



UPWIND

from the Arcata Marsh
Interpretive Center
Vol 19, Issue 3, Summer 2012

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

In This Issue: Board Member Appeal... Little Stint... Marsh Master Plan Survey... Salt Marsh Restoration... Revamping Volunteer Recruitment/Training... Cam & Mel... Dog Brochure... Ocean/Bay Activities... Exhibits... Wildlife Camp... Marsh Explorers... Candidate Application & Duties... Artist Statements... Calendar... Donors

Why Wouldn't YOU Make a Good FOAM Board Member?

We are looking for THREE FOAM members (or people willing to join the organization) who care about the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary and would like to translate that feeling into action. If you've wondered about a new way that you can help the Marsh, here's your opportunity! Board members are expected to attend monthly meetings, serve on at least one committee, and volunteer 4 hours/month (see pages 5&6).

FOAM has a small membership base on which to draw. Why not attend our August 9 Board meeting, to see what it's all about? You'd be working with a great group of people to improve a place we all love. Please call me at 442-5444 to find out more.

P.S. Board applications are due by Friday, August 31.

Sue Leskiw



Little Stint © Tony Kurz.

Rare Bird at Marsh

A Little Stint, the 321st bird species to be identified at the Arcata Marsh, was spotted on Sunday evening, July 29 by biologist Rob Hewitt. Seen only a handful of times before in Humboldt County, the stint is a type of sandpiper that hails from the Old World and took a wrong turn across the Bering Strait with its New World cousins. The adult bird was roosting on the riprap levees along with Western and Least Sandpipers around the southwest corner of Klopp Lake.

Marsh Master Plan Survey

By Sue Leskiw

The City of Arcata is embarking on a master plan for the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. To help address needs of Marsh users, a questionnaire has been placed on the welcome desk at the Interpretive Center. It asks questions about probable uses of the Marsh; desirability of creating an outdoor area for evening family programs; best features of the

Interpretive Center; adding activities; and improving trails.

If you would like to have input to the master plan, stop by the Interpretive Center for a copy or e-mail sueleskiw@suddenlink.net. Completed surveys can be dropped off at the Interpretive Center or Environmental Services Department at City Hall, faxed to 702-822-8018, or mailed to the attention of Denise Homer, City of Arcata, 736 F Street, Arcata, CA 95521.

2011-12 Board of Directors & Officers

Officers

President: Sue Leskiw (also UPWIND Editor; Mailing; Publicity; Exhibits; Scrapbook; Website) — 707-442-5444

Vice-President: Elliott Dabill (also Education; Computer) — 707-445-3836

Secretary: Katy Allen (also Education; Exhibits; Membership) — 707-822-2312

Treasurer: Art Barab (also Exhibits; Saturday Tours) — 707-826-7017

Other Board Members

Leslie Anderson (Design; Art Exhibits; Exhibits; Website) — 707-822-6444

Mary Burke (Education; Website) — 707-599-1212

David Couch (Special Events) — 707-839-4253

Megan McCue (Education) — 707-633-6226

John McNeely (Education) -- 860-248-0745

Lance Torgerson (Education) — 707-269-0576

Janet Zich (Membership; Facebook; Exhibits; Website) — 707-822-4660

George Ziminsky (Habitat Concerns) — 707-826-9240

FOAM website: www.arcatamarshfriends.org



A portion of the July 21 Together Green Salt Marsh Restoration Crew. Photo by Bonnie Baty; photos below by Sue Leskiw.

Salt Marsh Restoration Event a Success

By Sue Leskiw

Some 40 people gathered on July 21 to remove non-native plants from the Arcata Marsh's new salt marsh area on South I Street. FOAM partnered with the City of Arcata and Redwood Region Audubon Society (RRAS), using a grant that RRAS received from Toyota's Together Green program to recruit new volunteers.

The salt marsh was created in summer 2010 as mitigation for the Klopp Lake dike repair. FOAM, the City, and various other partners had held 4 previous work days in the area, removing cordgrass (*Spartina*), European grasses, teasel, and other invasives that crowd out the tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia*) and pickleweed desirable in a high salt marsh.



Elliott Dabill & Tom Allen.

Volunteers were enlisted via RRAS member e-mails, FOAM volunteers, AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards, and local media. Among the helpers was a Boy Scout accruing community service hours.

