

New SCMA Members and Donors

- |                        |                        |                    |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Elizabeth Barba        | Gwen Marcum            | Tom Swanson        |
| Patty Bond             | Lillian Marsteller     | Michelle Waters    |
| Shauna Casey           | Isabel Mouton          | Lark Young/Surf    |
| Jean Castro            | Mary Nelson            | Town Deli & Market |
| George & Bonnie Clark  | Diane Rejman           |                    |
| Lauren & Dean Cutter   | Jason & Jessica Rimmer |                    |
| Dennis Dederick        | Sara Roche             |                    |
| Georgene Goodwin       | Linda Rochin           |                    |
| Wade & Dewana Leishman | Warren Ryder           |                    |
| Balám & Alice Letona   | Judy Stenovich         |                    |
- THANK YOU!**
- W e l c o m e**



**Board of Directors**

- Patty Quillin, *President*  
 Merc Martinelli, *Vice President*  
 Naomi Gardner, *Secretary*  
 David Tanza, *Treasurer*  
 Joni L. Janecki  
 Glenn Nelson  
 Larry Pageler



**Museum Staff**

- Kristen Van Kley, *Education Manager*  
 Mary Goldman, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
 Lise Peterson, *Operations Manager*  
 Peter Wampler, *Education Assistant*  
 Garrett McCown }  
 Jesse Shank } *Museum Attendants*  
 Mary Verutti }

**Dine Out for the Museum!**



Every Tuesday night in November, the **Center Street Grill** will generously donate a portion of its dinner proceeds to the Museum of Natural History. Please **call 423-4745 for reservations** ahead of time.

Dinner is served from 5:00 - 9:00 pm.  
[thecenterstreetgrill.com](http://thecenterstreetgrill.com)



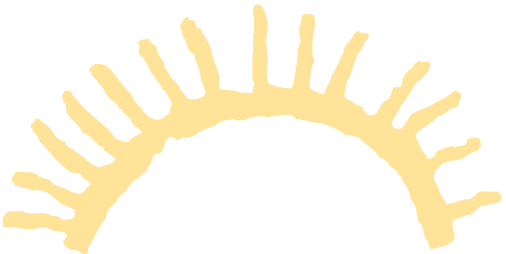
**SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

1305 East Cliff Drive | Santa Cruz, CA 95062  
 831.420.6115 | [www.santacruz museums.org](http://www.santacruz museums.org)  
 FAX 831.420.1137 | Surfing Museum 831.420.6289  
 E-MAIL | [staff@santacruz museums.org](mailto:staff@santacruz museums.org)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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



October | December 2009  
 Members' NEWSLETTER

Nonprofit Org.  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 SANTA CRUZ, CA  
 Permit # 209



Museum of Natural History to host exhibit celebrating

# Sea Otter Awareness Week



Photos | Sebastian Kennerknecht

In observance of the annual Sea Otter Awareness week, the Museum of Natural History is collaborating with the Otter Project in Monterey to present *The Otter Zone: sea otters in their habitat*, an exhibit of art celebrating the otter and its near-shore coastal environment. The exhibit will include dozens of works, in various media, by Monterey Bay area artists. ☺



The Otter Project  
[www.otterproject.org](http://www.otterproject.org)

**OPENING RECEPTION**  
 to honor the artists—  
 Members welcome!  
 Friday, September 25  
 7:00 - 9:00 pm

**FIRST FRIDAY ART TOUR**  
 Friday, October 2  
 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Connecting People with Nature

October | December 2009  
 NEWSLETTER  
 Published Quarterly

# EDUCATION NEWS

## Summer Programs Wrap-up!

Over 900 children and families participated in our **Super Summer Saturdays** programs this year. Some of the highlights were live animal presentations, craft activities, and an environmentally-themed concert performed entirely on recycled instruments. Thanks to all of the enthusiastic participants and volunteers who joined in on the learning and fun. We hope to see you again next summer!



