



**Board Members** as of September 2019

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Chuck Halnan
Claudia Hulbe
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# American River Natural History Association

#### **A History**

#### 1955

Effie Yeaw, teacher, conservationist, and environmental educator begins leading nature and cultural walks in this area.

#### 1960

A series of purchases of land along the American River made possible by a grant to Sacramento County Parks helps create the American River Parkway

#### 1972

A bond measure provides funding for an interpretive center

#### 1976

The interpretive center is completed and dedicated to Effie Yeaw

#### 1981

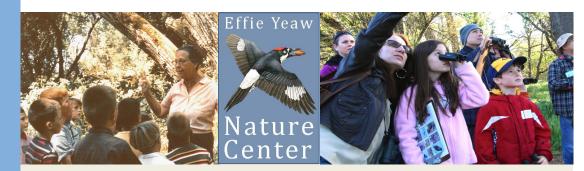
The American River Natural History Association (ARNHA) is established as a nonprofit organization to support Effie Yeaw Nature Center

#### 2010

County funding for day to day operations of the Nature Center ends

#### **Today**

Effie Yeaw Nature Center is run as a non-profit organization under the auspices of ARNHA, and is funded primarily by donors and members.



# Our Mission

To provide educational and interpretive programs and information about the natural environment, principally in the American River Parkway.

# Our Vision

To inspire and educate current and future generations to be informed stewards of the natural environment.

### From ARNHA's President

Another year has passed, and the Effie Yeaw Nature Center continues to provide the highest quality nature education programs in the Sacramento area. Programs provided to schools give children the opportunity to experience many aspects of nature up close, for some, for the first time. This kind of enrichment makes learning so much more fun and stays with students long after the experience.

Camps offer more experiences that connect young people to the natural world where they live. When I walk through the camp area,



especially when parents are picking up their campers, the excitement of the children telling about what they have learned confirms that we are on the right path.

We didn't forget the adults this year. An expanded Nature of Things series gave lifelong learners the opportunity to discover new skills and broaden their ways of being a part of nature. Bird watching, photography, and so much more bring adults closer to nature. Both of our UC Davis Naturalist program offerings sold out again this year.

The planning process for improving our 43 year old facilities continues. Our talented committee is working with other agencies and businesses to put together a vision for the short term and long haul. We have sought a grant from the Lower American River Conservancy for funding to begin in depth planning, which, includes reaching out to our members and the community for input and participation. I have learned that this is a very complex and sometimes lengthy process but will be well worth the effort because it will make our educational and visitor experience so much richer.

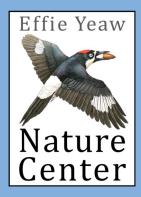
Two members of the board stepped down after giving great service. We thank Dick Laursen and Peggy Kennedy for their service and dedication. In their stead, we welcomed Laurie Weir onto the board and are looking forward to adding Margaret Leavitt and Carye Colangelo for the coming year. This board is so amazing. I am awed by the talent, intelligence and passion for nature and the environment that each board member brings.

And, lastly, this will be my final President's Message. I am stepping down from this position after three years. It has been both challenging and rewarding. I will continue to serve as a board member for the coming year. We are pleased to announce the Sandie Dunn and Laurie Weir will serve as co-presidents. As our board has evolved, the responsibilities and the time commitment of the position have made it advantageous to have two people share the load.

This next year promises to be a dynamic and exciting one. Please join us on this journey.

Sincerely,

Joey Johnson, Board President



Nature Center Staff as of September 2019

Heather Gabel
Interim Executive Director

Kimberly Rider Administrative Manager

Rachael Cowan
Volunteer Coordinator

Jaclyn Teofilo

Development Coordinator

Tova Fleming

Marketing & Communications

Coordinator

Naturalists:

Brena Seck Sara Tabatabai Kristen Angelini Angie Cha Kelly Seck

Brena Seck UC Naturalist Program Lead

Renee Covey
Animal Care Specialist

Jackie DeWeese Animal Care Specialist

Rudy Davis Weekend Receptionist

Janay Sawdon Weekend Receptionist

Caden Williams
Weekend Receptionist

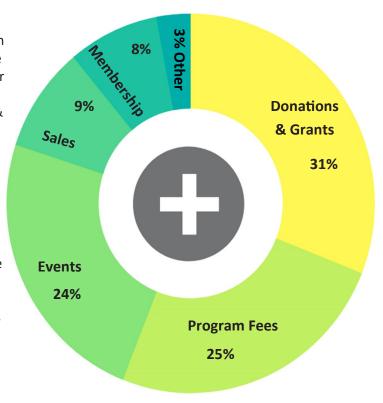
Steven Wolcott
Grounds and Building
Maintenance

