



American River Adventure By Electric Car

story, drawings, and photography by William Avery, Ph.D.

Zero-emission vehicles represent a paradigm shift. If you test drive one, you will be amazed at the comfort, safety, exhilarating acceleration, and the freedom from buying gasoline. To demonstrate their potential to help you simultaneously enjoy local recreation and protect nature, I'd like to take you on a little journey to circumnavigate the entire American River Parkway on a single battery charge, carrying canoe and dog, stopping at several places on both sides of the river, without burning a drop of gasoline or oil, or emitting even the slightest puff of CO₂.

I loaded my canoe onto roof racks atop my 100% electric vehicle, and in the spirit of all great adventurers (think Steinbeck with his beloved Charlie), my golden retriever, Daisy, and I headed out!

We were blessed by a beautiful Sacramento day, blue sky and a slight breeze as we crossed over quaint Jibboom Street Bridge into Discovery Park (1) (*see maps, page 5*). On the wide boat ramp, I unloaded the canoe. Daisy and I paddled across the Sacramento River and back as it rocked us gently. The peasoup water of the Sacramento River transitioned abruptly to the clear water of the American. A family, fishing for striped bass from a high point on shore, waved as we passed.

The north bank of the American River was dense with mature cottonwoods, sycamores, walnuts, alder, box elders, and oaks. Canada geese paddled among the snags. A red-eared slider slid off a log. The non-native slider is itself a reminder of climate change because it is displacing the native Western pond turtle - a species more vulnerable to global warming. The gender of these turtles is determined by the temperature of the eggs during incubation. With warmer temperatures more female and fewer males emerge from the nests. The beautiful, cool, clean American River beckoned us to journey upriver, so we rounded back to the boat ramp.

Heading out the north entrance, we saw

the beautiful breadth of Discovery Park shaded by abundant mature sycamores. We stopped at Bushy Lake access near Cal Expo (2) then picked up lunch at a market (3) en route to William B. Pond Recreation Area (4) with its cottonwoods, sycamores, barbecues, and handicapped-accessible fishing and viewing platform overlooking the wildlife-rich Arden Pond. Mallards, Canada geese, and American coots dabbled for aquatic vegetation underwater. A series of trails around the pond offer

see Electric, page 5

Carol Doersch, EYNC Champion

Carol Doersch was fond of quoting an old saying credited to Harry Truman, that "it's amazing what you can accomplish

if you don't care who gets the credit." The American River Natural History Association co-founder, past president, fundraiser, donor, writer, editor, and a key architect in ARNHA's 2010 takeover of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center from the county gracefully practiced what she preached.

Carol, who died of breast and lung cancer at home July 18 at the age of 80, devoted nearly 10,000 hours of service to ARNHA and the nature center. Such service included helping write

see Carol, page 10

Photo by Peter Hayes



President's Message

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ARNHA

American River Natural History Association

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916-489-4918 • www.arnha.org

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Two-Year Transformation

It has been two years now since the American River Natural History Association took the giant leap of faith and committed to become the sole operator of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. From a long-standing support group that provided funding for special programs at EYNC, ARNHA suddenly became an employer responsible for a substantial facility and complex programs. As with any significant transition, we are learning as we go, and the need to sustain funding will always be with us. But it has been a good solid start in the transition from the County to a volunteer-operated program.

I believe that our success is attributable to a handful of factors. First, EYNC is just a fabulous place. The buildings, the displays, the park-like setting under the oaks that provides wonderful space for classes and events, the Nature Study Area, the river, and, of course, the wonderful birds and animals all add to this unique natural jewel in an urban area. Add to that our highly skilled and professional staff that cares for the animals, manages the facility, and operates the programs: the core of the ARNHA mission to bring people to nature and nature to people.