The crew worked for 3.5 hours, then enjoyed a gourmet pizza lunch. Those who had not volunteered for RRAS within the past 18 months were awarded a Together Green tote bag, a pair of work gloves (donated by Pierson Building Center), and several items of merchandise from RRAS and FOAM. FOAM president Sue Leskiw served as coordinator for the event, while Javier Nogueira was there on behalf of the City.



Boy Scout Westin McHaney.

Volunteers were: Katy & Tom Allen, Bonnie Baty, Ken Burton, Donna & Jim Clark, Gail Coonen, Melanie & Elliott Dabill, Linda Doerflinger, Betsy Elkinton, Terrae Filius, Ned Forsyth, Ginger Gardner, Esther Gilchrist, Brian James, Joshua Karnowski, Marie Kelleher-Roy, Barbara Kelly, Bill Knight, Kristin Kovacs, Jim Lennon, Patty & Westin McHaney, Catherine & Thomas McNally, Carol McNeill, Andrew Migliazzo, Armand Mulin, Syn-dee Noel, Cathryn Noel-Veatch, Susan Penn, Maya Reynolds, Rand Shoat, and George Ziminsky.

FOAM's next invasive plant removal day will be in mid-December.



Betsy Elkinton.

Revamping FOAM Volunteer Recruitment & Training

By Sue Leskiw

This spring, FOAM docent and plant expert Jenny Hanson spoke to me at length about revisiting the method for recruiting and training our volunteers. Attendance at the twice-a-year weekend sessions has fallen off and some of those who completed training never took the final step of actually leading tours at the Marsh. Jenny wanted to set up a subcommittee to “create a viable volunteer recruitment, training, and retention plan,” through examining past methods and brainstorming about new ways to line up help for the nearly 150 tours scheduled each year at the Marsh.

Katy Allen, Mary Burke, Dave Couch, Elliott Dabill, Denise Homer, Megan McCue, John McNeely, and Bob Rasmussen agreed to join Jenny’s group. Their first meeting was held on May 15, followed by June 14, July 10, and July 24. One idea that is being fleshed out is to sponsor a series of free public lectures on Marsh-related topics throughout the year, soliciting volunteers from among people who have shown an interest in several topics. This strategy would replace this fall’s 2-day docent training. The subcommittee is aiming to schedule at least one talk during the state-wide Coast-weeks celebration sponsored by the California Coastal Commission between September 15 and October 6 (info at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>).

The subcommittee is well on its way to reaching its outcome of “recommending a plan to the FOAM Board with sufficient detail that it can be implemented within the next year.” The Board thanks Jenny and all the other hard-working subcommittee members for caring so much about educational efforts and community outreach at the Marsh.



Mel, Cam, and George.
Photo by Melanie Dabill.

Cross-Country Volunteers Visit Marsh

By Sue Leskiw

On July 3, I received a message via the FOAM website from Cam Johnson. He wrote “A partner and I are on a 10-week cross-country volunteer road trip. We are targeting environmental centers to volunteer at in order to reach our goal of 400 person-hours. We would like to offer Arcata Marsh a full day of volunteer service on July 14 or 15.”

Immediately, I contacted George Ziminsky, who has spearheaded many clean-up days at the Marsh. George replied to Cam (and his partner Melanie Canna) that he’d love to have them help with a teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) problem. So George, Melanie Dabill, and the two volunteers spent 5 hours on a Saturday pulling out invasive teasel. That afternoon, George took the travelers to a celebration at the new Coastal Nature Center constructed by Friends of the Dunes in Manila. Afterwards, Cam wrote “We had a great time working with George. He is very passionate about his work and our natural world. The Arcata Marsh is a true success story in the environmental battle.”

Cam found the Arcata Marsh on a Google search for preserves and areas to volunteer. Immediately before the Marsh, they had volunteered at

Jug Handle Creek Farm Nature Center in Mendocino and were en route to Sunriver Nature Center in Bend, OR. Cam and Mel are students from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Cortland. They started their volunteer project in Illinois, then visited/were slated to visit Colorado, Utah, California, Oregon, Washington, and Montana. Their mission is to “promote environmental awareness, volunteerism, and community involvement by donating our time and expertise to various nature centers across the country.”

