

The Rattler

Sponsored by the Placerita Canyon Nature Center Associates
19152 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall, CA 91321
www.placerita.org (661) 259-7721

Placerita Canyon Nature Center
Over 50 Years of Nature Education
November-December 2022

Editor: Evelyn Vandersande Publisher: Heidi Webber

Dear Nature Friends,

Fall is always a fantastic season at Placerita. We enjoy the cooler temperatures and the foliage turning golden. After all the Covid restrictions during the past couple of years, we are finally able to have fun. The Center is bursting at the seams with all kinds of new projects and programs. Read this newsletter with your calendar in hand, and check out all the upcoming event dates: Education programs about bats, Nature Tots, bird walks, Botany walks, animal shows, family hikes, and the Downhill Sliders on their new wintertime schedule. We are extremely excited that the Craft Fair will be back, on the first weekend of December. Plus, Docent training is back, at the beginning of January! Read all the details and be ready to be there, the docents will be delighted to welcome you and we promise you will have a wonderful time!

Recognition Ceremony 2022 by Sandra Cattell

More than 20 members of the Placerita family attended the NCA Annual Meeting on September 10. Beautiful County scrolls were presented by Supervisor Katherine Barger to Docent of the Year Herb Broutt and Youth Volunteer of the Year Heath Edmondson. Docents were presented with 5-, 10-, and 20-year pins. The celebration continued with a lovely lunch on the Eaton Canyon patio.



Heath Edmondson,
Placerita Junior Volunteer
of the Year



Ron Kraus
Twenty-year Docent

PARK HOURS - NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY

CLOSED MONDAY
OPERATING HOURS

Tuesday-Sunday
8.00am to 5.00pm

STAFF HOURS

Tuesday-Sunday
9.00am to 5.00pm

RESTROOM HOURS

Tuesday-Sunday
8.30am to 4.30pm

Holiday Closures: Park closed on
Christmas day



Herb Broutt,
Placerita Docent of the Year



Ten Years Docents
Lanita Algeyer, Robert Grzesiak,
Irene Heerlein, Denny Truger,
Andrea Donner, Laura Skorich



Know Your NATURE Center
By Cindy Gold

Soon you'll be able to select and watch short videos made especially for park visitors in our new "Know Your NATURE Center"! It's housed off the courtyard in the old observation deck. With a grant from the City of Santa Clarita, a 55" TV and media player have been installed. Visitors will be able to select from eight different videos about Placerita Canyon. There will be one about the birds living in the park, called Let's Go Birdwatching! And another about the most common wildflowers found along the trails called Wild about Wildflowers. A third video about the hiking trails is in production now. Next year more videos will be added. The Grand Opening will be on Saturday, December 3 during our annual Craft Faire. Don't miss it! The new installation will provide a fun and educational way for everyone to enjoy the park and get to "Know Your Nature Center" better!



Joan Fincutter,
New Vice-President for PCNCA

We received this e-mail from Gary Freiburger, who was Vice President for PCNCA: "I'm writing to offer my resignation from the PCNCA Board. I feel that I'm unable to devote the necessary time to contribute to the Board due to other commitments."

Gary will continue to be an active docent, and we are grateful for that. We thank him for his work, and appreciate his dedication. We were delighted that Joan Fincutter accepted the challenge of becoming Vice-President, and enabling a smooth transition for PCNCA. Thank you so much, Joan!



Community Education – Grand Canyon Rafting Adventure with Nikki Dail

On Sunday, 9/18, after a two-year hiatus, I had the privilege of being the first presenter for the much-missed Community Education series in the Nature Center classroom. My slideshow covered an 8-day, 226-mile river rafting trip my husband and I took on the Colorado River down the length of the Grand Canyon in July 2021.