Photo | Standing Tree Staff



Photo | Museum Staff

Young people also stayed busy at this summer at our **Art and Nature Explorer's Camp** and **Nature and Survival Skills Camp**. Students worked on individual and group art projects at this year's Art and Nature Camp, working with materials such as paints, metals, woods, and found objects. Both the Museum's specimens and the great outdoors served as inspiration for these young artists. At Nature and Survival Skills Camp, campers got in touch with nature at Nisene Marks State Park, learning new skills such as building a fire by friction, making natural tools and shelter building. The campers spent their last night of camp on an overnight, where they cooked their own food, gathered around a warm fire, and slept in the great outdoors with new friends. Look out for more summer programs and camps at the Museum next year.

**THANKS** to all of our Super Summer Saturday Volunteers:  
 Stacey Grant | Heidi Morgan | Gail (and 10 year old granddaughter)  
 Sherman | Michael Fineman | Carol Fuller | Tristan Loufbarrow  
 Vicki Sutherland | Glenn Bartz | Lani Hall | Gloria Lee  
 Linda Rochin | Maryellen Boyle ☺



Photo | Standing Tree Staff



Photo | Museum Staff

## French Students Visit The Museum



Though school isn't in session, the Museum still provides plenty of educational opportunities. This summer, a group of high school students from the region of Lorraine, France visited the museum for a tour on local Ohlone history lead by our wonderful volunteer, Gail Gardner. The students came here as part of a 3-week exchange program in Santa Cruz County through an organization called International Student Services. These 20 students stayed with local host families and participated in educational and recreational activities in the area, including their stop here at museum! It is really nice to see our local museum serving a global community. These exchange groups have been coming to the museum for 15 years, and we hope for many more. Thank you to Gail for taking time out of her busy summer to lead this tour! ☺



Photo | Museum Staff

## Calendar

### September 2009

14 Monday – 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
**Docent training sessions**  
 (each Monday through October 5)

16 Wednesday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
**SCMA board meeting**

19 Saturday – 9:30 - 10:00 am  
**Volunteer Gardening work day**

19 Saturday – 25th Annual Coastal  
**Cleanup Day** | For a list of activities,  
 please visit *Save Our Shores* at  
[www.saveourshores.org/](http://www.saveourshores.org/)

19 Saturday – 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Ohlone Day at Henry Cowell**  
 For more information, please visit  
[www.santacruzstateparks.org/whatsnew/](http://www.santacruzstateparks.org/whatsnew/)

24-27 Thursday - Sunday – All day  
**Monterey Bay Birding Festival**  
 For more information, please visit  
[www.montereybaybirding.org/](http://www.montereybaybirding.org/)

25 Friday – 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
**Opening Reception: Sea Otter  
 Awareness Week exhibit**  
 (through Saturday, October 24)

### October

17 Saturday – 9:30 - 10:00 am  
**Volunteer Gardening work day**

21 Wednesday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
**SCMA board meeting**

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

24 Saturday – 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
**Closing day** | Sea Otter  
 Awareness exhibit

### Reminder

After Labor Day, the Museum resumes its school-year schedule of being open Tuesday through Saturday, closed on Sunday and Monday. Hours remain 10:00 - 5:00.

### November

Wednesday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
**SCMA board meeting**

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

Saturday – 9:30 - 10:00 am  
**Volunteer Gardening work day**

26-29 Thursday - Sunday  
 Thanksgiving holiday weekend  
**MUSEUM CLOSED**

### December

Tuesday – 7:00 am - 9:00 pm  
**Pre-trip lecture** for December 5-6  
 Waterfowl tour | *Lecture reserved  
 for registered participants only*

Wednesday – 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
**Mushroom identification**  
 Public welcome! | Fungus  
 Federation of Santa Cruz

Friday - Saturday –  
 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
**Holiday Sale** at the Museum  
 15% off for members

Saturday – 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
 and Sunday – 8:30 am - 2:00 pm  
**Waterfowl that Whiten the Sky**  
 field trip to the Central Valley and  
 the Sierra Buttes with Clay Kempf

Wednesday – 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
**SCMA board meeting**

### FREE TYRRELL CREEK

#### Want to see the Museum grounds freed from the grip of invasive plants?

Then please join Nancy Lenz in her campaign to have these removed. Nancy, a longtime Museum member and Seabright neighbor, was inspired by a recent Sentinel article on the residents of Sorrento Oaks, who worked together to remove the ivy that threatened to take over their mobile home park. The article directed her to the Resource Conservation District, which was able to provide her with information on the permits required, the scope of the work involved, and some suggestions about what to plant in replacement of the non-native species. If you want to join this campaign, please send her a message at [nanlenz@cruzio.com](mailto:nanlenz@cruzio.com).