# Revenue & Expenses 2018-2019

Revenue: \$746,966

ARNHA saw a solid year of growth in fiscal year 2018-2019. Revenue was up 2% from the previous year and there was a substantial gain in revenue from Spring Art Gala & Auction, NatureFest, and Bird & Breakfast. Each of these events were incredibly successful bringing in one fourth of our revenue, while simultaneously providing an avenue for education and informing our community.

Program Fees and Other Revenue also saw solid increases. Small decreases in membership, donations, and sales will be areas of growth and improvement for ARNHA in the coming year. ARNHA continues to focus on careful planning and future growth of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, which will bolster future revenues.

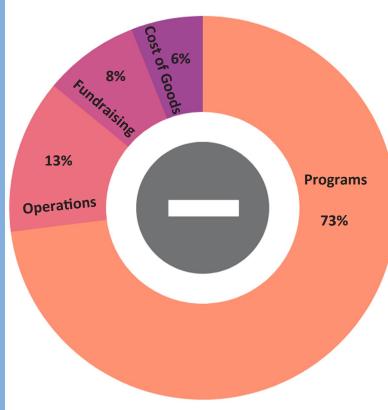


#### Expenses: \$700,811

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, ARNHA experienced a substantial decrease of 7% in expenses over the previous year. This is a great accomplishment and a goal we will continue to strive for. The decreases in expenditures were in operations and fundraising. Closely monitoring funds and applying cost saving measures contributed to this success.

Program costs increased and continue to be the largest category of expense for ARNHA. These expenses allow ARNHA to deliver its mission through the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and include school and weekend programs, as well as the care of our nearly 30 resident Animal Ambassadors.

The 2018-2019 balanced budget approved by ARNHA is reflected in the success of revenues exceeding expenses. The approved budget for 2019-2020 is also a balanced budget and we expect to see continued success in revenues exceeding expenses for the coming year.



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# Resident Animals: Touching Hearts & Minds





### **Animal Ambassadors by the Numbers**



# 29 Resident Animals 38 Staff & Volunteers Provide

Art by What the Owl! is licensed under <u>CC BY-ND 4.0</u>

Our fiscal year ended with the loss of Tango, the Western Tanager. It is always difficult when one of our animal ambassadors passes away. However, in the wake of our sadness an unexpected gift arrived. Visitors began sharing their stories about Tango and the ways he touched their lives.

Peggy shared an image of a painting she created of Tango. Sue shared a favorite video of Tango taking an exuberant bath. One of the most powerful stories came from a frequent visitor and her son. Longtime lovers of nature, Amy and Fenn had never showed an especially strong interest in birds, but Tango changed that. After meeting Tango, they began to sit and watch him on the back porch for extended periods of time, listening to his song, and watching the tilt of his head as he studied them in return. Amy and Fenn would become so enamored with Tango that they took a week long bird language workshop and found themselves searching the trees for more feathered friends.

We are lucky enough to witness the impact of an up-close encounter with one of our animal ambassadors on a regular

basis- the twinkle in the eye of a student as Echo, the Great Horned Owl, emerges from her carrier, the smile of pride as a nervous visitor overcomes their fear and touches one of our snakes, the nod of agreement that wildlife and their habitat deserves to be protected. But hearing how one little songbird created such a legacy is both comforting and inspiring.

2019-2020 promises to bring excitement as we make improvements to several of our enclosures and welcome new animal ambassadors into their forever home. We thank you for supporting these animal ambassadors and their role of connecting our community to the wonderful wild that lives alongside them.



Painting by Peggy Buckner

# Bringing People to Nature...

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER!



# **OVER 1,900 SUPPORTERS**

Members, donors, and volunteers made a big impact in environmental & cultural education in our region!

**42,115 PEOPLE** 

Explored, discovered & learned in the Visitor Center



**16,322 STUDENTS** 

Participated in our school programs. 24.8% of these students were from 48 different underserved schools.