During the trip, we learned about the flora and fauna, and history of the native peoples who inhabited the Canyon as well as the first European explorers and those who came after. We also learned about the geology of the rock



layers, which span 240 million years in age at the surface to 1.7 billion years old in the deepest depths of the Canyon with a billion-year gap in the fossil record known as the Great Unconformity visible only in the Grand Canyon. We also ran 70 rapids and stopped to hike and camp along the river each evening.

The Canyon is awe inspiringly beautiful, and I enjoyed sharing my photos and experience with those who came.



River Rally
By Heidi Webber

On Saturday September 17, Bill and I and Irene Heerlein set up shop for the 27th River Rally. We've represented Placerita Canyon Nature Center for about 20 of these events—you kind of lose track after a while.

It was a gorgeous day to be out, especially after that nasty long super-hot spell. We had Clarence the King snake, Frank Hoffman's Gopher snake Dirty, and a tarantula for our live support and plenty of displays for the kids to examine.

I would guess there were at least a thousand participants cleaning up the Santa Clara riverbed and most of them came to see us for a visit. It was so nice to see all the scout troops, families and other groups after a 2-year hiatus from the pandemic. I can't wait to see which part of the riverbed will get attention next year.

Marietta Ewing is Back

Marietta has been a Recreation Services Leader for many years at Placerita. But her most important job, on a regular basis, is to take care of the animals. She prepares their food, checks for change of diet, monitors their weight, supervises their medication and is aware of any change in their behavior which could indicate a need for medical help. She works under the close supervision of Dave Stives, who is a Park Animal Keeper.

At Placerita, we are very much aware that we have a special responsibility because we have many animals under our care that cannot be released in the wild, due to previous injuries. They lead a long life at Placerita, and Marietta makes sure it stays that way. We were delighted to find out that Marietta is back on the County payroll.

Congratulations, we're thrilled to have you back, and we thank you!



Telegraph Weed
Heterotheca grandiflora

Trail Treasures
By RuthAnne Murthy

A member of the sunflower family telegraph weed is a tall, straight-stemmed annual plant. It gets its name from its preference to grow along disturbed places such as railroad tracks and telephone poles. It is found on the coastal sage shrub, chaparral, and southern oak woodland.

The plant grows from 2 feet to 6 feet in height. It has a strong odor like creosote or camphor. The plant is very sticky so if touched, the odor is passed on to you.

The toothed leaves grow in an alternate fashion. They are 1 to 3 inches long and are oval in shape. One interesting thing about the leaves is that they droop at night. The leaves are tightly composed along the single stem.

When most of the wildflowers have turned to seed, telegraph weed is showing its bright yellow blossoms. Being part of the sunflower family, it has ray flowers and disk flowers. The ray flowers are yellow, and the disk flowers have brick red straight hairs intermingled with the yellow. The flowers are about 1 inch in diameter and have several flowers on 1-to-2-inch short stems called panicles. Telegraph weed blooms year-round, but seem to love the heat of late summer and fall.

The Native Californians used the plant's strong odor to repel fleas.

As we walk along the autumn trail, we are often absorbed by the red of poison oak, the change in the quality of the sunlight, and the golden hue of many of the much-loved plants as they lay dormant until the first rains. Be sure to stop to admire telegraph weed a resilient trail treasure.



Placerita's Craft Fair
by Heidi Webber

This time of year is rapidly approaching. I am talking about Placerita's annual Craft Fair December 3 and 4. After a three-year hiatus because of the pandemic, we are back.

Bill and I have been helping to pull the Craft Fair together for more than 25 years and it has come a long way since then. It has always been a very popular event here in Santa Clarita and we have even had visitors from Arizona and other states. The line is often out the door for a good part of the day.

Why you may ask? While there are many Craft Fair events around this time of the year, they are all pre-made items that you buy. As you know, OUR Craft Fair is a do-it-yourself enterprise with supplies harvested, collected and bought just for the patrons to use in making their craft, whatever it is, with an emphasis on nature.

While many of you know of this as a two-day event, in actuality it starts at least two months before. For example, I start ordering supplies, the hardest of which is obtaining the straw wreaths. It feels like I start earlier each year and it still can be difficult some years. Bill starts drilling holes for the Yule logs, and we check inventory and notes from last year to see what needs to be replaced.

