

UPWIND

from the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center Vol 18, Issue 2, Spring 2011

Our Mission: To stimulate understanding of the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary, its relationship with Arcata's integrated wastewater treament system, the surrounding watersheds and bay, and their link with the Earth's water cycle.

In This Issue: Jogging Interpretive Tours... Bicycle Tour of Wetlands/Restoration Areas... Free Oyster Educational Activities...Marsh Clean-up Crew Needs Recruits... Wildlife Biology Camp Day... Book Published on Common Birds of Arcata Marsh... New Interpretive Signs... Remembering Guy Kuttner... Off-leash Dogs... Blooming Plant Walk Report... Docent Training Results... Science Fair Awards... Barn Dance Results... Student Bird Art Contest Results... Board Members Needed... Thanks to Godwit Days Helpers... What's Legal at the Marsh?... Mark Andre Lecture... Artist Statements... Visitor Log... Calendar of Upcoming Events... Thanks to Supporters



Arcata Marsh Jogging Interpretive Tours

Want to get a different perspective on 2 Arcata Marsh? Join FOAM Board Liember Megan McCue on two free jogging interpretive tours along 4 to 5 miles of trails. The first will be a Sunset Jog on Tuesday, May 17 starting at 7:30 p.m.; the second is a Morning Jog on Wednesday, May 18 starting at 7:30 a.m.

Before each loop, Megan will describe what will be seen along the way to the next stop. The tour will include the Marsh proper and the oxidation ponds. Participants should bring water and must sign a waiver of liability. Meet at the Klopp Lake parking lot at the foot of South I Street. For more information, contact Megan at 826-7487.

FOAM to Cosponsor Bike Tour

By Mary Burke

FOAM, Green Wheels, and the City of Arcata invite you on a bicycle tour of the City's McDaniel Slough/Janes Creek restoration projects on Saturday, June 25, starting at 2 pm. Join Environmental Programs Manager Julie Neander to 'arn about Arcata's watershed approach

protecting and improving in-stream and riparian habitat, while also improving flood routing and community beautification.

Meet at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center parking lot on South G Street. From there, we will bike to the McDaniel Slough Project, then ride into the City to look at restoration work done at 11th Street, along Zehndner and Q Streets, at Westwood Manor Park and Stewart Court, between Hilfiker and Stromberg Avenues, on Sunset Creek at Cahill Park, and at the confluence of the south fork of Janes Creek. You also will see first-hand invasive reed canary grass, which is one of this watershed's current challenges. The City is working with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Conservation Corps to deal with this invasive plant.

This wetlands/restoration tour is intended to be a fun, guided group ride suitable for all ages. The route is 8 miles long with relatively little elevation gain. Bring your bike, helmet, and water. Children must be accompanied by parents or responsible adult.

For more information, contact Julie at 822-8184.

Oyster Activities on June 18

FOAM is taking action on a suggestion by board member Dave Couch to stage free educational activities at the Interpretive Center in conjunction with the City's Oyster Festival. Dave has contacted local oyster growers to set up displays of live oyster species grown here and life stages of oysters. A video on the local oyster industry will be shown. HSU graduate student Julie Koeppel will talk about research on native Humboldt Bay ovsters and Dave may lead an ovster interpretive walk. There will also be kids craft activities related to oysters, including distribution of "Omar the Oyster" temporary tattoos and "I Love Oysters" lapel pins. The schedule of activities was still being finalized when this newsletter went to print, so watch your local media outlets closer to June 18 for details.

Volunteers will be needed to help set up, clean up, and supervise the kids craft activities. If you can give a few hours on Saturday, June 18, contact Sue at 442-5444 (sueleskiw@suddenlink.net).

2010-11 Board of Directors & Officers

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President: Sue Leskiw (also UPWIND Editor; Mailing; Publicity;

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FOAM website: www.arcatamarshfriends.org



Students from the Educational Resource Center helped clean up the Marsh for Godwit Days by picking up trash and removing Scotch Broom. Photo by George Ziminsky.

Marsh Clean-up Crew

FOAM is forming a Marsh Work Day "On-Call Brigade." Habitat Concerns Committee chair George Ziminsky hopes to schedule one day a month devoted to removing invasive plants, picking up garbage, or other clean-up tasks that need to be done at the Marsh. One possibility is to work with a crew of high school students on certain Thursdays between 9:30 am and 2 pm; another suggested time would be Sunday afternoons. Of course, you do not have to participate every time, or for the full work day (2-4 hours). Bring gloves and dress to get dirty; tools will be provided by the City. If you have an interest in participating, contact George at geoz@humboldt1.com or 826-9240.

