



The State of the Nature Center, Fall, 2012

This past year was one of significant progress for Effie Yeaw Nature Center, ARNHA's primary program. Our mission is to help the people of greater Sacramento understand, appreciate and protect the Parkway and other natural areas that help make our region such a wonderful place to live.

The number of school programs ARNHA provided this past year rose by 41% over the previous year – which was our first year of operation after the County accepted ARNHA's proposal to run the Nature Center. Our Maidu Field Days continue to be in high demand and most schools ask for a nature hike to experience the preserve under the guidance of trained naturalists.

Last fall's Nature Fest was our first effort to draw in new visitors to learn about the Nature Center and ARNHA's work. Over 1,300 people attended and we collected over 500 email addresses from interested non-members. Those new contacts helped us expand our outreach on weekend programs and our adult lecture series.

The mild winter and increased outreach brought record numbers of people to the Nature Center, especially on weekends. Our average daily visitation doubled and our free programs attracted 50+ people each weekend day. We will build on this progress by offering even more adult and family programs next year.

We initiated new programs to reach out to adults – including a popular evening speaker series with topics ranging from falconry to venomous wildlife.

Our volunteer program continues to grow and is the support structure that keeps the Nature Center open. Last year our volunteers worked the equivalent of seven full time positions, on a variety of ways including administrative support, animal care, habitat management, event assistance, program docents and front desk receptionists.

The state of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center is good. Our goals for next year include providing educational opportunities for middle school students, adjusting our elementary school programs to the new education standards, and continuing to improve the quality of the preserve. Please keep coming to visit – you are ARNHA and this is your nature center.

Paul Tebbel, Executive Director, EYNC

The American River Natural History Association (ARNHA) and the Effie Yeaw Nature Center are dedicated to bringing awareness of the beauty and diversity of the natural world to children, families, and the community through education initiatives that foster appreciation, enjoyment, and stewardship of the unique natural and cultural resources of the Sacramento region.

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2011-2012

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Peggy Kennedy
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PEOPLE WHO SERVED ON THE
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EFFIE YEAW NATURE CENTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Paul Tebbel

Letter from David Wade, ARNHA President

In the past year, ARNHA has made great progress developing the organizational tools to support the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, and to sustain our mission of *Bringing People to Nature...and Nature to People.*

ARNHA is proud to bring new programs, such as NatureFest and the Summer Concert series as well as reinvigorate older programs such as the evening lecture series. We have laid the groundwork for renewed participation in the Nature Bowl and for restoring the graphics in the information kiosks in the American River Parkway. We are reaching out to collaborate with our colleagues to enhance our programs and grow awareness of environmental education throughout the region. We have expanded the scope and content of our web pages as the first step in reaching out to the entire community through new information media. The ARNHA Publications and Media Committee continues to provide outstanding publications with the quarterly "ACORN" and the updated "Biking and Hiking the American River Parkway" (4th Edition) By Robin Donnelly. New video and other media efforts will be released in the near future.

ARNHA has established working committees to provide new programs and enhance the EYNC and nature study area. Internships, and monitoring and research programs in the nature study area have been organized to build on previous work and develop an on-going research database for the nature study area, one of the largest remaining river front habitat areas along the parkway. Plans are underway to evaluate adding a native plant propagation area and plantings in the study area.

Continued strong donor support has sustained ARNHA's ability to operate the EYNC, and to offer broader outreach in fulfillment of our mission. ARNHA continues to develop as a strong organization with broad community support. This year ARNHA has added three new members to the Board of Directors and will be adding two more in the coming year. We will also be engaging Associate Board members to participate in working committees to accomplish even more.

As ARNHA grows and evolves, we reflect on the work of those who have contributed so much through the history of this organization. This year brought the passing of two pioneers, Carol Doersch and Georgia Jones. As we

consider the great contributions of these women who helped so much to create the ARNHA organization we have today, we can envision a bright future for ARNHA and the EYNC.