Sandra Balaram usually makes the big bucket of peanut butter bird food for the pinecone bird feeders and Jill Goddard's artistic talent is ready to deliver on the many posters we need. It really is an enterprise!

We also try new kids crafts and decide if we need to drop an old craft. The amount of time needed to make the kid craft is also important, as is safety.

For all the years Bill and I have worked on this to the point we can probably do it in our sleep, we are simply backup. Also, part of our team this year is Glenda Perl, Sue Sutton and Sandra Cattell. We are glad that Fred Seeley can be our Santa again, chatting with our visitors and giving them candy canes.

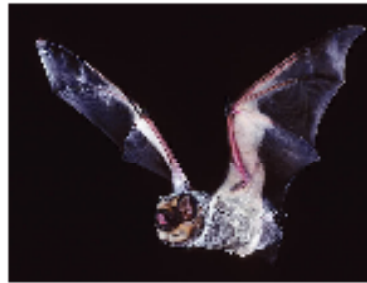
So, if you want to become part of this great event, there is more than enough room for you. The team needs a leader, so please think about it. We will help guide and advise you all the way. And for the rest of the docents, your help is needed too as this event calls for a lot of people to cover both days. So please think about becoming the chairperson for the Craft Fair. New people and ideas are invaluable, and this is our only fund-raiser of the year and we need to start our plans now.

**Placerita Canyon Nature Center Associates, and
The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
present as the Community Nature Education Series.**

**The Bats of Placerita Canyon
Sunday, October 16th at 2:00 PM
Placerita Canyon Nature Center
19152 Placerita Canyon Road
Newhall, CA 91321
(661) 259-7721**



Big Brown Bat



Hoary Bat

Our very own Ranger Frank will be the presenter.
Come and learn about the 8 species of bats that make
Placerita Canyon their home.
Learn about how bats benefit our valley and the health problem they may cause.



Pallid Bat

It is free and will be great fun for the entire family.





The Gift Shop has Undergone Some Changes By Sue Murachian

After removing everything from the shop, we scrubbed it top to bottom added a new coat of paint as well as new artwork and displays.

The gift shop team – Teresa Jacobs, Sue Murachian, Glenda Perl and Liz Bastiani - would like to thank all those involved in making this happen. Thank you to PNC Youth Volunteer of the Year Heath Edmondson for removing the merchandise and countertop displays, Jack Levenberg for removing the many wall displays, and Tevon Murachian for patching, taping off, and helping prep the walls for painting. Last but not least, to Herb Broutt for assisting the gift shop team with painting the walls and baseboards. The process went much more smoothly with all the extra help. And now we have a fresh new look.

What is new on the walls? We have framed and hung the original Engineer's rendering for the Nature Center. It is stamped and dated April 17, 1968. The end result is somewhat different than the original concept, and fun to compare. It really is a beautiful piece.

A BIG Thank you goes to Ron Kraus. Ron so generously offered us (on loan) two original movie posters "The Gay Ranchero" (1948) and "The Golden Stallion" (1949). Both movies have scenes filmed in Placerita Canyon, and star Roy Rogers. They look like they were made to hang in the gift shop.

The most exciting change we have made is the addition of electronic Point-of-Sale via the Square Terminal. Again, a big thank you to Tevon for his technical support and guidance in choosing the most efficient POS system and mobile hotspot to support the gift shop sales. On September 10th we made our first POS transaction.

With Square Terminal we can now accept Master Card, Visa, American Express, and Discover cards. The Square also supports mobile wallet purchases using Apple, Google, and Samsung pay. We are already seeing a boost in sales and are confident this will continue. Come on by and see all the new changes.

The photo above is from our very first POS customer. How perfect is that? The 3 little boys were shy but impressed to find out they were the first one taking this big step.