Volunteers Are the Key

But the real key to the success of this adventure is the volunteers who provide so much of their time and passion to make sure that ARNHA and EYNC are not merely surviving, but growing. The work is so diverse and the need is so great, day in and day out, that I am constantly impressed by the individuals who commit to be there, whether it is to care for animals, provide a friendly face at the reception area, lead a nature walk, provide food and services to our events, assist with mailing and other office needs, publish a book, create a video, offer time and talents on the Board or a committee, or do whatever is needed. The power of a volunteer effort such as this should give us all a reason to smile. It demonstrates that even in tough times, or maybe especially in tough times, a group of dedicated individuals can make something really great happen.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Wade". The signature is stylized and cursive.

David Wade

NatureFest Happening October 7

Effie Yeaw Nature Center staff and volunteers have sent out a "come one, come all" invitation to the second annual NatureFest at the center Sunday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlights include a full day of nature-related activities, hands-on opportunities, and Maidu Indian and other demonstrations.

Admission is \$3 for adults, with youth 12 and under free. Parking is free, saving \$5 for non-members of the American River Natural History Association. Proceeds will benefit Effie Yeaw Nature Center Education programs. For further information, call the center at 489-4918.

Additional Webmaster Post for Liz Williamson

Liz Williamson, Third Vice-President and webmaster for Effie Yeaw Nature Center website, SacNatureCenter.net, is the new webmaster for the ARNHA website, arnha.org.

Liz succeeds Georgia Jones, who died April 28 after overseeing arnha.org since 2005, when she first designed the site with the help of web designer Marty Maskall.

Liz also is a member of ARNHA's Personnel and Media/Publications Committees and volunteers at the Nature Center where she assists with animal care and reception.

She retired several years ago as Associate Director of the American Bar Association's Center for Continuing Legal Education. There she managed the budget and produced video, audio, and web-based educational programs for over 30 years.

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, she received an M.A. (Hons.) from the University of Edinburgh. ■

ANNUAL MEETING

ARNHA's Annual Meeting celebration will take place on Wednesday, September 12, at 6 p.m. at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, with, as always, great food and even better company.

Join friends and nature-lovers for the following:

- a welcome reception with refreshments and finger food;
- reports on this year's activities;
- a chance to say thanks to the volunteers who help out at the Center;
- the business meeting; and
- a twilight nature walk.

Betsy Weiland, Jamie Washington, and Liz Williamson are planning the event. If you would like to help out by bringing your favorite finger food or dessert, get in touch with Betsy at 488-3894. ■

Clean Up Coming Up

ARNHA members, friends, and family will have another opportunity to clean up the river area in Ancil Hoffman Park during the Great American River Clean Up on Saturday, September 15, from 9 A.M. until noon. This event will be the second river clean up this year.

On April 21, during the Spring Clean Up, over thirty volunteers picked up litter along the same section of the river. ARNHA volunteers Linda Thomas and Sue Davis greeted volunteers, supplying them with gloves, water, snacks, and bags.

"It's kind of a shame that you have to clean up after other people, but I used to live here when I was little, and I wanted to help out, keep it beautiful for other people to enjoy," mused one volunteer.

Another volunteer brought her whole family, "I always bring my children to the

Nature Center, so we thought we'd come help clean up the area."

"I've been visiting the river for years and years and I want to help keep it pristine," commented another dedicated volunteer.

Participants in September's Clean Up should wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, and a hat. Bring gloves if you have them. Follow the signs to the "River Clean Up" station in the picnic area. Water and snacks will be provided for participants.

The Clean Up, sponsored by the American River Parkway Foundation (ARPF), helps ensure the health of the Parkway by removing trash and debris that might harm wildlife and create hazards for people in the parkway.

For more information, call ARPF at (916) 486-2773. ■

'Helping Hands' Spiff Up EYNC

More than 300 young people from the Carmichael Mormon Stake recorded 1,200 volunteer hours during a "Helping Hands" cleanup in the Effie Yeaw Nature Center Preserve on April 28.

They cleared invasive weeds, roofed an aviary, built a play facility, rebuilt stairs, and removed barbed wire fencing. Volunteers waded into the preserve pond to remove choking duck weed.