*David Wade, President,
ARNHA*



Carol Doersch



Georgia Jones

Volunteer Report for Fiscal Year July 2011- June 2012

Once again, our volunteers have surpassed the previous year in their efforts here at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. This last fiscal year, over 230 volunteers kept us open by greeting visitors; leading tours; caring for our resident hawks, owls, snakes, and other critters; working on educational projects; tackling maintenance; installing a new exhibit; doing clerical work; monitoring our trails; helping with Nature Camps; working in habitat restoration and landscaping; assisting with fundraising; planning and hosting special events like our Gala and summer concert series; maintaining our websites; working on ARNHA's publications; general planning and management duties, and more—and that doesn't even count the 200+ volunteers for the Mormons' Helping Hands Day!

Our total volunteer hours topped 15,250, which, according to Independent Sector, a leadership network for nonprofits, is \$368,745 worth of time and service.

This year's special projects included removing the "Bountiful Harvest" exhibit and installing the "Wild About Wetlands" exhibit; planning and hosting the Painting Where the Wild Things Are Art Gala; adding color to the latest edition of *The Outdoor World of the Sacramento Region*; the creation of a new promotional video for the nature center; and the Helping Hands Day which included a variety of projects such as the expansion of the Nature Play Area, re-roofing the mew, and much, much more.

Some of our volunteers have just started out and have already contributed significantly to the well-being and success of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Other volunteers have been here longer and have given us anywhere from 100 to over 9000 hours for the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and ARNHA; their names are listed below.

Jamie Washington, Volunteer Coordinator, EYNC

Without this incredible support from our volunteers, we would not be able to fulfill our mission of "Bringing People to Nature and Nature to People!"

We have 17 active volunteers with over 1000 hours of service:

Paula Baldi
 Marjorie Denhart
 Walter Dong
 Karen Eggen
 Peter Hayes
 Jack Hiehle
 Elaine Hujambojoie
 Claudia Hulbe
 Peggy Kennedy
 Erin Landry
 Nancy Oprsal
 Diana Parker
 Diane Ramsey
 Greg Voelm
 Liz Williamson
 Lee Wilner
 Roberta Wilner

24 active volunteers have served between 500 and 999 hours:

Susie Abbott
 Karinne Bauer
 Noah Baygell
 Kelly Cohen
 Jackie Delu
 Cindy Dunning
 Linda Hoganson
 Hollyn Johnson
 Molly Keller
 Jeff Kemp
 Jennifer Kerr
 Suzanne Krale
 Irene Liong
 Don Mongeau
 Stephanie Monzon
 Deborah Moskovitz
 Gail Philippart
 Margaret Rogers
 Linda Thomas
 Sigrid Trevino
 David Wade
 Larry Washington
 Betsy Weiland

19 active volunteers have served between 250 and 499 hours:

Ron Bachman
 Katie Baygell
 Colleen Draffin
 Beth Etgen
 Marilyn Escobar
 Marilee Flannery
 Cathy George
 Ethan Glass
 Gregg Hutchison
 Joey Johnson
 Fred Kendle
 Ed Littrell
 Bev Lewis
 Lara Maddox
 Lestelle Nichols
 David Peterson
 Brandi Ross
 Carol Thomas
 Lynn White

10 active volunteers have served between 160 and 249 hours:

Susan Bristow
 Sakereh Carter
 Susan Davis
 Rachel Freund
 Sylvia Gude
 Libby Harmor
 Bruce Kennedy
 Mark Nemmers
 Connie Wade
 Nancy Westlund

10 active volunteers have served between 100 and 159 hours:

Bud Banker
 Katy Crosby
 Donna D'Amico
 Rich Draffin
 Steve Flannery
 Carole Girard
 Jenna Grossman
 JoLynn Jarrett
 Phyllis McGrath
 Julie Serences

Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 ARNHA membership grew from 931 to 1110, a 19% increase. Thank you, members!

Face to Face with Nature



From the small child looking into the eyes of a doe for the first time to a senior birder glimpsing a rare species, the American River Natural History Association and the Effie Yeaw Nature Center provide a myriad of opportunities for Sacramento residents to come face to face with, and learn more about, our natural surroundings.

This is appropriate; Effie Yeaw herself put great emphasis on children learning about nature in nature itself.