New Items in the Gift Shop by Teresa Jacobs

Over the years new items have been added to sell in the gift shop.

I will mention a few here: we have a "Survival Kit in a sardine can." A few items in this handy kit are Band-Aids, paper and pencils, antibiotic ointment, gum, candy, a whistle, matches, a fire starter cube...and many other things helpful in an emergency. These are \$10.00.

At the Open House Judy McClure put packets of milk weed seeds along with instructions about how and when to plant for best results. We sold more than 30 at the Open House and we since added it for sale in the gift shop. They are extremely popular. Most especially after Ruthanne's Buds and Blooms lectures.

This product not only adds to the gift shop items, but it also helps the butterfly population. The public loves it.

Thanks, Judy. These are \$1.00.

RuthAnne Murthy has added a new product. She took pictures of flowers around the nature center and put them on note cards. We have sold two of them already. They are beautiful. These are \$10.00.

One more added item, Joan Fincutter created an idea for emergency situations on the trail. In small plastic bags are large Band-Aids, smaller Band-Aids, alcohol tabs, antibiotic ointment tabs, chap stick, hard candy, and sunscreen tabs. These are \$3.00.

The holidays are just around the corner, and the above items make great stocking stuffers. We have many other items that make great gifts.



Who is Teresa Jacobs?

In 2010, I received my certificate acknowledging completion of my docent training. Little did I know that walking the trails for years would lead to the experiences of the next 10 years plus.

I began leading kids from schools on many of our various trails. The joy the children experienced matched my own. Heidi Weber, who had been wearing many hats at the Nature Center, trusted me to take over her role as gift shop supervisor. I never anticipated then that I would still be in the same position, with a team of great people, enjoying the public so many, many years later.

My life has been enriched by the public at the Nature Center, but the "family by choice" that is available here cannot be fully measured in words. Over the years I have had 'several' emergencies and I would not have fared as well as I did without the Docents and employees, those friends that I call 'family by choice.'

The gratitude I have for the years of service at the Nature Center has enriched my life tremendously, and the new docents coming in will add to the treasure that is Placerita Nature Center.





The Placerita Canyon Nature Center
Presents its Annual

Holiday Craft Fair

December 3 and 4th, 2022

10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

at

Placerita Canyon Nature Center

19152 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall

1 1/2 miles east of the 14 freeway

Create and decorate your own holiday wreaths, centerpieces,
and ornaments using a large assortment of fresh-cut
greenery, pine cones and other beautiful natural treasures.

Please note that this is a fundraising event for the Placerita Canyon Nature Center Associates (a non-profit corporation) and that there is a charge for all activities (cash and checks only, credit and debit cards cannot be accepted.) Make your own Wreath, Yule Log, or other craft as you desire. Children's crafts will also be available. For those with allergy concerns, please note that peanut butter is used on some craft items.

(661) 259-7721 • www.placerita.org



Placerita Canyon



Nature Center Associates





Nature Tots
by Linda Jensen

We're Back ...

There was a quiet hush at Placerita Nature Center on Saturday, not only because it was raining, but because many of our docents attended the NCA Annual meeting at Eaton Canyon Nature Center.

While John Whitaker stood by the door ready to greet the 20 confirmed participants, Dave Taylor and Pat Coskran were in position to hand out nametags and Judy McClure was poised in the interpretive center to welcome the children in a way that only Judy can do. Carol Mercado, Melissa Rocha, Sandy Holloway and Linda Jensen were standing by for the grand entrance of the parade of tots into the classroom. We all waited ... and waited ... 9:00 am passed, 9:15 passed and everyone started wondering when our nature friends were going to arrive. It was getting close to 9:30 when they started streaming in.

While Andrea Donner and Richard Donner could not attend in person, their invaluable expertise in getting the ball rolling again was appreciated by all of us.

The program was a great success. Children and parents were impressed.

More volunteers are needed and welcomed with open arms.

To register please email: Nature_tots@placerita.org

"Wonderful tots' program, thank you."