ARNHA President David Wade,

who provided moral support along with County Supervisor Susan Peters and State Senator Ted Gaines, said, "They achieved more in a day than we'd hoped to do in five years."

Carmichael Stake President Stephen Taylor said, "Being part of the project sets an example. If our children did only a little, they still knew they helped a big effort. They learn there are responsibilities and opportunities to serve." ■



Photo by Kari Bauer

EYNC Study by CSUS Interns Begins

By Peter Cross

California State University, Sacramento, (CSUS) and ARNHA / EYNC are moving ahead with a renewed Student Internship Program at the EYNC Preserve (nature study area.) Three undergraduate CSUS students have enthusiastically joined the program which, initially, will focus on deer and wild turkey surveys.

The internship project is being coordinated through the ARNHA Preserve Management Committee (PMC). Three Wildlife Biologists are serving as Advisers to the student interns: PMC members Peter Cross and Kelly Cohen, and PMC Staff Liaison and EYNC Executive Director Paul Tebbel.

In the past, CSUS and UC Davis students and faculty have done research at EYNC on bats, small mammals, native bees, the resident Red-tailed Hawk "Tanner," and the Valley Nisena's uses of native plants, according to former EYNC Director Marilee Flannery. One CSUS study focused on possible medicinal effects of native plants on breast cancer cells.

This 2012 internship starts a multi-year project, involving a number of students. The project surveys deer and wild turkey populations within the 77+ acre Preserve (Nature Study Area) plus habitat areas adjacent to the Preserve, for a total survey area of approximately 99+ acres.

The numbers of both animals may be increasing within the Preserve, which poses questions of possible over-population, potentially resulting in Preserve habitat damage and detrimental effects to the health of these animals.

The PMC hopes the results of these surveys will yield data that detect trends and may produce information regarding the need for management of these animals within the Preserve.


Because the Preserve is small in relation to deer and turkey ranges and because these animals move around seasonally, monthly, and even daily, developing a survey technique that yields exact numbers is very difficult. Nevertheless, a survey has been designed that is easy for almost anyone to use and does not require lots of time. Our survey method yields the number of animals seen on one particular day.

The PMC wants to use these numbers to develop an index of the number of deer and turkeys. We won't know exactly how many animals there are on the Preserve, but we will know if the population is up or down compared to the long-term index. This index will have a series of surveys that tracks the population over time.

Since the deer and turkeys are free to roam, great variations in numbers take place. One of our earlier surveys found 39 deer and 39 turkeys, a pretty good number. But we know there can be more at times. We've had a report of almost 60 deer on one particular day. Summer numbers of both species appear to be much lower. This may be due to the drying out of green forage in the summer, forcing some animals to move away until fall. Some deer, however, stay but cross the access road every evening to feed on nearby green vegetation provided by regular irrigation. When things green up in the fall, many of the deer come back.

