



Least Bell's Vireo's Voice

Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates Newsletter

May 2019

MUSTARD MUSTARD EVERYWHERE



Some of our members enjoying the abundance present in the Nature Center at this time. They did not get lost, and did not stray from the trails.

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This month:

- May 1. 9:30 am.** School tour. 70 4th graders.
- ~~May 6.~~ **8:00 am.** Nature walk. Docent led.
- May 10. 9:30 am.** School tour. 75 1st graders.
- May 11. 8:00 am.** Nature walk. Docent led.
- ALSO: 10:00 am.** WNN-CA regular meeting.
- May 14. 9:30 am.** School tour. 65 2nd graders.
- May 16. 9:30 am.** School tour. 75 2nd graders.
- May 18. 8:00 am.** Nature walk. Docent led.
- ALSO: 10:00 am.** NCA meeting and **First Annual Nature Center Picnic.**
- May 25. 8:00 am.** Nature walk. Docent led.
- May 29. 9:30 am.** School tour. 54 6th graders.

Web site access:

WNNCA.org

Our email: wnnca@att.net

Coming events



NCA meeting
plus
1st Annual Nature Centers Picnic

4/18/2019 Gabrielino Kizh nature center.jpeg

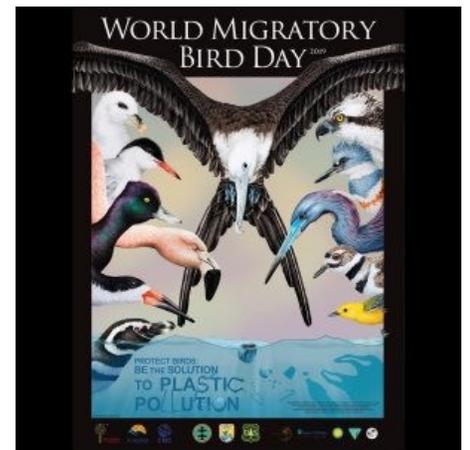
Gabrieleño Kizh Nation Presents

"Right Before Your Eyes"

Learn how the indigenious tribe of the Los Angeles basin has been able to survive for hundreds of years as told through a series of rare slides by tribal member, Tim Poyorena-Miguel.



**Saturday,
June 8, 2019
at 10:30 A.M.**
**Whittier Narrows
Nature Center**
The program is FREE



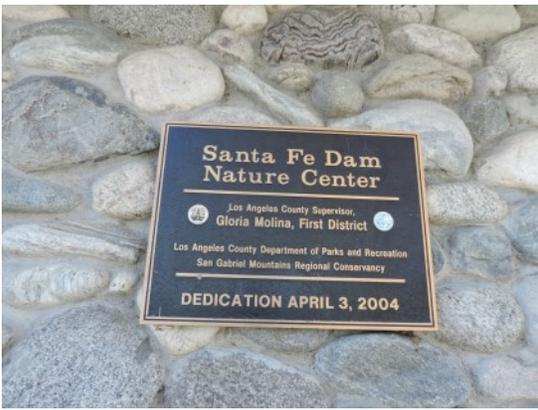
May 11



**Ranger
Raccoon's
Recycling
Rally**

**Last Sunday
Of
Every Month
10am—2pm**

VISIT TO SANTA FE DAM NATURE CENTER



5th Saturday field trip .
We were joined by Dr. Ann Croissant and Terry Young, on a very instructing and pleasant walk. We saw a great variety of species, with expert comments from Dr. Croissant.

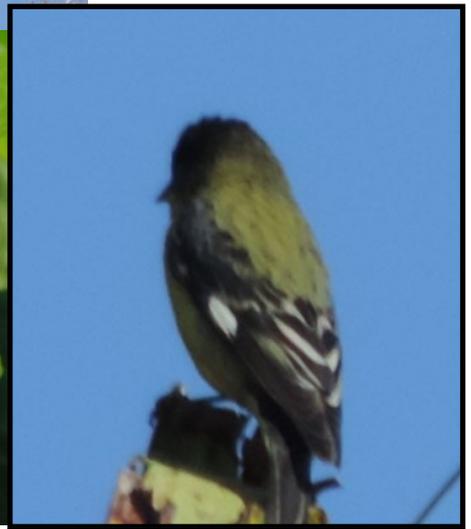
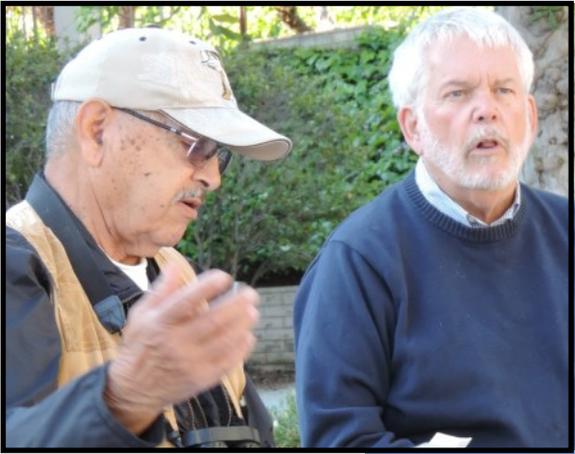


Here is Terry Young, posing with a photo of her original painting depicting the immensity of life at a much different level. This was ultimately translated into a rug. The WNNC has received a gift of a similar rug. It is now on the museum floor, but Terry has promised a more detailed explanation of the content and the process at a later date.

Visit to the University of the West

Recently, a small group of us met Professor Tom Moritz on the nearby campus for an early morning walk. We started the morning with a lovely walking meditation, guided by Bhante Sumita, a resident monk at the University, and a native of Sri Lanka, who was very keen in learning the different species seeing in this area.

Professor Moritz has stated that one of his goals is to increase awareness in the students of their natural surroundings. The walk proved to be a rich environment for this purpose. We sighted several species of birds, discussed diversity of plants, native and non-native. We were even lucky enough to spot a spectacular red-tailed hawk in a light morph, and even a peregrine falcon in flight, too fast for photographing. The University uses the WNNC as a resource for students activities related to their environmental studies.



SEEN THIS MONTH AT WNNC:



- *Northern Cardinal
- *California Thrasher
- *Hooded Oriole
- *Golden Crown Sparrow
- *California Tree Frog
- *California Lilac
- *Common Yellowthroat
- *Bell's Vireo
(and many others)



Photo Credits: Charlie, Lou, Tom.



A familiar but lovely story

By Socorro Barajas



Mario Sierra is a veteran of Whittier Narrows Nature Center.

As a young man, he attended Mark Keppel High School. Mario took advantage of a school program that allowed for students to work at Whittier Narrows Nature Center. While some students chose to work in the field, Mario and another student decided to help with the feeding of the animals. Mario's least favorite animals to feed were the snakes. At the time when he was a student worker, they used to feed the snakes with live mice and not frozen ones as they do now.

As an adult, Mario has now come back to work at the Nature Center accompanied by his

son, Maximiliano, who is a member of the Boy Scouts.

Side by side, Mario and his son, Maximiliano, along with others Scouts and their families are fixing an area for a new raccoon that will be arriving soon.

We are thrilled at the interest Mario has continued to show for Whittier Narrows and we are especially impressed with how he is sharing it with his son.

We hope that Max, too, will continue the family tradition of caring for Whittier Narrows.



**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 Gloria Molina. 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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