



Least Bell's Vireo's Voice

Whittier Narrows Nature Center Association Newsletter

June 2016

Early Thursday morning, June 19, found us at the Cerritos College Board meeting room, where a scholarship awarding ceremony took place. The Grace E. Holtz Memorial / Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates scholarship was not the only one awarded, there were several others, but Lou and Grace took pleasure in presenting our recipients with their checks.

They have contributed at least 40 hours of volunteer work to our Center, a lot of it dedicated to our native garden, which is flourishing, and as you know, they are all pursuing degrees related to environmental issues.



Bookended by Lou and Grace, from left to right :

**Carolina Briseño
Eduardo Cruz
Elaf Shaker
Alan Gomez**

Alan, Eduardo, Carolina and Elaf, posing proudly for us. We are very pleased to help them with their education and know that they are the kind of young people that can make a difference in the future. They have come to love the Center and vowed to keep their ties with us.



This month:
June 2. 10:00 AM. School tour. 74 students.

June 4. 8:00 AM. Bird walk. Docent led

June 11. 8:00 AM. Nature walk. Docent led.

**June 18. 8:00 AM. Bird walk. Docent led.
ALSO: 6:30 PM: Night Hike.**

June 22. 10:00 AM. WNNCA Exec. Board meeting.

June 23. 10:00 AM -1:30 PM. Student's craft program.

June 25. 8:00 AM. Bird Walk. Docent led

**Every Friday:
Water Squad Investigators Program**

Our email:

wnnca@att.net

June Events

2016 San Dimas

Ho'olaule'a

A fundraiser for nature programs and animal care of
San Dimas Canyon Nature Center

June 11—10am to 6pm

June 12 - 10 am to 6pm

Polynesian music and dancing

Nature crafts ad activities

Nature exhibits and live animal displays

MULTI-USE TRAILS DAY

Saturday, June 4, 2016

8am—2pm

PATHFINDER PARK

18150 Pathfinder Rd., Rowland Heights

www.trails.lacounty.gov

CHILDREN CRAFT PROGRAM AT THE WNNC

Thursday, June 23

10am—1:30 pm.

Bring your imagination



NCA at WNNC



The Nature Center Association (our parent Association) had their May 10 meeting at our own Center. A very pleasant reunion with excellent catered food, organized by our Hospitality chair, Dan Holguin. Standing, the president of NCA, Jack Levenberg, calling the meeting to order.

Bright Brief Note



For the second time, the Pacific slope flycatcher has chosen WNNC to make her nest, although actually, she technically opted for the house next door to do so. We still claim the privilege of attracting this small and not very abundant bird. The photo does not really make it justice, but it shows that this little friend is welcomed.

This is an excerpt from an article published in the California Educator , (April 2016, Volume 20) magazine. This magazine is the official monthly publication of the California Teachers Association. The article was written by Sherry Posnick-Goodwin and cites many locations and teachers that implement the importance of taking it outside, which is the title of the article. In one section, it praises the Cal Poly Pomona efforts to teach people the value of preserving the environment with their Bio-Trek program that has many habitats and is also available to visitors, including students from the area schools.

Take it Outside

Learning doesn't happen only inside the four walls of a classroom. Sometimes the best lessons occur when the doors swing wide open, students step outside, and they think, learn and play outside the box.

When educators make the Great Outdoors an extension of their classrooms, students become inspired by real-life examples of science, math and art. Benefits include fresh air, physical activity, vitamin D and happiness. As students become more connected to nature, they are more likely to care about the future of their planet, be good stewards of their environment, and understand the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Outdoor classrooms such as school gardens and nature trails are growing in popularity from preschool to college, notes the Outdoor Classroom Project, which is good because children need a broad variety of learning experiences to master motor development, social-emotional learning, language and self-expression.

According to The Nature Conservancy, the majority of today's kids use a computer, watch TV or play video games on a daily basis, but only about 10 percent say they spend time outdoors. Some CTA members are helping nature-deprived students get outside — and increase their knowledge of flora, fauna, math, science, art, and more.



Think how much a class can learn from a family of ravens nesting in front of their eyes. Of course, we need **OPEN AREAS** for that to occur.

**Join the fun. Join the Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates.
Membership includes our 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 _____

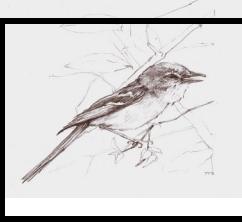
E-mail _____

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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