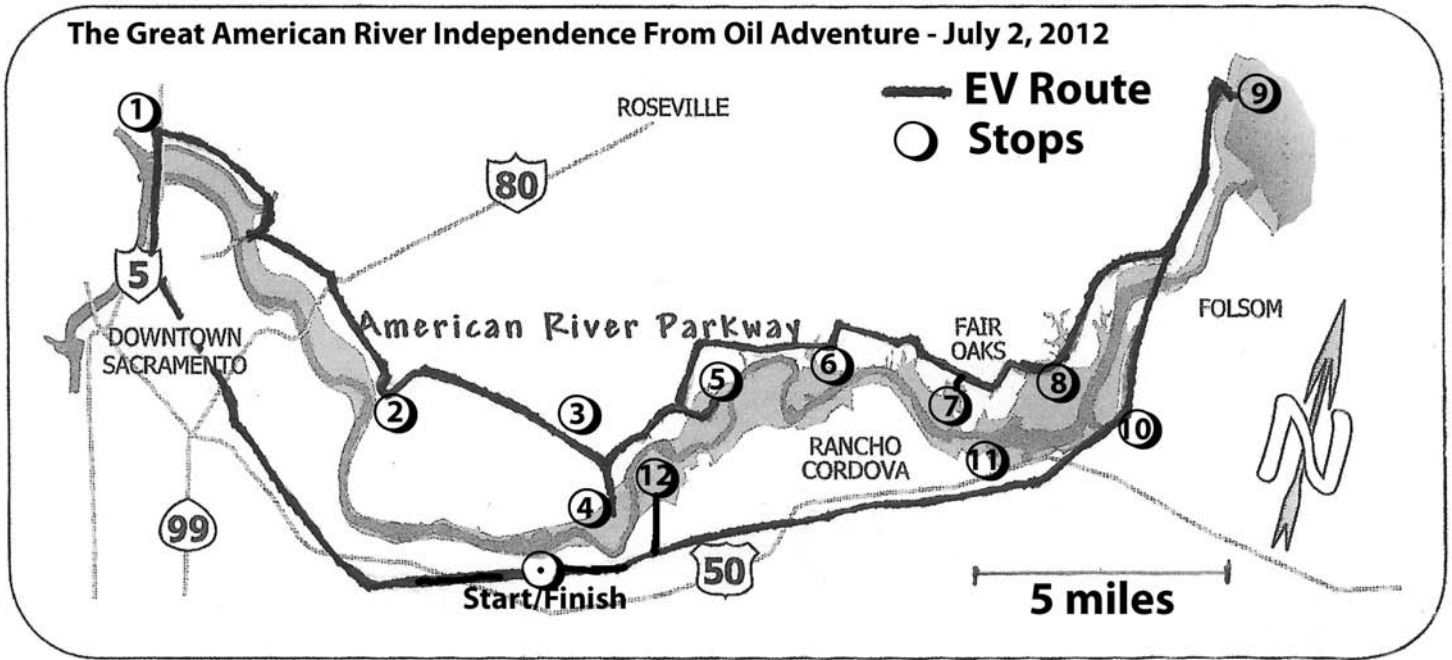
This is a dynamic community of animals, so figuring out what is happening will take time. But it is feasible since we have a well-defined survey area and a survey technique that most anyone, even those with only a little training, can use. The natural world at the Preserve is pretty quiet in summer, but when students come back to CSUS this fall, we'll be able to jump in and start a regular schedule of the surveys. The internship program is good for the Preserve and good for the students. ■

Peter Cross, a wildlife biologist, is a member of the ARNHA Preserve Committee.



ANNUAL MEETING
of the
American River
Natural History Association
Wednesday, September 12, 2012
6 - 9 p.m.
Effie Yeaw Nature Center

Enjoy refreshments while meeting new board members and fellow volunteers.
See the display of ARNHA's books and the revised Parkway map.
Join a naturalist for a twilight walk after the meeting!



great opportunities for even more wildlife viewing. Coyote, mule deer, jackrabbits, otters on the river, wood ducks, common mergansers, and common goldeneyes (in the fall and winter) represent just a few of the regulars. Great blue herons and egrets build platform nests in the tall cottonwoods on the east side.

Next stop was the award-winning Effe Yeaw Nature Center (5) with its resident collection of captivating creatures, interpretive nature trails, Maidu summer village, and resident mule deer and fawns. An interpretive wetland garden with lush emergent rushes, reeds, cattails, and flitting blue dragonflies reminds visitors of the importance of the diverse wetland habitats provided by the American River Parkway. I love watching the dance of newly emerged insects over eddies and backwaters while canoeing in the evening. Climate-sensitive riparian and wetland insects such as dragonflies, damselflies, mayflies, caddis flies, and a host of other species provide essential food for fishes and for most all our resident and migratory

songbirds. I gladly renewed my annual Parkway Pass to support the Parkway.