The magic of learning in nature is still apparent

today. Just this year, two Effie Yeaw Nature Center naturalists, Hannah Barnes and Shawna Protze, were conducting a “Pond and River” class down by the American River. Thirty third-graders were hunting through the water at the river’s edge and examining the wildlife they found. Several of the children were finding (among others) mayfly nymphs... rather undistinguished looking bugs with an amazing life cycle. Hannah continues the story:

Try as I might to explain the unique life cycle of the mayfly, I could tell that the children were skeptical that these strange looking water bugs would eventually change into beautiful flying insects. I tried in every way to impress the beauty and magic of this transformation upon them and I could tell that they were relatively unmoved.

Then one little boy found a gigantic nymph; it was nearly as big as my pinkie finger! He held it out of the water to show his classmates, despite my pleas to keep it submerged. 'It has gills,' I said, 'and can only breathe underwater like a fish. It needs to be back in the water to breathe!' But before the boy could respond to my request, the back of the nymph split open and out crawled a beautiful, bright yellow mayfly, its wings glassy and delicate, its back long and lean. It sat there in the boy's hand, directly next to its exoskeleton -- a perfect demonstration of a metamorphosis!

Initially, there were about 10 children gathered around and each one of them was clearly touched by what they had seen. A light of true understanding and joy came over each one of their faces and then their enthusiasm spread throughout the class.

I am sure none of those children will ever forget the lifecycle of a mayfly or the importance of keeping the river clean so mayflies can begin their life in a healthy environment. It was a truly magic nature moment.

Teachers, parents, grandparents, bring your children to programs at the Nature Center for an experience that will stay with them for a lifetime.

**Effie Yeaw Nature Center
School Year Programs
Classes Held Per School Year**

During 2011-2012, we presented 41% more programs than in the prior year, as schools and teachers came to understand that the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, run by ARNHA, would continue to present award-winning programs and give children a stimulating and memorable education on the natural world, the life sciences, and the cultural history of the Sacramento region.

PROGRAM	2010-11	2011-12
Nature Area Tours	90	93
Aquatic Ecosystems Programs	33	75
Life Science Programs	28	37
California History Programs	5	7
Maidu Cultural Programs	35	58
Others	4	6
Total Number of Classes	195	276
Year to Year Increase		41%



Photo: Kari Bauer
Understanding a snake from beneath clear acrylic sheet

What I Learned at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center...

Last Fall Mrs. Pollacchi’s kindergarten class from Holy Spirit Parish School in Sacramento came to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. After the class, Mrs. Pollacchi wrote to us, sending the students’ homework assignments and saying, “I was amazed at how much the students had learned when I read this homework assignment.”

She had asked her students to tell their parents about three things that they saw, heard, smelled, touched or learned at the Center. Among their memories:

Katie: When the animals get hurt they can’t go back in the wilderness.

Nielson: Animal tracks tell us what kind of animals are in the area.

Zoe: Mugwort keeps bugs away.

Connor: King snakes can eat rattlesnakes.

Cherie: I learned that the papa turkey had a beard.

Jacqueline: I learned that the river flows from the mountains to the ocean.

Natasha: My favorite part was when we were walking.

Bella: Snakes have different designs on them.

Nathaniel: Owls sleep in the daytime and eat mice.

Danika: I heard a woodpecker knocking on a tree.

Libby: I learned that snakes have dry skin made of scales.

Peter: Snakes smell with their tongues.

Mrs. Pollacchi concluded, “I think you will be gratified by their responses. Know that you are making an important difference in the life long learning of your students.”

We are, indeed, very gratified and delighted to be able to help these children take their early steps in learning about the natural world around them.

Report from Media & Publications Committee

The Acorn

The Acorn, our quarterly newsletter edited by **Peggy Kennedy** and **Peter Hayes**, continues to reflect ARNHA's new mission – funding and management of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Articles about the art gala fundraiser, the annual meeting, the dedication of the Jo Smith room at the Assembly building, and the passing of ARNHA co-founder **Carol Doersch** and longtime ARNHA Webmaster **Georgia Jones** shared 2011-12 pages with articles about parkway deer, emergent animal minds, botanical names and beauties of the parkway. Volunteer work parties and fundraisers, natural history articles and illustrations and events and educational programs at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center were also covered. New members and donors were honored in each issue.