Saturday, July 16, is the date of the next twice-yearly Marsh work day sponsored by FOAM, the Northcoast Environmental Center, and the City. Contact Dennis Houghton at 825-2163 for more information on work location and tasks.

Wildlife Biology Camp June 29

For the fourth year, FOAM and Redwood Region Audubon Society will be cosponsoring one day of activities during the Wildlife Biology week of the City's Natural Resources Science Camp. Wednesday, June 29 will be the day for FOAM activities that center around a "Mud Walk" to the Bay to collect "critters" for viewing with our flex-cam and under microscopes. The camp is for kids age 10-12. So far, Elliott Dabill, George Ziminsky, Bob Rasmussen, Melinda Bailey, and Sue Leskiw have volunteered to help with this event. We could use at least one more person to help set up and clean up the microscope stations. Contact Sue at 442-5444 (sueleskiw@suddenlink.net) if you are available to volunteer.

FOAM Publishes Marsh Bird Book

By Sue Leskiw

"Common Birds of the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary" – a full-color, 54-page book – has just been published by FOAM, The book represents a collaborative effort among former FOAM Board Member Ken Burton, current Board Member Leslie Anderson, and local naturalist David Fix.

Ken conceived of the book after answering questions from Marsh visitors and training FOAM docents about birds. He designed the format, created the bar graphs, and edited the book. David wrote the text based on years of keen observation at the Marsh and elsewhere. Leslie took most of the photographs and laid out the pages. "This guide should serve as an aid for the novice to identify the most numerous and conspicuous species; we hope the text and photos will be of interest to the more-seasoned birder as well," writes Ken in the introduction.

The 50 birds selected for inclusion represent those most often reported from the Marsh to eBird, an online resource hosted by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, as of early 2011. Each species has a page devoted to it that displays its common and scientific name, size, frequency of eBird reports by month, microhabitat(s) at the Marsh, and a description of its behavior and life. Most pages include three beautiful photos, some showing sexual, seasonal, or age differences in plumage.

The book is printed on high-quality paper and spiral bound for durability. Its size makes it a perfect guide to take along when walking the trails or birding the Marsh's water features. After making its debut at Godwit Days, the book is now available for purchase for \$14.95 plus tax at the Interpretive Center and will be offered to local bookstores for distribution. An author book-signing event is being planned.

Sign(s) of the Times

If you've visited the Marsh during or since Godwit Days, you may have noticed some colorful new additions to the interpretive signs. FOAM Board member Leslie Anderson – with input from City Naturalist Denise Homer — created four temporary laminated interpretive signs that were posted in various locations.

The signs are "Grassland Grocery,"
"Taking Flight on Klopp Lake," What Is a
Godwit?" and "Do You See Black-crowned
Night-Herons?"

This is part of a new signage program germinated by FOAM Board member George Ziminsky that seeks to improve existing regulatory signs and add directional and interpretive signs to the Marsh trails. George and Leslie serve on a new signage committee with Denise and Arcata Deputy Environmental Services Director Karen Diemer.

The City is seeking a grant to make these signs into permanent installations and use them as templates for other new signs at the Marsh. FOAM is also pursuing replacement of the faded bird identification panels in the Butler Memorial Kiosk near Mt Trashmore.



In Memoriam, Guy Kuttner

By Sue Leskiw

Guy was elected to the FOAM Board in September 2010. Immediately, he began having an impact by spearheading the effort to resuscitate our Wetlands on Wheels (WOW) program. He also was active in FOAM's effort to adopt Butcher's Slough via a project of Humboldt Baykeeper. He brought his years of teaching experience to bolster our Education Committee.

Unfortunately, his life was cut short on March 3, 2011, at age 64. FOAM sent a \$100 donation to the Guy Kuttner Memorial Education Fund set up at Coast Central Credit Union. A community celebration for Guy is planned for July 9 at Bayside Grange.

His obituary in the Arcata Eye sent out this wish from Guy: "Take care of yourselves, take care of each other, and take care of this place. You have been gifted to spend this incarnation on this jewel of a planet. I know you will treat it and its inhabitants with the respect they deserve. Oh, and thanks for all the fish!"