Then, on to Fair Oaks and Bridge Street with photogenic oaks overlooking Fair Oaks Bluff and the old bridge (6). Back on the road to Winding Way—a

offering unique public opportunities for riding lessons and trail rides on State Park land) at Mississippi Bar. I enjoyed nicker-ing at several horses and petting their soft, bewhiskered muzzles. At Beals Point (9), temperatures were in the 90s. We purchased a State Park day pass, also good



sheer pleasure to drive in the quick, low-center -of-gravity electric car. Dappled light filtered through mature valley oaks and inland live oaks onto this beautiful, winding road. Daisy and I dropped down to view the river at Sailor Bar (7).

We paused at a recreational stable (8);

for Willow Creek and Nimbus Flat. Like dried sponges, we hungrily stopped for a swim and rested in the shade overlooking blue Folsom Lake. Jumbled granite, sunlight dancing on rocks underwater, gentle waves of Mexican music on a

continued next page



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light breeze, families laughing, a snowcone cart rolling by, great-tailed grackles calling, Western grebes diving for fish offshore -- all made up the impressions of this beautiful park.

Over new Lake Natomas Crossing Bridge and down Folsom Blvd, we stopped at the boat launch at lovely Willow Creek (10). Canada geese, kids in red life jackets, and kayakers shared the area around the dock.

Hazel Avenue brought us to picturesque Nimbus Flat (11). We launched the canoe and passed the shipshape CSUS Aquatic Center where the public can take lessons and rent canoes, kayaks, windsurfers, pedal boats, sailboats, and more. Evening approached, with an excellent sailing breeze, as I tied the canoe back on and answered electric-car questions from passersby.

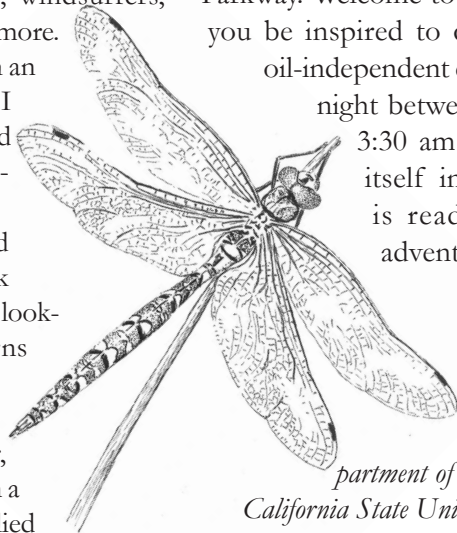
We visited shaded and peaceful River Bend Park (12). Strolling wild turkeys looking for insects and acorns outnumbered people two to one!

This 71 mile, nine-hour, journey visited 12 stops on a single battery charge supplied by SMUD 100%-renewable (Greenery®) electricity. No gasoline, no foreign oil, no contributions to global climate change or ocean acidification were involved. We saved money (\$1.50 for the electricity used vs. \$15 for the gas required by a typical gas car!) and saved the federal government money ("every day, we send more than \$500 million abroad to pay for oil, increasing our national debt" - Sierra Club). Electric cars are safe, available now, and can get you biking, hiking, rafting, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, and horseback riding - all on the American River



All play and no work for Daisy today!

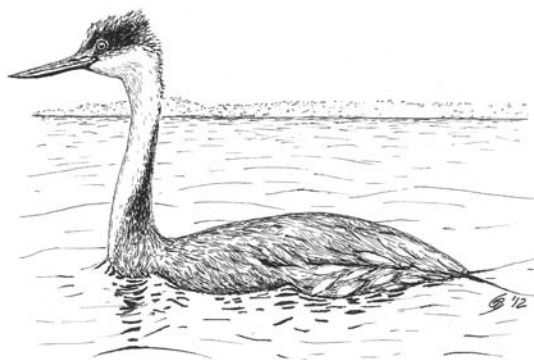
Parkway. Welcome to the future! May you be inspired to create your own oil-independent expeditions. Last night between midnight and 3:30 am my car charged itself in my garage and is ready for the next adventure!



