



Least Bell's Vireo's Voice

Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates Newsletter

November 2020



OUR UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN NAMED

In a friendly but competitive contest to name this visitor to the Nature Center, first featured in our September newsletter, Gregorio emerged victor, having gathered the most votes for his suggestion.

Our fully recuperated red-tailed hawk's new name is:

SPIRIT

May it represent the values held dear by our members towards this place, sacred to so many.

(More photos on Page 5)

Web site access:

WNNCA.org

Our email: wnnca@att.net

ATTENTION

DECEMBER

BIRD OF THE MONTH:

Northern Flicker

(*Colaptes auratus*)

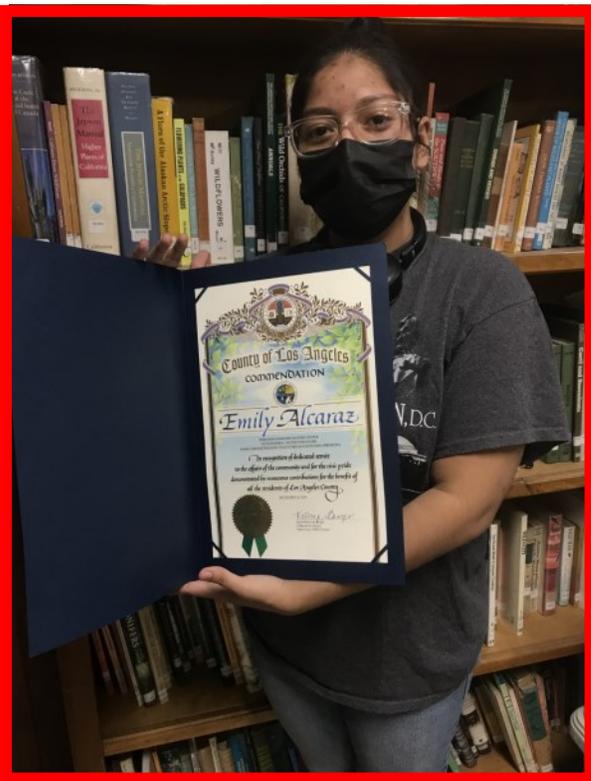
VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR FOR WNNCA



Lydia Dryer joined the WNNCA in 2018. She had some previous birding experience, but she has found something special in our Center that goes beyond just birding. From the moment she became a member, she was willing to lend a hand with any project, with enthusiasm and joy. She is our adult Volunteer of the Year. Her energy and bright smile is much appreciated it. In her own words:

“Whittier Narrows Nature Center is my de-stress place, where I can connect with nature in a safe environment. All the docents and staff are welcoming people who care about nature and work toward protecting it for future generations. Everyone has a different background, different areas of expertise, and are so generous in teaching others. I’ve only been a member for two years but I look forward to many more to come.

Lydia and Emily are the WNNCA’s Volunteer of the Year recipients for 2020. Regrettably, our customary yearly celebration at Eaton Canyon is not possible, but our appreciation for their contributions is not any less.



Emily Alcaraz is the recipient of the Youth Volunteer of the Year award. She has been visiting WNNC for a couple of years. From the beginning, her eagerness to learn, her self-effacing manner, her ready smile and her willingness to help in any capacity captured everyone’s heart. Emily’s love for this place is clear to anyone that observes her taking a walk or listening to other members remarks that can add to her knowledge. These are her comments:

“The (WNNC) keeps me grounded and in touch with my roots and inner self . Unfortunately I can't tell you how long I've been a member because I just show up and I like to embrace the energies that surround the building .

Whether in human form or in the breeze of wind that's ready for a new season.”

NOVEMBER BIRD OF THE MONTH:

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW

(*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)



These two photos captured the first of these lovely species to visit WNNC this season.

Photos
By
Tom
↔



We start to witness White-crowned sparrows in our area in the fall. They seem to fly North towards their breeding range in the spring.

Juveniles have to earn their characteristic white stripes as their crest looks tan and brownish. Of course, there are different "races" in different regions with slight variation in plumage.

Culturally, it has been marked as a strong survivor in almost all habitats, thus symbolizing the strength and nobility of the common man.



Photos
By
Lou



October 3, 2020

Our very first Saturday morning nature walk after park's closure in the spring.



Some sightings, L to R:

Nuttall's Woodpecker (*Picoides nutalli*)

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*)

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher





As promised, more photos of Spirit.

To the left, a photo by Tom of Spirit in our bird bath. It seems to be one of her favorite spots.

The bottom photos are by Socorro, who is also taken by her beauty and her essence.

All of us are thankful that Colleen discovered her, was wise to her needs, and was also able to provide aid for her recovery. Thanks, Colleen.