## 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 a few each newsletter.

**How did you first find out about the MNH?**

**What led you to join?**

**Name one of your favorite events here.**

**What would you move from the old museum to the new one?**

**Animal, vegetable, or mineral?**

**Tristan Loofbourrow** | snake expert

I first found out about the museum because they had a lot of volunteering opportunities. At the time I was looking for volunteer work for my school community service.

What led me to join was the king snake. Being the snake charmer I am, I jumped on it.

My favorite event at the museum is Sensational Snakes with Paul Haskins. It's cool that I get to help him with his shows and bring some of my snakes in. Paul's a great man to work with.

I would for sure move the Museum pet snake. Also, you shouldn't leave the big whale out front. All the stuffed animals are pretty cool. And of course, I wouldn't leave the wonderful staff at the museum. =)

Well, for animal I think I'd like to be a bearded dragon, but I would have to be in the wild, somewhere where nothing could eat me. For vegetable I think I should be a carrot, and for mineral, a Geo.



Photo | Museum Staff

Pre-registration is required for all Museum programs. Register online at [www.santacruz museums.org](http://www.santacruz museums.org). Call 420-1135 for more information. **CLASSES**

## Birds of Morro Bay and the Carrizo Plain

Join us as we visit two of the premier birding areas in California: Morro Bay and the Carrizo Plain. We'll visit a variety of habitats in an attempt to maximize the number of species seen during the trip. Morro Bay hosts a wide variety of ducks and shorebirds, with Morro Rock itself being one of the oldest nesting sites of the fastest creature on earth, the peregrine falcon. We'll see the wintering grounds of the arctic-nesting sea goose, the brant; listen for the cascading song of the canyon wren; search for royal tern, American white pelican and red-breasted merganser; and visit coastal "migrant traps" in search of rare wintering species. On Sunday, we'll head to California Valley and the Carrizo Plain for an entirely new set of habitat and bird life, including oak savannah specialties. ☺

**LECTURE for registered participants** | Tuesday, January 26, 7:00 pm at the museum

**FIELD TRIP** | Saturday and Sunday, January 30 and 31

**COST** | Members \$80/General \$95



Photo | Clay Kempf

## Waterfowl that Whiten the Sky

Field trip to Central Valley and Sutter Buttes

Breathtaking views of flocks of tens of thousands of Snow Geese, so dense that they literally "whiten the sky", bring visions of a California only our ancestors experienced. You will have the opportunity to view thousands of birds: Sandhill Cranes, Bald and Golden Eagles, hawks, falcons, geese and ducks of several species, Tundra Swans, White-faced Ibis, and other birds in the remnants of the marshes where they have been wintering since the dawn of time. The class will spend two days in the field at various refuges and reserves witnessing this incredible gathering of birds seeking relief from the freezing temperatures of their Arctic nesting grounds. A pre-trip lecture and slide show will prepare participants to fully appreciate the spectacle they are about to witness. ☺



Photo | Clay Kempf

**LECTURE for registered participants** | Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 pm at the museum

**FIELD TRIP** | Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6

**COST** | Members \$80/General \$95

## Bird Club Meetings

Thursdays – 7:30 - 10:00 pm at the Museum

### October 29 | Southwestern Australia, the Red Center and Tasmania

Don Roberson and Rita Carratello traveled for ten days in southwest Australia focused on searching Dryandra Forest for Numbat and birds; visiting coastal heathlands; trying the mallee for a Malleefowl; and seeking the remaining specialty birds at sites south or east of Perth in search of 16 endemic/near-endemic birds. They then visited the Red Center and Uluru/Ayer's Rock for 5 days before venturing on to Tasmania in search of the 12 endemics found there. Travel with them via Don's photos and Rita's videos in a multimedia presentation. 7:30pm Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History. ☺