Are Off-leash Dogs a Problem?

By Sue Leskiw

It depends upon who you talk to and hat day they happen to be walking the larsh trails. Sometimes, all the dogs I see are properly leashed, but then I hear about people letting their canines run free or urging them to jump into ponds in the expansion area. I used to tell people that their dogs were required to be leashed in a wildlife sanctuary, but stopped after getting sworn at too many times. Now, I may congratulate individuals for restraining their pets.

Compliance with the posted City statute likely varies according to police presence at the Marsh, and whether the rangers give warnings or go straight to citations. Signage ranges from "Dogs must be leashed under Municipal Code XYZ" to (IMO) a too-subtle international symbol of a stick figure and a dog connected by a line. I think the amount of the fine should be included on signs.

FOAM Habitat Concerns chair George Ziminsky (geoz@humboldt1.com) would like to hear about the numbers of leashed/unleashed dogs you see while visiting the Marsh. Any license plates you can obtain of violators should be called in to the Arcata Police Department, with details of ate, time, and location.

Blooming Plant Walk

By Katy Allen

A large crowd of spring flowering plant enthusiasts braved a bracing wind on April 2 to learn more about the botanical wonders at the Arcata Marsh. Docents Jenny Hanson and Rich Ridenhour shared their vast knowledge of plant behavior with between 20 and 30 individuals, from teens to seniors. Although the leaders attempted to limit their talk to plants that were flowering at the time, they got off on some interesting tangents when questions were raised. The maple trees were blooming with their showy flowers. We learned that alders have both male and female "catkins" on the same tree. The pervasive non-native dandelion (whose name we learned was a corruption of the French for "lion's tooth") was blooming brightly. We were shown how to tell a true dandelion from the many lookalikes out there. Many attendees were surprised to learn that the horsetail plant s truly prehistoric, having covered the Earth long before flowering plants. All in all, despite the large numbers and wild wind, a good time was had by all.

Beer & Brownies

By Sue Leskiw

On Saturday, March 26, FOAM served up beer, apple juice, and home-baked sweets to thirsty, hungry attendees of the Humboldt Folklife Society's monthly barn dance. Approximately 200 people attended the event at the Arcata Veterans Memorial, earning FOAM a 10% share of the gate and over \$250 in profit from sales.

The collaboration between the two organizations was spearheaded by FOAM Board member George Ziminsky, who obtained a donation of Steelhead beer from Blue Lake's Mad River Brewery. George and Dave Couch manned the taps, while Katy Allen, Sue Leskiw, Megan McCue, and Alex Stillman sold food. The tasty treats were made by Katy Allen, Tara Hohoff, Sue Leskiw, and Cindy Moyer.





(Top) Bartender George Ziminsky serves Steelhead to Tara Stetz of the Striped Pig String Band/Humboldt Folklife Society. (Bottom) George, Dave Couch, and Pete Nichols of Humboldt Baykeeper. Photos by Sue Leskiw.

Docent Training Held

On March 12-13, FOAM held its spring docent training, organized by Elliott Dabill. Three people attended the sessions taught by Bob Rasmussen, Dave Couch, Rich Ridenhour, Jenny Hanson, and Elliott Dabill. Those completing the training were Milt Boyd, Jada Lindsay, and Sara Schultz.

Two Science Fair Awards Given

By Sue Leskiw

The winner of FOAM's sixth annual award at the Humboldt County Science Fair for the best project related to wetlands was Jacob Ireland, a fifth grader at Arcata Elementary School, for his work entitled "Environmental Chemistry: Phytoremediation of Copper by Water Plants." Due to the high quality of the entries this year, a second place award was given to Keaton Sullivan, a student at Garfield School, whose project was entitled "Floating or Rooted?"

Jacob investigated which aquatic plants would be best at pulling heavy metals like copper out of the water, hypothesizing that water fern would work best. He tested elodea (Anacharis), water fern (Ceratopteris thalictroides), and micro sword (Lilacopsis). He got the idea for his project after visiting the Arcata Marsh, wondering if all aquatic plants are able to remove heavy metals and how long it would take them. His hypothesis that water fern would be most efficient at phytoremediation was correct, although all three plants tested pulled copper out of the water. Jacob would like to continue this research using native plants over a longer time period. In his thank-you note, he told FOAM he would be saving the money for college and commented that "the Marsh is such an amazing place!"