# BENEFITS TO THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY

Education, growth of curiosity, experiences of wonder and solace, inspired stewardship and much more!



Since 1976, Effie Yeaw Nature Center has been a regional center for environmental education. We strive to provide educational opportunities for kids and adults that promote awareness, appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the region's natural and cultural offerings.

Nature Center donors, sponsors, members and volunteers are directly responsible for this ongoing success!





468
programs were provided
for local schools



of the school programs were delivered in classrooms

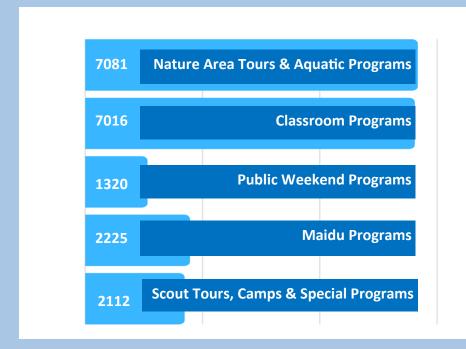


# ... And Nature to People

The Nature Center's Urban Nature Program brings the benefits of environmental education to local low-income schools <u>at no cost to them</u>. These are classrooms that can rarely afford a visit from a naturalist with a live animal or an educational trip away from their school without funding support. Over 4,000 children had the opportunity to touch a snake or see a raptor up-close, and consider the impact of the American River on all of our lives. Grants and individual donor support make it possible for Title I and underserved schools to visit the Nature Center or receive nature programs in their classrooms for free.

# Educational programs provided in 2018-2019

Number of people served by program type



Urban **Nature Program** UNP programs given schools participated students served (approximate)



41 Seasonal Nature Camps

Loved by kids

Appreciated by parents

"Thank you for being so kind and letting us have the quiet walk /t was the greatest adventure / ever had." Maidu program participant

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Photos by Brena Seck

# Sharing Nature's Wonders: Publications

We create and publish books! As part of ARNHA's vision to inspire and educate current and future generations to be informed stewards of the environment, we publish a wide variety of educational books for people of all ages available for purchase online or in the Discovery Shop in the Visitor's Center. You can also find our books for sale in regional stores and bookshops.



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# Sharing Nature's Wonders: Media

#### BLOG

Have you ever wondered about the benefits of Poison Oak? Maybe you're curious about all those little brown birds flitting about in the bushes. The Nature Center's blog answers those questions and more. Blog authors Larry Klink, Certified UC Naturalist and Nature Photographer, and Mary Louise Flint, Docent, Effie Yeaw and Extension Entomologist Emeritus, University of California, Davis, each offer a fascinating new perspective on the region's outdoor world every month!

#### THE ACORN: ARNHA'S QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

This year The Acorn went digital! The move to a digital format is an environmentally -friendly option that conserves resources and helps promote stewardship. Each quarter Nature Center members received a copy of The Acorn that features articles on the natural world, updates on what's been happening at the Nature Center, and upcoming events!

#### WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Effie Yeaw Nature Center runs dynamic Facebook and Instagram accounts where followers can see what's happening on the preserve, learn about what's new in programs, discover upcoming events, and more!



### Our Online Fans. Followers and Subscribers









5.793

1009 followers followers

email subscribers website views

"There are probably several reasons why earthworms come out of their tunnels when it rains and reasons will vary with earthworm species. It was once thought that earthworms emerged primarily to avoid drowning when their burrows fill with water. However, more recent research indicates that common species can survive for several days submerged in water, although extensive waterlogging (and lack of oxygen) can kill them. Scientists now believe that another important reason for the rain-associated activity is dispersal."

Excerpt from Blog "Eek! There are Earthworms in the Grinding Rock" by Mary Louise Flint

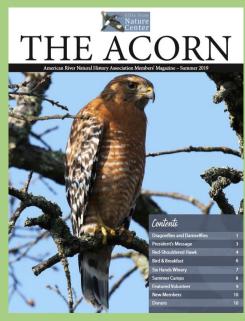


Photo by Mary K Hanson

# Our Volunteers: The Heart of the Center

This last fiscal year, over 235 volunteers kept the Nature Center open by greeting visitors, leading tours, keeping trails clean, working on exhibits, caring for our resident wildlife through daily maintenance, special projects, landscaping and habitat restoration, clerical work and data entry, leading school tours and helping with Nature Camps, assisting with fundraising, planning and hosting special events including our annual Gala and Nature Fest, writing, social media engagement, publishing, and distributing books and our quarterly newsletter, and other activities to support the Nature Center's mission of bringing people to nature and nature to people.