FOAM donated \$50 toward the pair’s travel expenses and Board member John McNeely put them up for the night after they inquired about sleeping at the Marsh in their truck. To view photos, read their blog, or obtain more information about Cam and Mel, visit their website at www.exploreandrestore.org.

Dog Brochure Popular

More than 2,300 copies of FOAM’s brochure about legal off-leash dog areas in Humboldt County have been distributed so far. Veterinarians, groomers, boarding kennels, and pet supply stores have welcomed having the brochure to give to their clients. Copies are also available through land management agencies, city governments, and nonprofit organizations such as FOAM and Friends of the Dunes.

Copies are still available. If you know of a business or location that would like to hand them out, send an e-mail to info@arcatamarshfriends.org. A pdf is posted at www.arcatamarshfriends.org and on the City of Arcata’s website. Brochure printing was underwritten by a grant from the Hansen Family Fund, which is administered by the Humboldt Area Foundation.

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Friends.of.the.Arcata.
Marsh](http://www.facebook.com/Friends.of.the.Arcata.Marsh)



*Crafters show off their oyster shell refrigerator magnet and egg carton oyster.
Photo by Sue Leskiw.*

Ocean/Bay Activities Day

By Sue Leskiw

Approximately 30 children plus their parents attended the Ocean/Bay Activities Day sponsored by FOAM on June 9 at the Interpretive Center. Craft activities involved making Styrofoam crabs, egg carton oysters, oyster shell refrigerator magnets, and ocean creature bracelets. Attendees also could view fresh and saltwater creatures through microscopes or touch them in a tank. FOAM thanks volunteers Mary Burke, Dave Couch, Sue Leskiw, Darlene Marlow, Mary Romaidis, Danny Shea, and Tyler Waterman for their time and rapport with the kids and Marie Kelleher-Roy and Lance Torgerson for helping set up and clean up.

FOAM Replacing Two Exhibits

FOAM has decided to use money raised from the Open Heart Quilters handmade wildlife quilt (see Spring 2008 UPWIND) as partial payment to replace two Interpretive Center exhibits. Sun had faded the exhibits to a greenish tone after more than a decade of wall display. The two are an Arcata Marsh-scape by Larry Eifert and an underwater view of how a marsh works by Gary Bloomfield. Stop by in a month or so to see the eye-popping rejuvenated colors!

FOAM Cosponsors Arcata Camp

By Sue Leskiw

On July 10, FOAM joined with Redwood Region Audubon Society (RRAS) to host a daylong camp for children age 9 to 12 at the Arcata Marsh. The session was part of the Wildlife Biology week of the Arcata Recreation Department's Natural Resources Science Camp. This is the fifth year that RRAS and FOAM have collaborated on the camp.

Eighteen kids arrived at the Interpretive Center for a bird walk led by RRAS volunteers Tom Leskiw and Chet Ogan, plus George Ziminsky from FOAM. Some 40 avian species were spotted, with highlights being a Green Heron, American Bittern, Yellow-breasted Chat, 2 Peregrine Falcons, and 2 Wilson's Phalaropes.

After the bird walk, the campers went on a low-tide critter-collecting "Mud Walk." Leaders were FOAM vice-president Elliott Dabill and former board member Melinda Bailey. Former board member Bob Rasmussen set up the microscope stations and computer FlexCam, and Emily Janzen helped clean up. FOAM president Sue Leskiw was responsible for pulling together the schedule and volunteers, bringing lunch, and taking photos.

FOAM Again Supports Marsh Explorers

This year, FOAM provided funding for the City's Marsh Explorers to purchase supplies to make fish prints and plaster animal tracks, as well as owl pellets to dissect. Last year, FOAM purchased books for use during the day camps, as well as arts and crafts supplies. In 2010, FOAM underwrote binoculars, collection jars, and other supplies used to teach the children attending the camp.



(Top) Elliott Dabill and campers look at Bay critters. (Bottom) Melinda Bailey collecting treasures to examine.

Photos by Sue Leskiw.



**Application for Membership on the FOAM Board of Directors
for a 3-year term beginning October 2012**

Three openings are anticipated

FOAM by-laws allow for individuals to request nomination for election to the Board of Directors. The election will held by mailed ballot prior to the Annual Meeting. Information about nominees will be sent to all members in early September as part of the Call to the Annual Membership Meeting process. **To insure inclusion in the membership mailing, this form must be received by Friday, August 31.**

Questions? Contact Sue Leskiw at 707-442-5444, e-mail sueleskiw@suddenlink.net.