Keaton investigated whether a floating marsh would work as well as a rooted marsh to treat wastewater. The performance measures he used to determine how good a job treatment marshes are doing were dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature, pH, and total suspended solids (TSS), as well as a "sniff test" and description of water color. He hypothesized that a rooted marsh would work better than a floating one because 1) water could flow below the plants without being filtered, 2) nutrients might miss the plant roots, and 3) suspended solids might sink below the roots. Keaton sampled water from the oxidation pond, the outflow of the floating marsh, and the outflow of the rooted marsh. He described his results as "inconclusive," in that the rooted marsh showed more TSS removal, but was "more stinky" due to lower DO. He received help from HSU graduate student Teresa Garrison, who has participated in FOAM's Coastweeks lecture series. Keaton's thank-you note said he was "honored" to win the FOAM prize and "really enjoyed doing my project at the Marsh."

2011 Student Bird Art Contest Results

Some 470 local K-12 students pulled out paints, pencils, pastels, or paste to enter the Eighth Annual Student Bird Art Contest held in association with the 16th Annual Godwit Days Spring Migration Bird Festival. FOAM cosponsored the competition with Redwood Region Audubon Society (RRAS).

All entries were displayed at the Arcata Community Center during the Festival, and copies of the winners are hung at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center

during May.

Prizes totaling \$555 were given out, thanks to FOAM and RRAS. Thirty-two of those were monetary prizes, plus 20 honorable mentions. FOAM also funded three prizes for Best Depiction of a Bird in Its Habitat. Judges were Leslie Anderson, Louise-Bacon Ogden, Art Barab, Gary Bloomfield, Denise Homer, Sue Leskiw, and Sara Starr.

The winners were:

Kindergarten-Grade 1

1st Place: Julia Grant, Orleans Elementary School, Spotted Owl

1st Place: Maxwell Mohatt, Fuente Nueva Charter School, American Crow 2nd Place: Finn Murphy, Union Street

Charter School, Peregrine Falcon

2nd Place: Zea Weiss Wynne, Fuente Nueva Charter School, Northern Flicker 3rd Place: Angel McElroy, North Coast Learning Academy, Spotted Owl

3rd Place: Roxy Sexton, Fuente Nueva Charter School, Wood Ducks

Grade 2

1st Place: Kylee Moore, Maple Creek School, Pileated Woodpecker

2nd Place: Autumn Arambula, Orleans Elementary School, Northern Flicker

3rd Place: West Wood, Trinidad School, Steller's Jay

Grade 3

1st Place: Coby Stolz, Hydesville Elementary School, Wood Duck

2nd Place: Ella Villamor, Union Street Charter School, Great Blue Heron

3rd Place: Leo Jansen, Coastal Grove Charter School, American Robin

Grades 4-5

1st Place: Brenden Houseworth, North Coast Learning Academy, Great Blue Heron

1st Place: Connor Richmond, Homeschooled, Osprey

1st Place: Jacquelyn Opalach, Arcata Elementary School, Common Yellowthroat







(Top) Art contest winners in Kindergarten through Grade 2. (Middle) Winners from Grades 3 through 5. (Bottom) Winners from Grades 6 through 12. Photos by Beth Deibert.

2nd Place: Carson Pope, Union Street Charter School, Peregrine Falcon

2nd Place: Tatianna Hendrickson, North Coast Learning Academy, Great Egret

2nd Place: Octavia Perez, North Coast Learning Academy, Red-breasted Nuthatch

3rd Place: Devon Wellington, Jacoby Creek School, Spotted Towhee

3rd Place: Isaiah Cappelen, North Coast Learning Academy, Great Blue Heron

3rd Place: Michael Berkowitz, Union Street Charter School, Great Blue Heron

Grades 6-7

1st Place: Isabella Myers, Alder Grove Charter School, Bald Eagles

1st Place: Olivia Kline, Fuente Nueva Charter School, Spotted Owl 2nd Place: Melody Gambrell, Big Lagoon Union School, Osprey

2nd Place: Eleanor McGee, Freshwater Elementary School, Cedar Waxwing

3rd Place: Naomi Huddleston, Forks of Salmon Elementary School, Belted Kingfisher