William E. Avery, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, California State University, Sacramento, and a frequent contributor to The Acorn.

For more information:

- sierraclub.org/electric-vehicles
- ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean_vehicles/electric-car-global-warming-emissions-report.pdf



The Electric Car - The New Transportation Choice

by Beth Schwehr and William Avery

The American River Parkway is a jewel of biodiversity within Sacramento, but it is also a vulnerable ecosystem. In the news, we hear about planning for climate changes, as global temperatures rise with increasing CO₂ in the atmosphere. Global climate change has been linked to profound impacts on biodiversity. For example, Christmas bird counts show that 58% of the observed species of birds — 177 of 305 — are shifting ranges northward and migrating sooner due to climate change. This increases their risk of extinction and food web disruption (see Audubon report cited below).

Whether humans are the main cause or not, our actions can either help or worsen the problem. We know that our transportation system emits 30% of the excess CO₂ contributing to the global rise in atmospheric CO₂, so shifting our personal transportation choices is one of the most important things we can do, as individuals, to help. And for the first time, practical options exist to own cars fueled with clean, renewable electricity. Sacramento has one of the cleanest, greenest electricity generation mixes in

see EV page 10

Summer Concert Series a Success

By Cathy George

The 2012 Summer Concert Series at Effie Yeaw Nature Center began in June with a concert by the internationally acclaimed jazz pianist Tammy Hall. Tammy was accompanied by percussionist Michaelle Goerlitz and Sam Bevins on bass. The pleasure of hearing Tammy's soulful jazz tunes resonating through the trees made for an enchanted evening, enhanced by the sights and sounds of the outdoor setting as the deer ambled by and the birds sang.

Tammy played several of her own compositions and Brazilian-based jazz tunes including the works of Tom Jobim. Many of these compositions will be featured on Tammy's upcoming CD "Blue Note." Tammy and her band, who are based in the Bay Area, were honored by the opportunity to perform in such a natural outdoor setting and they enjoyed their visit to the Nature Center, walking the trails, and seeing "Echo," Effie Yeaw Nature Center's great horned owl, and the other birds and animals prior to the concert.

Ricky Berger, a touring folk, pop and jazz singer/songwriter was featured in the second and final concert in the series in July. Ricky displayed her amazing musical abilities on a variety of instruments including the guitar, keyboards, flute, ukulele, glockenspiel, and her vocalization of trumpet sounds. Ricky's performance included the public debut of "The Things I Couldn't See" and a song dedicated to her sister, "Why Be Blue?" She remarked that the Nature Center setting "felt like a real life Disney movie," and this was before the two fawns walked by. She was joined by guitarist Adrian Bourgeois for the latter part of the concert. Concertgoers remarked on her angelic voice and the delightful evening of music at the Nature Center.

Stay informed about events at the Nature Center through the Nature Center website at SacNatureCenter.net. ■

Cathy George is a retired educational researcher who enjoys volunteering at the Nature Center.



The Least Sandpiper migrates to the Arctic in May to nest, returning to Sacramento in July

Ask a Naturalist . . .

Frequently asked question
in the Effie Yeaw Nature Center Preserve.

Q. Asked in the replica Nisenan Maidu village: "Are those tipis (pronounced tee-pees)?"

A. EYNC Lead Naturalist Brena Seck: "No, they are not tipis. The structures in this replica village are called "hy," pronounced "hu," in Nisenan Maidu, or a tule shelter. They are made of a supporting framework of willow poles, lashed in place by strips of bark peeled off of fresh willows. Tules (also called common tules or bulrush) from rivers, creeks, or wetland areas are hung over the willow frame. Tule shelters were used by the Valley Nisenan in temporary villages during the dry summer months mostly for storing belongings and were used for only one dry season.