1. I would like to be a candidate for the Board of Directors for a 3-year term beginning in October 2012.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home/cell) _____ e-mail _____

2. I have read and accept the provisions of the “Specific Duties of Board Members” (details on reverse)

- ☛ Attend the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors and actively participate in its decision-making process.
- ☛ Commit to at least four (4) hours a month of additional activities, which can include staffing the Interpretive Center, leading tours, and/or participating on at least one committee or special project.
- ☛ Participate to the extent possible toward the success of public events that promote the Marsh.
- ☛ Assist with fundraising by making a personal donation so as to be a current member of FOAM and solicit donations from friends and individuals known to support our goals.

3. Candidate statement: Suggested content — What is your vision for the Marsh, your area of active interest in the Marsh, any related background/expertise? (Continue on separate sheet if needed.)

**Mail to FOAM President Sue Leskiw at 5440 Cummings Rd, Eureka CA 95503.
Deadline for receipt: Friday, August 31.**

FOAM Officers & Standing Committees

The Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of all FOAM activities. Working together, its membership assures that the work needed to fulfill FOAM's mission is accomplished.

Board Officers: Responsible for timely conduct of meetings, correspondence, financial accounting, and making sure all task-related positions are filled.

- **President:** Notice and call meetings, prepare and send agendas and supporting documents; chair meetings. Responsible for day-to-day, routine management of FOAM; responsible for advising Board of vacancies and upcoming needs. Recruit staff for standing positions with help of full Board
- **Vice President:** Fulfill duties of President when necessary.
- **Secretary:** Take minutes at meetings, prepare and submit to president in time for inclusion with agenda of upcoming meeting; record correspondence by type and addressee; pick up and distribute mail, maintain Minutes Book with copies on file at AMIC.
- **Treasurer:** Maintain financial records, submit periodic reports as requested; pay bills and maintain checkbook; track budget on a monthly basis.

Standing Committees: Need not be a Board Member to fill these positions but all Board Members are expected to contribute substantially to at least one of these activities and report as necessary to the full Board. Some positions can be combined but all must be filled by name.

- **Tour & Volunteer Coordinator:** Be actively involved with docents to know their strengths, interests, etc. Coordinate and direct docent training program; maintain active pool of volunteers; find a docent for every Saturday tour; keep Board informed as to status of docent/volunteer program.
- **UPWIND Editor:** Produce UPWIND quarterly (January, April, July, October); edit and layout for printing; find volunteers as needed to assist with copying, mailing, etc. Must know desktop publishing or have reliable access to same.
- **Mailing Coordinator:** Label, sort, and deliver UPWIND mailing to post office. Be knowledgeable about regulations relating to non-profit bulk mailing.
- **Membership Coordinator:** Track dues and membership status, maintain up-to-date membership list; make mailing labels available as needed; send thank you notes to donors.
- **Publicity Coordinator:** Send releases to publicize FOAM activities and mission; maintain up-to-date publicity mailing list; coordinate with outside groups to promote interest in Marsh.
- **Special Events Coordinator:** Recruit a chair and a working committee for each event as needed. Responsible for scheduling and staffing special events as agreed upon by Board in September of each year. Traditionally, these have been Godwit Days in April and the Annual Meeting in September. Additional events include exhibit openings, art exhibits, educational events.
- **Exhibit Coordinator:** Work with City to facilitate and fund exhibits at AMIC. Plan and mount special, temporary exhibits. Report to Board as to exhibit progress and needs.
- **Education Coordinator:** Develop materials and programs that bring FOAM mission to public: Wetlands on Wheels (WOW), bird guides; up-to-date docent manual, submit articles to UPWIND, etc.
- **Habitat Enhancement:** Study and advise on issues relating to integrity of marsh habitat Represent FOAM at City planning meetings and Council meetings that affect the Marsh and immediate vicinity.
- **Community Education Liaison:** Respond to requests from government entities, scientists, etc, regarding how the Arcata system works and might be adapted to needs of person inquiring. Report these requests to Board and UPWIND editor. (Information and referral — not professional consulting.) Consult with local wetlands projects (especially school related) as requested to enhance their programs.
- **Webpage Coordinator:** Post FOAM publicity materials on the Internet -- lectures, art exhibits, special walks, UPWIND articles, etc. Serve as liaison with city to link through Arcata's homepage or obtain separate domain for FOAM. Design pages that display bylaws, membership application, photos, historical material, and other information to promote FOAM's goals.