Total volunteer hours topped 15,250 this year! According to the Independent Sector (<a href="http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer-time">http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer-time</a>), volunteer time in California, as of 2019, is valued at \$29.95/hour. At this rate, our volunteers supported EYNC this fiscal year with over \$456,737 – that is almost one million dollars!

# Thank you, each and every volunteer!

### 1.000-5.000+

hours of service

Susie Abbott
Kari Bauer
Noah Baygell
Susan Bristow
Kelly Cohen
Lindsley Cross
Jackie DeLu
Krystin Dozier
Marilyn Escobar
Cathy George
Elaine Hujambojoie
Claudia Hulbe
Gregg Hutchison
Joey Johnson
Molly Keller
Peggy Kennedy
Jennifer Kerr
Dick Laursen
Margaret Leavitt
Bev Lewis
Jean Marcy
Phyllis McGrath
Max McGregor
Don Mongeau
Nancy Opersal
David Peterson
Gail Philippart
Margaret Rogers
Bill Spaller
Larry Washington
Betsy Weiland

# 500-999

hours of service

Jan Ahders Marian Ashe **Bud Banker** Michele Beckwith Marsha Bedwell Susan Davis Colleen Draffin Sandie Dunn Roslyn Eliaser Kevin Hardy Mary Howard Hollyn Johnson **Bruce Kennedy** James Lanier **Bob McCleary** Linda Melching Beryl Michaels Deborah Moskovitz LK "Smokey" Murphy Deborah Newton Lestelle Manley Nichols Karin Richardson Cindy Rogers Melissa Shumate Sigrid Trevino George Wagner Kate Williams Trudy Ziebell

#### 250-499

#### hours of service

Dick Barbar Katie Baygell Denise Booth Bob Brown Susan Brown Jean Burke **Betty Cooper** Jaspreet Dhillon Dave Eckert Marilee Flannery MaryLouise Flint Chris Hulbe Adrianna Kamplain-Bridges Michael Kwong Juliet Davis Porter Felice Risling Joseph Sebastian Susan Solarz Janice Speth John Speth Eileen Spoor Annette Vasquez Lynn White Caden Williams

# 160-249

#### hours of service

Sue Darst
Randy Lewis
Chuck Halnan
Lisa Coronado
Lee Bender
Michael Durant
Rich Draffin
Dennis Link
Kathy Webb
Mark Lum

# 100-159

#### hours of service

John Barney
Angela Cornejo
Fred Fix
Jaden Fong
Samantha Gautreaux
Matthew Gibbs
Anna Guzman
Mary Hanson
Christine Hunter
Melanie Loo
Mark Lum
Rosemary Mayfield
Olivia Sarro
Joni Stein
Paula K. Stewart
Isaac Strauch
Deanna Trieu
Jack Verhage
Ruby Zacharias



Photo by Rachael Cowan



Photo by Kari Baue



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Photo by Rachael Cowan



Photo by Kari Bauer







15,250 hours



\* According to the Independent Sector, as of 2019, volunteer time in California is valued at \$29.95 per hour.



Photo by Rachael Cowan



Photo by Rachael Cowan

# Passionate Donors: Inspiring our Efforts

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Resources

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-Kondos

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Larry Klink Ann Kohl



LDWO, INTERIOR OF THE PARTY OF

#### Red Bud Level (cont.)

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Kelly Allen AmazonSmile

American River Parkway

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American River Raft Rentals

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Ancil Hoffman Golf Course

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Bruce & Anne Anderson

Clifford Anderson Kristen Angelini JoAnn Anglin

Suzanne Apple

Arden Park Garden Club
David & Janet Armstrong

Paige Ashley & Fred Fix

Kathleen Ave B Street theater

. . .

Roger Baccigaluppi

John Bach & Beryl Michaels

Charleen Baker

Devilina Bakhtiari

Sara Baldwin Wendy Baty

Monica Baumbach

Frances Baxter-Guigli & Jim

Guigli Jon Beck

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Photo by Kimberly Rider

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YourCause

Justin Zern





Photo by Kari Bauer

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