 and over

Grant for Executive Director - Anonymous
Community Foundation
of Santa Cruz County
The Julie Packard and Robert Stephens
Donor-Advised Fund, Community
Foundation of Santa Cruz
Patty Quillin and Reed Hastings

GIFTS FROM \$1,000-\$4,999

Naomi Gardner
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Nancy Ley
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and Mary Lee Crooks
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Donna Zahn
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Joan Zimmerman

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In memory of
Sibley E. "Dee" Bush, Jr.:
Louis Mitchell
Darlyn Phinney
Tom, Brenda and Jennifer Schmida
In honor of Drew Grasso:
Anonymous
In honor of Nick and Sara Tanza:
Betsie and Dave Tanza
In memory of Gurdon Woods:
Kathleen Bonner

*Special thanks for asking
employers to match your gift



June 2011

20-24

Monday – Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Art & Nature Explorers' Camp
Please register in advance
at www.santacruz museums.org

25

Saturday – 10:00 am
Pollination Celebration | Pollinator
Lecture by Chris Lay followed by
Pollinator Garden planting event
and more. Free with Museum
admission. More information at
www.santacruz museums.org

July

1

Friday – 5:30 pm
Endangered Neighbors Gallery Walk
with Sebastian Kennerknecht

2

Saturday – Two shows
10:30 am and 12:00 pm
SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY
The Water Beat with Zun Zun
Program free to youth under 18

5

Tuesday – 7:30 am
Volunteer Tidepooling
call Liz if interested at 420-6115

9

Saturday – Drop-in from
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY
Beautiful Bats
Program free to youth under 18

15

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

16

Saturday – Two shows
10:30 am and 12:00 pm
SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY
California Wild with Wildlife Associates
Program free to youth under 18

20

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

23

Saturday – Two shows
10:30 am and 12:00 pm
SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY
Sensational Snakes
Program free to youth under 18



30

Saturday – Two shows
10:30 am and 12:00 pm
SUPER SUMMER SATURDAY
Banana Slug String Band
Program free to youth under 18

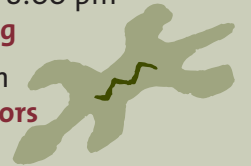
August

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

17

18

Thursday – 7:00 pm
**Endangered Neighbors
Panel Discussion**



19

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

September

10

Saturday – 10:00 am and 5:00 pm
**Final Day of Endangered
Neighbors exhibit**

12

Monday – 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Docent Training

19

Monday – 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Docent Training

21

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

22

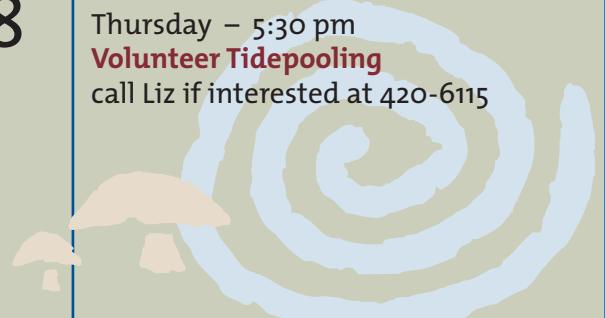
Thursday – 7:30 - 10:00 pm
**General meeting | Santa Cruz
Bird Club** | Officers meet at 6:30

26

Monday – 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Docent Training

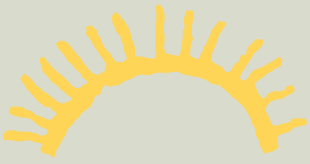
28

Thursday – 5:30 pm
Volunteer Tidepooling
call Liz if interested at 420-6115



REMINDER

MUSEUM SUMMER SCHEDULE
June 6 through September 4
Open Wednesday through Sunday



Welcome

New SCMA Members and Donors

THANK YOU!

Katherine Beiers ≈ Kaye Beth ≈ Mike Brandy ≈ Carol Brown ≈ Mary Alice Davis ≈ Margaret Dolgenos/Cruzio ≈ Margaret Eulensen ≈ Debbie and Betty Evanoff ≈ Lois Goldfrank ≈ John Hillstrom and Kathleen Halat ≈ Mary Ann Kono ≈ Joel Koppa ≈ Jodi Koumouitzes-Douvia ≈ Sandy Lawton ≈ Stephanie Martin ≈ Mike Munson ≈ Camille Nava ≈ Joann Pohorsky ≈ Peter Richardson ≈ Santa Cruz Mountain Brewing ≈ Lisa and Greg Schaffer ≈ Gail Sherman ≈ Heidi Simpson ≈ Carin Sutton ≈ Deanna Trinidad and Shawn Wilson ≈ Sharon Willey

Fall Docent Training... Do you have a desire to learn about the natural world? Do you enjoy sharing your knowledge with others?

Become a docent at the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History! Museum docents are volunteer tour guides, trained by Museum staff to lead school programs about Ohlone Culture and History, local animals and their habitats, Neary Lagoon (a local wetland habitat), and temporary exhibits. No previous experience is necessary to join our docent team! Visit www.santacruz museums.org to register or to find out more.

Fall Training Sessions: Monday, September 12 | 10:00am - 1:00pm
Monday, September 19 | 10:00am - 1:00pm
Monday, September 26 | 10:00am - 1:00pm
Monday, October 3 | 10:00am - 12:00pm



Board of Directors

Patty Quillin, *President*
Naomi Gardner, *Vice-President*
David Tanza, *Treasurer*
Rainbow Epstein, *Secretary*
Hilary Benton
Donna Meyers
Glenn Nelson



Museum Staff

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



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 Summer Schedule
Wednesday – Monday | 10 am–5 pm
From July 2 - September 5 | Closed Tuesday

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July | September 2011

Members' NEWSLETTER