**AUGUST ARTIST
PETER CANCLINI**

I am a Humboldt native. I have photographed for many years, primarily in the view camera tradition of wet darkroom silver gelatin prints, of which I have made many thousands. I now also produce high-quality pigment ink prints on my own printers. The beauty and extreme permanence of these pigment inks enable the production of incredible prints, at much more affordable prices. Printing is only a means to an end; that end is a beautiful, expressive, long-lasting print. Whether the genesis of the print be in a Dektol tray or a pigment ink printer does not really matter. However, I still offer traditional black-and-white prints from my original negatives. Honesty, authenticity, and beauty are the things I most value in a photograph. And awe for the unknowable mysteries of this amazing world and for the dignity of its people. petercanclini.com



**SEPTEMBER ARTIST
SUSAN STROPE**

I first tried painting when I was about 12 years old. My grandfather was a painter, so I wanted to learn how he did that. I was fascinated by the whole process, loved the colors, holding the brush, and seeing what I could create. I'm primarily self taught and always work with oils on canvas. When one

of my sons wanted to learn about painting, we took classes at HSU together. I usually paint florals and seascapes, so for the Marsh Interpretive Center, I painted five landscapes. It is a new experience for me, since I have only painted two other landscapes in all these years. I made several trips to the Marsh to find just what scenes I found most interesting.

**OCTOBER ARTIST
GREG SMITH**

I have owned and operated First Aid for Ailing Autos in Arcata for 30 years. However, in the mornings, evenings and weekends, to nourish my soul, I make art and my medium is photography.

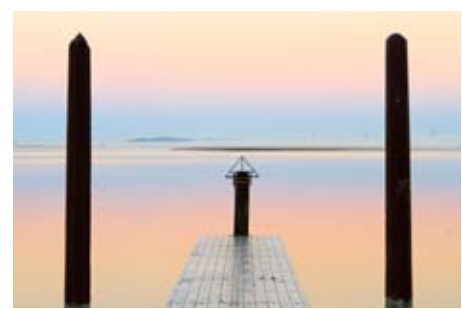
I have no idea why my 7th-grade teacher chose me to be the yearbook photographer, unless it was the Universe planting a seed. Later, I was a battalion photographer in the Army. Fast-forward 35 years: the digital revolution in photography meant that color image processing and printing became affordable.

Shooting images with professional-grade equipment is all about settings, of which there are scores, so I shoot daily to stay connected and practiced. Then, when that 1-in-1000 shot unfolds, I am ready, camera on, settings correct. The most perfect image in the world will not be captured without a camera in hand.

My goal is to create an image that evokes an emotional response. I photograph anything I consider beautiful or interesting. I spend a moment or two pondering how the subject might look as a printed image--for printed images and real life differ mightily. If it looks good, I shoot. If it still looks good, I keep shooting, one of the blessings of the digital age.



Fish Gulp (above) and I Street Dock (below) by Greg Smith.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

- August – landscape photography by Peter Canclini
- August 9 – FOAM Board Meeting, 6:30-8 pm
- August 31 – Deadline to receive Board candidate applications
- September – paintings by Susan Strope
- September 13 – FOAM Board Meeting, 6:30-8 pm
- October – photographs by Greg Smith
- October 11 – FOAM Board Meeting, 6:30-8 pm

Recognition & Thanks, May-July 2012

- ☛ Best Friends (\$100): Bob Hughes (Arcata & Borrego Springs, CA); Will Troxler (Salisbury, NC); Wild Birds Unlimited (Santa Rosa)
- ☛ Sponsors (\$50): Gretchen Stadler Family
- ☛ Friends: Roseanne Densmore; Margaret Lasak; Grace Marton & Lance Hardie; Susan O'Connor; CJ & Carol Ralph; Gwen Thoele
- ☛ Special Donors: Leslie & Mike Anderson (\$675 for art exhibit hanging system); three donations totaling \$95 in honor of Thea Gast's 80th birthday from Thomas & Roberta Allen, Ruth Davis, and Richard, Tracey & RJ Gast (Plymouth, MA)