"... we sure did enjoy it. The whole program was great. Thank you all for volunteering your time."



Fall Kick-off
by Glenda Perl

It was a very well attended event by many docents and all the programs were reviewed. There is a long list of different opportunities to help in and around the Nature Center that many docents might not have been aware of, and all the details were explained. All docents are encouraged to participate in anything that interest them.

A big "Thank you" goes out to Ron Kraus, Herb Broutt, RuthAnne Murthy, Fred Seeley and Judy McClure for your dedication to our 'continued education'.

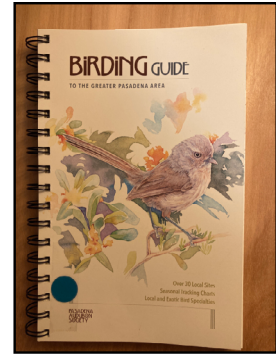
After Two Years, the Haunted Jailhouse is Back!

For the first time, it was held at the new sheriff's station and guests parked at the aquatic center.

It is always a very well-attended event in our valley, but this year, it broke all records. They had live entertainment, a costume contest, displays by the sheriff's department, as well as the haunted jailhouse.

Of course, PCNCA joined in the action. The table from the Nature Center drew visitors like a magnet: snakes, taxidermy, pelts, tarantulas, and knowledgeable docents like Bill Webber and Glenda Perl to answer all the questions and give candies to the visitors.

The docents may have lost their voices by the end of the day, but they sure had fun. Nature Education is always the most important goal for the Nature Center and with such a crowd, it was a big success.



A New Addition to the Library!
By Gary Freiburger

The docents of Eaton Canyon have sent us a gift. The Birding Guide to the Greater Pasadena Area is a nice addition to our library. This book has many beautiful photographs and maps. It lists species by location: Mountains, Foothills and Basin and by specific locations within each of these. The book includes local and exotic birds and seasonal tracking charts. Most of the local species can also be found in and around Placerita Canyon.

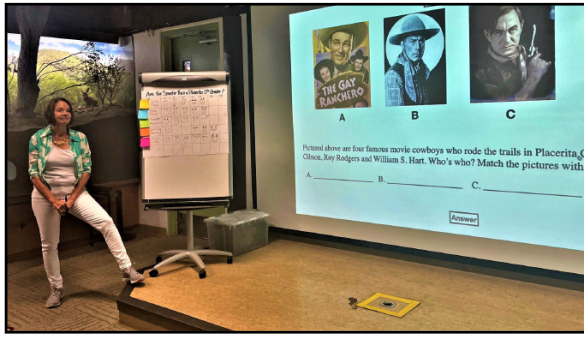
Check it out in the Birds section of the library, with the blue dots on the spines



Helen Sweany
Received the Paul Levine Cup

Paul Levine taught many of us about butterflies, insects, lizards, and many other topics. We have honored his memory with a special cup given to a docent who has followed in his footsteps. Helen Sweany was given this special cup for Outstanding Education and Interpretation during the Breakfast of the Champions. Congratulations, Helen Sweany.

We have all learned so much from Helen who has a wonderful knowledge about native plants, how to use them, how to ID them, cook with them, use them for medicinal purpose or even clean with them. Thank you, for all you keep on teaching us, with so much enthusiasm.



The Breakfast of the Champions

After a 2-year hiatus because of Covid restrictions, we were delighted to have this fun morning back, and be able to have a great time together.

The Breakfast of the Champions was started over a decade ago as an opportunity for the docents to get together in mid-summer to make sure we all kept in touch during the slow season of PCNCA activities. It has grown over the years to include a potluck breakfast and a team trivia quiz entitled “Are you smarter than a Placerita 5th Grader,” the winners of which receive a custom nature-themed hat made by Jill Goddard, wife of Ron Kraus.

It took place on Saturday, August 20 and it was the first docent event held indoors, with the use of face masks as optional.