Many members of EYNC staff and of the ARNHA Publications Committee, including **Peter Hayes** and **Cathy George**, wrote articles. **Dan Lombard** created layouts for articles and illustrations. **Molly Keller** served as artist. **Kari Bauer** donated her skill as a photographer. All committee members helped proof each issue. **Claudia Hulbe's** labeling crew including **Marjorie Boulton**, **Ida Curtis**, **Peter Hayes**, **JoLynn Jarrett**, **Janice Speth**, **John Speth**, and **Sally Weinland** readied copies for mailing to members.

Committee members continued to inform ARNHA members and other Parkway stakeholders about the natural and cultural features of the Parkway, both electronically and in print.

ARNHA Books

The stunning new 4th edition of *Biking and Hiking the American River Parkway* is selling in prominent local bike shops and bookstores, in the EYNC Discovery Shop, and online at arnha.org. **Peter Hayes** is marketing chair. **Cindy Dunning** keeps inventory records.

The committee moved ahead on production of a new edition of the *Outdoor World of the Sacramento Region*. The new edition will detail 600 species that live in our region. About 250 illustrations are beautifully hand-colored by **Molly Keller**.

Media & Publications Committee

Liz Williamson serves as web master for ARNHA.org and sacnaturecenter.org. Peter the Parkway Coyote continues his Face Book page as written by **Kari Bauer**.

Members of the Media & Publications Committee include **Peggy Kennedy**, **Peter Hayes**, **Molly Keller**, **Claudia Hulbe**, **Kari Bauer**, **Liz Williamson**, **Stephanie Monzon**, **Bruce Kennedy**, **Cathy George**, **Dan Lombard**, **Cindy Dunning**, **Hunter Merritt**, and **Margaret Leavitt**.

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ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Directors
American River Natural History Association
Carmichael, California

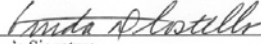
I have compiled the accompanying statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net assets-modified cash basis of American River Natural History Association (a California tax-exempt corporation) for the years ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2011. I have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statement and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statement is in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting and designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement.

My responsibility is to conduct the compilation in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The objective of a compilation is to assist management in presenting financial information in the form of financial statements without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. If the omitted disclosures were included with the statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net assets-modified cash basis, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Organization's results of operations and changes in net assets. Accordingly, this statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net assets-modified cash basis is not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

I am not independent with respect to American River Natural History Association.


Firm's Signature

8/31/2012
Report Date

AMERICAN RIVER NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION
(a Tax-Exempt California Corporation)
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
MODIFIED CASH BASIS
For the Years Ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2011

UNRESTRICTED	Year Ended 6/30/2012	Year Ended 6/30/2011
Public Support & Revenue		
Membership dues & donations	\$ 247,561	\$ 308,563
Program revenue	97,048	89,395
Fundraising revenue	94,690	92,787
Sales of merchandise	36,453	37,712
Other revenue	6,785	16,072
Total Public Support	<u>482,537</u>	<u>544,529</u>
Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Effie Yeaw Nature Center	117,460	75,574
School and fun days programs	169,138	59,397
Other programs	38,428	8,316
Total	<u>325,026</u>	<u>143,287</u>
Support Services		
Management and general	95,104	107,114
Fundraising	81,649	64,773
Cost of goods sold	17,666	20,526
Total	<u>194,419</u>	<u>192,413</u>
Total Expenses	<u>519,445</u>	<u>335,700</u>
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	<u>(36,908)</u>	<u>208,829</u>
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED		
Revenue	45,934	56,692
Expenses	75,770	89,953
Decrease in temporarily restricted net assets	<u>(29,836)</u>	<u>(33,261)</u>
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED		
Revenue	315	135
Expenses	-	-
Increase in permanently restricted net assets	<u>315</u>	<u>135</u>
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	(66,429)	175,703
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>536,361</u>	<u>360,658</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 469,932</u>	<u>\$ 536,361</u>

See Accompanying Accountant's Compilation Report

Many Thanks to Our Generous Donors

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Quality Division
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\$1,000 to \$2,499

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(continued next page)

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