3rd Place: Sierra Bennett, Freshwater Elementary School, Cedar Waxwing

Grades 8-12

1st Place: Margo LaClair, Jacoby Creek School, Wood Duck

2nd Place: Taylor Vitale, North Coast Learning Academy, Northern Goshawk

2nd Place: Rachael Greenfield, South Fork High School, Chestnut-backed Chickadee

3rd Place: She'ifa Punla-Green, North Coast Performing Arts & Preparatory Academy, Great Blue Heron 3rd Place: Jesus Lopez, South Fork High School, Red-shouldered Hawk

Best Depiction of Bird in Its Habitat Awards

Emily Laursen, Grade 3, Hydesville Lementary School, American Robin

William Houghton, Grade 6, Freshwater School, Snowy Plover

Kasper Herbst, Grade 6, Garfield Elementary School, Spotted Owl

Honorable Mentions:

Kindergarten, Justin Powell, Julia Rants

Grade 1, Luna Weiss Wynne, Lee Pobiecke, Roberto St Peters

Grade 2, Michael Adams, Kylee Anna Clinton, Caine Ebaugh, Ai Li George

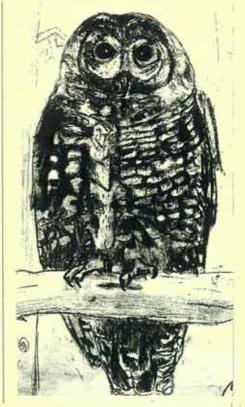
Grade 3, Elias Surber, Jeremiah Bonato

Grade 4, Brianna Chapman, Nicolette Reinsmith

Grade 5, Sea Air Gale

Grade 6, Madrone Topolewski, Jade Dare, Ryan Mollier

Grade 10, Kristan Rotbergs Grade 11, Megan Cardoza High School, Kassie Humphrey

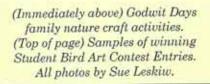












NEEDED: Two members to serve a 3-year term on the FOAM Board of Directors. Join a great group of people who care about the Marsh. Call president Sue Leskiw at 442-5444 to find out more!

Thanks, Godwit Helpers

Volunteers who staffed the FOAM booth at the Godwit Days Festival in April were Katy Allen, Art Barab, Mary Bobillot, Ken Burton, Marian Perry, Bev Post, and Janet Zich. Sue Leskiw and Jean Santi set up the booth and Sue took it down. The hot ticket was the new Common Birds of the Marsh book (see page 2), of which over 30 copies were sold. Darlene Marlow, Grace Marton, Sue Leskiw, and Katy Allen – plus the high-energy high school students from the Sequoia Park Roots & Shoots Club (Cesar Murillo, Aubrey Page, Emily Simoni, and Cain Towers) — welcomed 80-100 children and parents for art and nature craft activities. Mary Burke led two children's bird walks at the Marsh and Dave Couch led a field trip of the wastewater treatment plant. Helpers who hung the 470 pieces of student bird art were Leslie Anderson, Art Barab, Sue Leskiw, Syn-dee Noel, Gil and Mediha Saliba, Jean Santi, and George Ziminsky.

Just What Is Legal at the Arcata Marsh?

By Sue Leskiw

As president of FOAM, I receive all the questions submitted through the FOAM website (www.arcatamarshfriends.org). These run the gamut of topics, including tours, bird ID, employment, tracking down people associated with the Marsh's early years, and most recently, fishing regulations. Here is the response from City Naturalist Denise Homer: "You are allowed to fish in Klopp Lake (at the foot of I Street) between the marked fishing signs only. You must use an artificial lure with a single barbless hook. The bag limit is two. No boats of any kind are allowed in the marshes, ponds or lakes. There is a dock for non-motorized watercraft into Humboldt Bay at the foot of I Street. One needs to be mindful of the tide, as the North Bay becomes a mudflat at low tide. Fishing is permitted in Humboldt Bay."

Since those of you leading tours, or staffing the front desk, or just visiting the Marsh may be asked similar questions or have ones of your own, regulations for use of the Marsh are reproduced below.

