



Least Bell's Vireo's Voice

Whittier Narrows Nature Center Association Newsletter

December 2018

30 -YEAR BADGE!

Carol Hopping, a faithful member of our Association, displays her well-deserved 30 -year Docent-Naturalist badge.



Carol has served on the board of directors as president and was a docent training instructor. She created a self-guided nature walk book filled with information about plants. Thanks for your dedication.

Web site access:

WNNCA.org

Our email: wnnca@att.net

This month:

December 1. 8:00 AM.
Bird walk. Docent led.

December 8. 8:00 AM.
Bird walk. Docent led.

December 15. 8:00 AM.
Bird walk. Docent led.

ALSO: 10:00 am. Monthly meeting.
12:00. Holiday potluck.

December 22. 8:00 AM.
Bird walk. Docent led.

December 29. TBA

Ranger Raccoon's



Recycling

Rally

Last Sunday
Of
Every Month
10am—2pm

DOCENT NATURALIST TRAINING CLASS

INSECTS



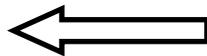
According to Terry, this is a larvae she found wiggling in the wet dirt, but cannot identify until it goes through metamorphosis.



For many years, Terry Young has studied the insects that inhabit our natural area. Her credentials and expertise are impeccable. She is not only able to impart a great amount of knowledge but also to transmit her passion for Entomology. After attending her class, no one can look at insects in quite the same way. These fascinating creatures, although small in size and for many not very important, might hold the key to the future of the planet.



A cranefly hiding behind a flower. Craneflies are abundant, harmless and useful. They contribute to the decomposition process.



↑ Terry called this a Ceratina, a relative of the California boring bees. They pollinate the tiny flowers on carrot plants.

iNaturalist Project

The iNaturalist project is an ambitious and fascinating project, presented to us by Richard Smart, from the Los Angeles Natural History Museum. (Extreme right in lower row in this photo of all in attendance Saturday, November 3.



The goal of the Natural History Museum scientists and educators is to explore, study, and share the incredible biodiversity of our urban habitats and surrounding natural areas. They have established several different projects in which volunteers can submit photos of findings, provide the location and the date. One project deals with insects, others with reptiles and amphibians, one can focus on slimy subjects, with squirrels, and one called **LA Nature Map**, which includes all encounters with nature. This training provided the audience with several ways to submit examples. Participants will need to register for a free iNaturalist account to start learning about nature around us.

Events can be organized to photograph and identify as many species as possible in a specific area, in a limited period of time. “Bioblitz” is the catchy name for these events. The presentation generated a lot of enthusiasm.



We were pleasantly surprised to learn we had a visiting scientist from Macedonia in our midst. Ksenija Putilin is a Project Manager for the Macedonian Ecological Society. She is visiting Washington, DC in the near future. She will try to add her capital, Skopje, to the iNaturalist city nature challenge.

Join the iNaturalist scientific community at:

www.iNaturalist.org

BOY SCOUTS AND EAGLE SCOUTS WORKING TO IMPROVE WNNC



Boy Scouts Troop 511 built a new weathering area for our ambassador animals. This was done with the help and support of their families.

Eagle Scouts Troop 1726 built us a beautiful and sturdy picnic table. Here is Mathew reading his dedication of the project.

A handsome plaque marks the occasion. Below, the troop and their leaders, and to the right, the photo includes the people that might be enjoying the brand new table.



Scouts have always been great friends and assets to our natural area.

REMEMINDERS

Make Your Own Holiday Wreath

December 8 10:00am to 2:00pm
and
December 9 11:00am to 4:00pm

Donation \$20.00

We provide:

Wire frame, fresh pine tree foliage, pine cones, ribbon, bells



Holiday potluck

December 15
(After our monthly meeting)
Please let us know what you intend to bring.



Do not forget our gift shop for your holiday shopping. lots of new merchandise.

**Join the fun. Join the Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates.
Membership includes out monthly newsletter and a 10% discount in our gift shop.**

The Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates is a volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit organization actively looking for new members. WNNCA is a chapter of the Nature Center Associates, a nonprofit support organization of the natural area park system of Los Angeles County.

We were founded to help enrich educational and scientific knowledge in the community. Our primary mission is to help foster an appreciation of the natural world in children and adults and to help preserve the Whittier Narrows Natural Area and the county's other natural areas for future generations.

Our activities include leading school group tours, answering visitors' questions, arranging and leading classes, planting and maintaining plants around the nature center, helping in the nature center museum and in the gift shop, performing light office work and answering phones, and more.

Membership application

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Annual membership levels (circle one)

\$30 - Individual \$15 - Senior (Over 62)

\$45 - Family \$15 - Student

\$75 - Friend Associate

\$100 - Patron Associate

\$250 - Supporting Associate

\$1,000 - Golden Oak Associate

Send with check, payable to the address below.

The Whittier Narrows Natural Area and Nature Center are located within the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County in the Supervisory District of Hilda Solis. The natural area and nature center are operated by the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, in partnership with the Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates.



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