### November 19 | Penguins and Albatross, The World Through the Eyes of a Seabird

Join naturalist and expedition leader **Ted Cheeseman** for a lecture exploring what it is to be a seabird in the vast unforgiving desert of the open ocean. How is it that albatross can fly 14,000 miles on a single feeding trip to bring home just one meal for a chick? How can penguins survive, thrive and raise chicks in the world's harshest environments, but yet do not populate the mild tropics? We are only now learning how truly magnificent penguins and albatross are just as many species face sharp declines at the hands of industrial fishing and climate change. Through his expeditions with Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris, Ted frequently travels across the Southern Ocean and to its sub-Antarctic islands, the heart of prime penguin and albatross habitat. Ted will take you undersea with penguins and on the wing of an albatross, an entertaining and educational journey among the world's greatest mariners with beautiful photographs and the most recent bird science. 7:30pm Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History. ☺

## Lime Kiln Conference A Success

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the Museum Association was one of the sponsoring organizations for the recent Lime Kiln Conference at UCSC. The organizers of the event report that it was hugely successful: admission to Saturday's lectures, demonstrations, and exhibits was sold out. Over 80 people attended the conference. They found it to be well-organized, with a diversity of speakers and topics.

On Sunday about 40 people participated in a walk through the historic district, the old quarry and the kiln sites on the upper UCSC campus. As part of the tour, Judy Steen talked about the Jordan family, who built the ranch house (now the Cardiff House at UCSC) in the 1860s. Some of her information came from the late Marion Jordan Asche, who worked at the Museum of Natural History in the early 1970s. In addition, Jo Ann Cacace, granddaughter of one of the Cowell barrel makers, shared some of her family stories; and Hal Hyde, a UCSC vice chancellor in the 1960s, talked about the early development of the campus and efforts to preserve some of the historic buildings. Frank Perry talked about the general history and geology of the site. ☺

**Left:** Student attendees check out some of the informative exhibits at the First-Ever Conference on Lime and Lime Kilns in California History, held at UC Santa Cruz on August 8 and 9, 2009.



**Above:** Frank Perry discusses the Cowell Lime Works Historic District's cooperage (right) and lime kilns (left) with conference attendees.



Photos | Jim Mackenzie

## WELCOME | Kristen and Peter

We are pleased to announce two new members to the Museum staff: **Kristen Van Kley**, Education Manager, and **Peter Wampler**, Education Assistant.

**Kristen** grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she attended Calvin College. It was there, while earning a bachelor's degree in geology, that she developed her interest in natural history and field studies. Upon graduation, Kristen began a career as an environmental and outdoor educator, working at a number of outdoor schools and wilderness adventure companies throughout the country before landing here in Santa Cruz. Before joining the museum staff, Kristen developed and administered waste reduction and recycling education programs for the City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department. Kristen brings to the museum a passion for experiential education, environmental stewardship, and the natural world.



Photo | Museum Staff

**Peter** began his lifelong love of the outdoors in the forest surrounding his hometown of Rochester, New York. While attending Calvin College as a history and archeology student, he began taking notice of environmental issues and the ideas of stewardship. This interest led him to a career in environmental education that has included work at two outdoor schools in central California. Peter has worked with adults and children with varying disabilities throughout his career. Peter started at the Museum in August as Education Assistant, coordinating the Neary Lagoon Wetland Walk Program and assisting with other education programs. While his passions lie in education and environment, you may also see Peter around town riding his bike, out hiking, or checking out local music. ☺

## WELCOME | Mary and Garrett

When the Museum Association took over operations earlier this year, we were happy to welcome two Museum veterans to our staff: attendants **Mary A. Verutti** and **Garrett McCown**.



**Mary** has lived and worked in Santa Cruz for the last 30 years. She attended Cabrillo College, then finished up her education at Chico State University with a B.A. in English-Creative Writing. Mary has always wanted to be involved with the City of Santa Cruz and to learn more of its history, so when an opening appeared at the Museum of Natural History as well as at the Surfing Museum, she applied. Mary started in fall of 2005 as an on-call attendant for the City; this spring the Museum Association offered her a position as the regular weekend attendant at the Museum of Natural History. Mary says "she has seen a lot of changes but is proud to be a part of something that continually and historically (even in the hard economic times) teaches, creates, and pleases such a big part of our community." When not at the museums, Mary indulges her interest in all types of music, travelling to New Orleans each year for the jazz festival.