TITLE X—PUBLIC PROPERTY CHAPTER 3—REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE ARCATA MARSH AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

(Ord. 1088, eff. 10/17/1986; Ord. 1193, eff. 7/31/1992; Ord. 1281, eff. 5/1/1998; Ord. 1317, eff. 1/19/2001)

Sec. 10600 Access generally. (Ord. 1193, eff. 7/31/1992)

Access to all marshes will be restricted from public use unless specifically authorized by the Director of Environmental Services or his designee.

Sec. 10605 Motorized vehicles, overnight parking. (Ord. 1317, eff. 1/19/2001)

Motorized vehicles will be restricted to the I Street extension and parking lots. Parking will be allowed only in designated parking lots. Parking shall be prohibited on the I Street extension, in the I Street parking lot and in the Interpretive Center parking lot between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m.

Sec. 10610 Hunting.

No hunting will be allowed within 100 yards of the land and open water adjacent to the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary and the Arcata Oxidation Pond.

Sec. 10615 Leash law.

The Arcata leash law for animals will be strictly enforced at the site.

Sec. 10620 Access. (Ord. 1193, eff. 7/31/1992)

Access to the outer dikes of George Allen and Robert Gearheart Marshes will be prohibited from public use unless specifically authorized by the Director of Environmental Services or his designee.

Sec. 10625 Air space.

The air space above the Marsh will be restricted to the heights established by the Federal Aviation Authority. Restrictions include the use of hang gliders, kites, model airplanes, and hot air balloops.

Sec. 10630 Horses.

Horses will be restricted to the use of the I Street and the parking lot areas.

Sec. 10635 Camping

The entire site will be closed from one hour after sunset to 4:00 a.m., unless specifically authorized by the Director of Environmental Services or his designee. No overnight camping is allowed.

Sec. 10640 Model boats.

All motorized model boats will be restricted to the westerly one-quarter of Franklin R. Klopp Recreational Lake.

Sec. 10645 Boats generally.

No boats will be allowed in any water body of the Sanctuary except for Humboldt Bay and Butcher's Slough unless specifically authorized by the Director of Environmental Services or his designee.

Sec. 10650 Fishing.

Fishing is prohibited in the Sanctuary with the exception of the south side of Klopp Lake and Humboldt Bay. Fishing is restricted to the use of artificial flies and lures in accordance with Article 7, Section 13.39 of the California Sport Fishing Regulations. A valid California Sport Fishing License is required in all areas.

Sec. 10655 Trees. (Ord. 1193, eff. 7/31/1992)

Trees and shrubs to be planted must be on the approved list and in the areas designated for planting by the Wetlands and Creeks Advisory Committee.

Sec. 10656 Release of Animals. (Ord. 1281, eff. 5/1/1998)

A. The City Council finds that the presence of non-native animals in the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary disrupts the native ecology of that environment. The presence of non-native species is due in part to their release by people.

B. It shall be unlawful to release or cause the release of any animal into the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary, except when specifically authorized by the Director of Environmental Services.

C. It shall be unlawful to release or cause the release of any animal into any area adjoining or in such proximity of the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary such that said animal could reasonably be expected to migrate into the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

D. The Director of Environmental Services, or his/her designee, is authorized to impound and remove all non-native animals found in the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. The Director, or his/her designee, shall deliver the impounded animals to the Sequoia Humane Society for processing in accordance with the internal procedures of the Humane Society.

Chapter 10.1, Parks and Grounds Sec. 10008 Animals prohibited.

Unless otherwise prohibited by resolution of the City Council, it shall be unlawful for any person to ride, lead, or let loose any cattle, horse, mule, goat, sheep, swine or fowl or animal of any kind in any public park. However, it shall not be unlawful to maintain dogs on a leash not in excess of six (6) feet.



Marsh Part of Mark's Restoration Talk

Arcata's Environmental Services Director Mark Andre gave the opening night lecture at this year's Godwit Days Festival, He spoke about two decades of habitat restoration efforts by the City.

His talk included some historical information about the Arcata Marsh: "Arcata's environmental restoration projects began in the early 1980s with the creation of the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary (AMWS). The original 75 acres of the AMWS, including 30 acres of freshwater wetlands, was completed in 1981. Up until 2006, the City and HSU operated a fish hatchery at the Arcata Marsh that included fish rearing in treated wastewater effluent. In 1986, the City expanded the Sanctuary by realigning Butchers Slough to re-establish a morenatural, meandering state and restore salt marsh habitat. The 1986 expansion also created a freshwater wetland adjacent to Butchers Slough out of the remains of an old log pond. Funding for both of these phases of the AMWS came from a variety of sources, including the California Coastal Conservancy."