We enjoyed a great breakfast, thank you so much to all the cooks who brought food for the potluck. Once we cleaned up the dishes, things became more serious when we were separated into 5 teams. There was much pressure and suspense but also a lot of fun. Cindy Gold kept us honest by keeping score and we really appreciate Ron Kraus for all the work he puts in, selecting so many questions from the different categories.

The very talented Jill Goddard made 23 Wood Rat Caps for the winners.

Jill, these will be treasured for many years! RuthAnne Murthy and Lori Wolfe bought the supplies, decorated the room, and cleaned it all up. More docents had breakfast but left the room to handle the animal show: Glenda Perl, Sandra Cattell, Denny Truger, Bill Kahl and Jack Levenberg. Teresa Jacob was in the gift shop and Judy McClure was doing the family walk. As usual, teamwork is what makes such a wonderful morning possible. Thank you, to all of you, Placerita Docents are the best!



Sue Murachanian

Received the Bob Moss Cup

Bob Moss was called the Dean of Docents; He was a wonderful man with a great personality. He cared for Placerita and because of his dedication and fun disposition, all the docents were ready to follow his example and start new projects.

Sue Murachanian is certainly following Bob's footstep: she pulled many strings and got us those wonderful and expensive music instruments for the Open House. Now, she had helped revamp the gift store and make the dream to be able to use credit cards there a reality....and she is a fun lady too, like Bob was. Congratulations Sue Murachanian



Getting to Know Melissa Rocha, Class of 2019

I joined the Docents at the Nature Center in 2019. I came across a Facebook ad for Docent Training, and thought “what a great opportunity!” I’ve always wanted to know what plants grow behind my back yard and around the paseos near my home. Now I know most of the greenery as chamise, pine, oak, and sycamore trees.

I also grew to be familiar with a lot of birds. My favorite is the quail. I love to see them running around with their little plumes. There are also a lot of rabbit, some coyote and lynx that like to walk and hunt behind my back yard.

During my time as a Docent-in-Training, I joined the Nature Tots program, because I love interacting with children. I really missed taking them out on hikes, and I am extremely happy that Nature Tots is back in person. I strive to take over Herb's job of reading to the kids during the program!

Being a part of the Docent Training class inspired me to go back to school. I am currently preparing a research project to help students stay in the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) fields, by not letting math courses scare them off their path.

I am also the Project Manager for a program at school called High Altitude Student Platform (HASP).

It is a partnership with NASA, that allows students to conduct science experiments in near-space conditions. As Project Manager, I make sure that my team stays on task, communicate with all the “important” people, and avidly help with fundraising efforts in order for my team to build our NASA projects and see them launch.

During my free time, I enjoy practicing yoga, crafting with friends, and eating delicious foods.

Docent Training Placerita Canyon Natural Area



Become a Docent!

- *Learn about the natural environment*
- *Teach children about nature*
- *Make a difference in your community*

No special background needed,
just a willingness to attend training and to volunteer at least twice a month.

Training Starts Tuesday, January 10th, 2023
Classes meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9AM to 12 Noon

Docents attend a 9-week training program. Topics include native plants, ecology, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, geology, history, and interpretive techniques. Instructors include noted professionals in the various fields. The cost of the training is \$45, which includes all training materials (instruction manual, field guide, T-shirt, and related items.) Minimum age for Docents is 18. Visit our website (placerita.org/docents-volunteers/) for further information regarding the Docent program.

Other volunteer opportunities are also available at Placerita Canyon Natural Area that don't require the 9-week training program—call the Park Office at (661) 259-7721 and ask for the Volunteer Coordinator.

**For further information call Placerita Canyon Natural Area, (661) 259-7721
or Email ron@placerita.org**



Photo by Gary Park
garyparktookthese.com

How do Birds Prepare to Migrate Long Distance by Ken Yasukawa

We are starting to see migrants such as the Nashville Warbler (*Leiothlypis ruficapilla*) here at Placerita, so it is a great time to learn how birds prepare to migrate long distances. For example, the Arctic Tern flies from its Arctic breeding grounds to the Antarctic and back again each year, a round-trip of at least 12,000 miles, and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds cross the Gulf of Mexico in nonstop flights of 500 miles or more.