**Garrett** grew up near the warm waters in Southern California. He graduated from UCSC with a degree in Environmental Studies, specializing in plant science. As a student, he was an intern at the Arboretum and an independent researcher at the greenhouses on UCSC campus. He has helped in the research about the morphology of clovers, and has also studied the art of grafting trees. He fuses his knowledge about the natural world and his passion for teaching, which makes the museum the perfect place for him. When not at the Museum of Natural History, he works at the Santa Cruz Surfing Museum, goes surfing, creates music, or pursues his new hobby of becoming a master woodworker. ☺

**Galápagos 2010** | Maggie Fusari will be back in the US and will lead 2 trips to the Galápagos in 2010:

**April 5 - April 18, 2010 - 11 days in Galápagos** | **April 15 - May 2, 2010 - 15 days in Galápagos**

For information, itineraries, pictures, prices, and various explanations see the Galapagos Travel website: [www.galapagostravel.com](http://www.galapagostravel.com). **Members will get a discount off the price and the Museum will get a donation for each passenger sign up.**

## MUSEUM UPDATES

### Garden Learning Center | Summer

Our volunteers have been hard at work this summer extending the Garden Learning Center. In June we installed a retaining wall near the entrance to the downstairs offices with the help of Brad Loofbourrow and Tom Swanson. As our goal for the Garden Learning Center is to demonstrate sustainable gardening, the wall was made with recycled concrete rubble and rebar. Come by the Museum and check out their great work!

In July we had some young campers from the Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Adventure Camp come to the Museum to volunteer. We decided the best use of sixteen energetic kids, aged 10 to 12, was to weed and rake in the Garden Learning Center. Two of our own volunteers, Jim Rolens and Glenn Bartz, were also here to keep an eye on them and answer any questions they had. They were a great help and we hope that they will come back as volunteers or visitors soon. ☺



### The History of Surfing Comes to Life

Students of the history of surfing have two new resources to peruse this fall. The first is a selection of images from the extensive photo archive collected by original Santa Cruz Surfing Club member Harry Mayo, curated and transferred to DVD by local photographer Boots McGhee. This work had its local premiere at Hula's Restaurant during the August First Friday Art Tour. Thanks to the generosity of Bay Photo Lab, copies will be available for sale at the Surfing Museum in the near future.



Photo | Peg Danielson

Harry Mayo and Boots McGhee debut their new DVD at Hula's Restaurant.

The second is the book *History of Surfing in Santa Cruz* by local surfer and author Thomas Hickenbottom. Arcadia, its publisher, describes it as "a concise historical overview of the diverse and colorful surfing culture inhabiting the area." It too contains photos, as well as interviews, of founding members of the Santa Cruz Surfing Club. ☺



Photos | Museum Staff

### Museum Association Steps Up to Challenge

Spurred by a generous donor, the Museum Association has launched a membership campaign asking people to **step up to the challenge** of keeping the Museum open. In a letter to all current and past SCMA members, Board president Patty Quillin reported that an anonymous donor has pledged to match, up to a total of \$10,000, all renewals at the \$100 level or higher that we receive by September 15.

To give an added incentive to 'step up' a level, the Board spruced up the benefits offered at the \$250, \$500 and \$1,000 levels, and renamed these to honor four important figures in the long history of the Museum: Laura Hecox, Humphrey Pilkington, and Pat and Kirk Smith.

Our members have definitely stepped up to this challenge: in the first two weeks of the campaign, **we received nearly \$4,000** in membership-level increases. We are very grateful for your generosity. This puts us well on the way toward earning our \$10,000 match!

Our next step in the campaign is to turn to the community at large and ask those who are not yet members to join now, so that we can increase our chances of earning the full matching amount. So please continue to encourage your friends to join the Museum. ☺

### Museum Launches Strategic-Planning Process

Museum supporters will remember that last winter the SCMA won sizable grants from two anonymous donors to support our taking over operations at the Museum of Natural History. One of those grants included money specifically targeted for development of a strategic plan for the future of the Museum and its programs.

With the help of museum consultant Gail Anderson, we launched the planning process in July, inviting members of the community to participate in an 'institutional assessment'— what we do well, what we could do better, and what are the challenges before us. We will continue to keep you up to date on our progress in future newsletters. ☺