JUNE ARTIST RED JIORAS

I picked up my first SLR camera in 366 and have been compiling images ver since. Making the change to digital 8 years ago, I expanded my vision from the camera to the virtual dark room, recently winning awards in local art competitions for my nature and architectural images. Fascinated by nature, I study wildlife, flowers, and landscapes through the lens of the camera and find that the ability to focus on one subject to the exclusion of all else intensifies the appreciation of the beauty around us. The wildflowers of the redwoods are amazingly beautiful but sometimes are hard to find. They exist in a Lilliputian world that is mostly 6-12 inches tall, with the tallest being about 20 inches. This makes photography challenging in that the camera is often at ground level in low-light situations. I hope that my pictures will inspire everyone to walk slowly in the forest and search for the treasures that are often at our feet.

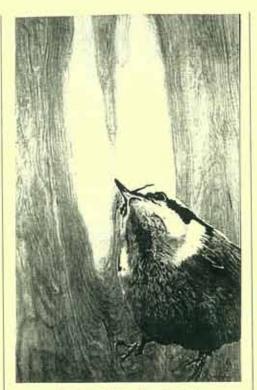


Calypso Orchid, by Red Jioras.

JULY ARTIST AMY GRANFIELD

It's easy to be facile about the interconnectedness of things, perhaps because it represents our supreme hope. Yet, it may also be our greatest fear: that we are not greater than, but the same as, all else.

I have a BS in Soil & Water Science from the University of California, Davis and an MS in Natural Resources from



Nuthatch Up, oil on board, by Amy Granfield.

Humboldt State. Of course, nothing we learn ever goes unused, and my interest in the natural world has continued, but in a less-rigid structure. In my work, I mingle science and emotionalism. People place themselves at the center of their world and fail to recognize the systematic importance or the "soul" (essence, dignity, nobility) of plants and other animals. Without plants — and photosynthesis in particular — there would be no mechanism for energy input into the living world.

Viewers may experience my work as strongly aesthetic because I portray natural elements carefully rendered in settings either richly worked or ethereal. However, I see my work as strongly emotional and political. Just the act of placing these objects at the center, enlarged and dominating, challenges our notion of a world centered around ourselves. My animals are caught in a moment of some stress (i.e., living). My plant subjects are not flowers, but less-conspicuous parts. Observed reality is prismed by my own sense of wonder, creating an unsentimental but empathetic view. It is an aesthetic of challenged beauty, with loss and tenacity and possibility as common themes.

I am inspired by the same subjects as always: stalking denizens of the fields and air in order to picture them back to us. Their portraits invite us to remember them, to be discomforted, and to meditate on our relationship with them; our place among them, and within them looking back at us. I paint in oils, on canvas, and board.

Visitor Log

The Interpretive Center had 1271 walk-in visitors during Febnuary, 1359 in March, and 1820 in April.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

[Docent tours leave the Interpretive Center each Saturday at 2 pm]

May — Student Bird Art Contest winners (see pages 4&5)

May 17-18 — Marsh Jogging Tours (see page 1)

June - Photos by Red Jioras

June 9 — FOAM Board Meeting, 6:30-8:30 pm

June 18 — Oyster Festival activities (see page 1)

June 29 — Wildlife Biology camp day (see page 2)

June 25 — Wetlands/Restoration Bicycle Tour (see page 1)

July - Art by Amy Granfield

July 14 -- FOAM Board Meeting, 6:30-8:30 pm

July 16 — Marsh Work Day (see page 2)

Recognition & Thanks, March-April 2011

- Best Friends (\$100): Aldaron & Christy Laird; Catherine Walling
- Sponsors (\$50): Ann Greenwater; David Ledger (Redding "I'm leading walks for Sierra Club and CNPS in Shasta County. I usually have 2-5 people from Humboldt County on my Lassen Park walks. I'm glad to see FOAM is keeping active."); Claire Perricelli; Marian Perry
- Friends: Ben & Midge Catching; Kathryn Corbett; Roseann Densmore; Esther Gilchrist; Alan Laurent; Mary Ellen Mahoney; Beverly Post; Florine Smith; Lance Torgerson; Janet & Art Zich
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