



Least Bell's Vireo's Voice

Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates Newsletter

November 2019



This is the sign that greeted everyone to the WNNC on October 25 for our Halloween celebration with a Harry Potter theme. It was very successful in our view. It was evident that children as well as adults enjoyed the evening. It was the first experience of the Center for several of our visitors.

(Photos in page 5)

Web site access:

WNNCA.org

Our email: wnnca@att.net

This month:

November 2. 8:00 am. Nature walk. Docent led.

ALSO: 10:00 am. Docent training: Entomology with Terry Young.

November 7. 10:00 AM. Group tour.

November 9. 8:00 am. Nature walk. Docent led.

Also: 10:00 AM. Docent training: Geology with Dr. Koletty

November 12. 10:00 NCA meeting.

November 15. 2:00 PM. Group tour.

November 16. 8:00 am. Nature Walk. Docent led.

ALSO: 10:00 am. WNNCA regular meeting.

November 23. 8:00 am. Nature walk. Docent led.

November 30. Fifth Saturday. field trip. TBA.



Ranger Raccoon's

Recycling

Rally

Last Sunday

Of

Every Month

Docent/Naturalist Training Highlights



Matt Teutimez, teaching the natural role of plants in Nature and their traditional medicinal uses. He is an invaluable element in our Docent/Naturalist training.



Matt explains the numerous properties of the elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*.) It not only provides food, but medicine, and even musical Instruments.





Mickey Long is always eagerly awaited at WNNC to share his extensive knowledge of birds, especially in this area in which he has historical familiarity and deep affection for.

Two favorites!



Currently the most "primitive" birds in No. Amer. are **ducks, geese, quail and doves**

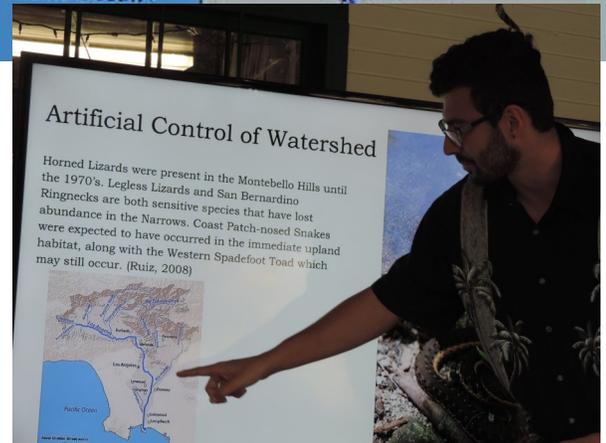
How many species?

World: ca. 10,000

California: 671 (11 are established introduced)

History of Whittier Narrows is a fascinating subject when presented by Paul Spitzzery, Director of the Homestead Museum and passionate expert in this field.





Herpetology

Andrew Louros feels part of the WNNC family and we welcome witnessing his love and vast knowledge of reptile's and amphibians.

I have seen people squirming with discomfort at the beginning of his presentation and becoming fascinated with the complexity and importance of these creatures in nature, so they leave the lecture with a different appreciation and respect for them.



**Too
Early
For
Christmas
Shopping?**

NAAAAH!!!





WE HAD MAGICAL FUN



Fire at the Lake Trail

Photos and Notes from Charlie



On the last week of October, our fifth brushfire scorched our natural area bringing the total burnt land to approximately 50 acres this fire season. This time it ravaged the "Lake Trail" area including critical California gnatcatcher habitat. It wiped out a substantial amount of juncus, mulefat, golden currant, elderberry and walnut trees. The blaze also dismantled steps made of wood that lead to our beautiful palos verdes tree (the tree is fine).

Although we are grateful for the quick action of the fire-fighters both on the ground and in the sky, the scars from the fire and other equipment used to fight the flames carry mixed emotions. Restoration

will take many years. Unfortunately, there is no information on the official cause of the fire.

Nature is resilient; that is the upside.

An Attractive Invitation



Tujunga Ponds Wildlife Sanctuary Bird Walk



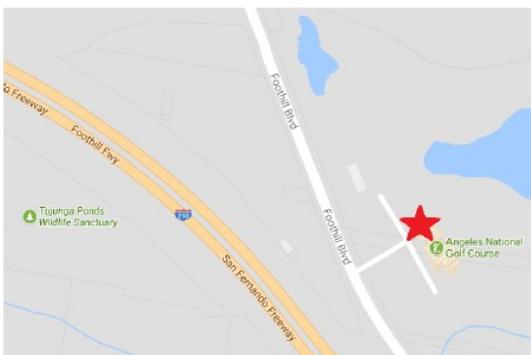
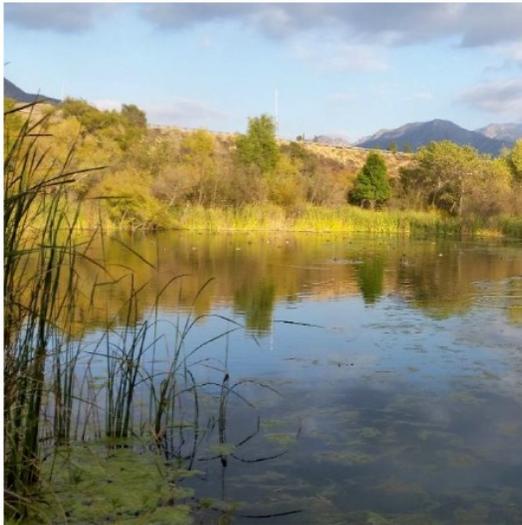
Sunday, November 17, 2019

9:00 AM

Place: Meet at Angeles National Golf Course 9401 Foothill Blvd, Tujunga, CA 91040

What to bring: Good walking shoes, binoculars, and a sense of adventure.

County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation will have bird experts available to guide visitors through an excellent display of migratory and resident birds.



Become a Citizen Scientist!



iNaturalist.org



Use your smartphone to record wildlife for

our Bioblitz during the walk!

**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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