Bird migration might seem like running a marathon, but it's much more. Marathon runners push the human body to its limits, but birds radically change their bodies and metabolism to fly great distances between breeding and wintering grounds. Here are some of the amazing ways birds prepare to migrate.

Double Their Body Weight. When the days shorten at the end of summer, birds become hyperphagic (eat excessively) to store fat before migration. Although

we rely primarily on carbohydrates for endurance activities, fat is better for birds. It is lighter, less bulky, and contains more energy than carbohydrates. Plus, birds can replenish fat by stopping to refuel.

Transform Internal Organs. To make room for the extra fat, many birds can shrink and grow their internal organs using a cellular process called "autophagy" (self-eating), which lets the body recycle and clean up its cells and tissues. Birds can also expand their digestive tracts to process more food, and quickly shrink and reabsorb parts of the same system during migration as they burn fat and undergo organ transformation.

Greatly Reduce Their Sleep Time. During migration, a neurological shift allows some birds to adopt nocturnal habits and sleep less. Migrants can even sleep half the brain while flying and keeping the other half of the brain awake to avoid predators or mid-air collisions.

Consume Their Own Muscles. When endurance athletes exhaust their carbohydrate and fat supplies, they face dehydration and starvation, but birds have a last-ditch backup — they can burn their muscles for energy. It is risky, however, if they can't recover that lost muscle after migration.

Revert to Their Previous Form. Once birds reach their destination, they need to regain their organ function and shape, to restore 17–23% of their body weight in fat, and to account for significant protein and water loss.

Despite these amazing adaptations, migration is perilous. The energy required to fly hundreds or thousands of miles in a short time leaves birds vulnerable to natural and human-caused threats. In North America alone, an estimated 2.6 billion birds are lost every year.

Fall and Winter Programs

Animal Show: First and third Saturdays of each month at 10.00am.

Bird Walks: First Saturday of every month with Rosemarie Regis. Second Saturday of every month with Ken Yasukawa. From 8am to 10 am. For all levels of birders. Bring binoculars, water, and field guide.

Blooms of the Season with RuthAnne Murthy: Learn about native plants. Meet in the patio at 9.30 for a one-hour stroll on the 4th Saturday of every month. Bring your camera and questions.

Family Nature Walk with Judy McClure: Every Saturday from 11.00am to noon. An easy 1-hour walk exploring the area's natural and cultural history.

Hike with the Downhill Sliders: Canyon trail hike going downhill. The third Wednesday of the month at 9.00am. Meet at the Nature Center, then we will drive to the Walker Ranch parking lot. Program for docents and friends. Please bring water and poles.

Placerita Nature Tots: Placerita Canyon Nature Tots For 3-to-6-year-olds. Meets second Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Program lasts 45 min to an hour and will involve learning about the environment. To register: Nature_tots@placerita.org

Docent Enrichment: The bats of Placerita Canyon. Sunday, October 16 at 2.00pm. Ranger Frank will be the presenter.

Holiday Craft Fair: December 3 and 4th, 2022 from 10.00am to 3.00pm (see flyer)

Docent Training: Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 12 Noon (see flyer)



A Senior Visit
by Denny Truger

Last week I got a call from Barbara Praglin, a hiking friend from the Santa Clarita Community Hiking Club. She asked if we could do one of our programs for 14 seniors with Alzheimer's disease. She works with them at Oakmont assisted living. I asked Chuck Lingo, Glenda Perl, Dave Taylor, Bill Kahl, Jack Levenberg and Herb Broutt if they'd be willing to do a program. Of course, they said yes.

We did an animal presentation, and the seniors appreciated and enjoyed our presentation. After the presentation we helped set up tables and chairs for their lunch.

It was nice to give something to the community.