"In comparison, a "tipi" is a Lakota name for a conical tent traditionally made of wooden poles and animal skins such as American bison (or buffalo) by tribes of the Great Plains. Unlike a tule shelter, tipis were lived-in dwellings and could be moved and reused." ■

EYNC Snapshots

The temperature hit 105 on July 11, and 10-year-old Ian Li, 6 1/2-year-old Nikita, and 8-year-old Anika Rogaski, made the most of it with their lemonade stand outside the back gate of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, netting \$30 early in the day. Though Ian and his family, long-time ARNHA supporters Wendi Knapp and Thanh Li, moved to Aptos several years ago, he returns every summer to attend EYNC Summer Fun Days and sell lemonade and cookies with Nikita and Anika of Carmichael. They planned to donate this year's proceeds to ARNHA and the Wildlife Care Association.



Photo by Kari Bauer.

Gala, Art Auction a Smash Hit!

By Peter Hayes



2010 was a very big year in the life of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. One, the county handed off management of the 34-year-old center to the nonprofit American River Natural History Association. Two, ARNHA, joining with the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, inaugurated a highly successful gala and art auction, netting \$30,000.

One year later, it was a similar story with the "Painting Where the Wild Things Are" extravaganza netting another \$30,000 to help keep the beloved nature center open.

That brings us to the 2012 gala and auction on June 9 and . . . wow! What a difference a year makes! What was clearly ARNHA's most lucrative fundraiser ever, netted a whopping \$45,000, reported Betty Cooper, EYNC development director who chaired the hard-working event planning committee.

"First of all, we are sincerely grateful to our sponsors for this event, they made it possible!" Betty said.

Sponsors were Fred and Betsy Weiland, Ralph and Janice Livingstone, Ted & Melza Barr, Western Health Advantage, Paula Baldi, Randy Getz and Pat Mahony Getz, Dennis and Nancy Marks, David & Maxine Clark in memory of Georgia Jones, Susan Skinner, Inside Publications, sbwdesign, and Lou Heinrich.

"The event would also not have been possible without the partnership of the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, specifically David Peterson who sent out the call to artists and organized the juried show," Betty said.

"There were 140 entries in the show this year, a record, and only about 75 were selected by the judge, Terry Pappas, for

the show and auction. An additional 29 *plein air* (open air) paintings were done the morning of the event in a 'Paint Out' organized by David Peterson and entered in the 'Wet Paint Show and Sale' at the gala. Artists donated 50 percent or more of their sale proceeds to ARNHA-EYNC.

Ninety-six items were auctioned in live and silent auctions including, for the first time, 13 non-art item collections or baskets and one cruise that netted \$2,200. The live auction included the juror's top show selections as well as donated works from celebrity artists Terry Pappas, Greg Kondos and Maria Winkler, and a special collaborative piece by Pat Mahony, Marcy Friedman and Boyd Gavin. The highest bid went for Terry Pappas's "Favorite Spot," sold at \$3,200 to Rick Heron.

Marcy described the genesis of the unusual joint rendering of the American River and parkway that she, Pat, and Boyd produced. "I usually do figure paintings

of people, but Pat suggested I do a plein air painting," she said. "Pat contributed to it, and then Boyd said, 'I want to do it, too!' I'm in love with the parkway; it's a golden asset for Sacramento."

Other contributors to the event's 50 percent revenue hike included the 350 people (compared to 236 last year) who attended the sold-out gala at \$40 per person. Terri Friedman of Carmichael offered a typical reaction to the evening, saying, "What a wonderful melding of nature, food, and art for a good cause this is!"

The event was beautifully catered by Spoons Encore; beverages were donated by New Belgium Brewing Company and Beyond Napa Wine Merchants. Complimentary valet parking was provided by ENC Valet. Music was provided by Lisa Phenix and Michael Threadgall, Jr.

Auctioneer David Stone did an outstanding job entertaining members of the audience and cajoling them to purchase the art. ("You just bought the frame, and you get the painting free," he congratulated one successful bidder.)

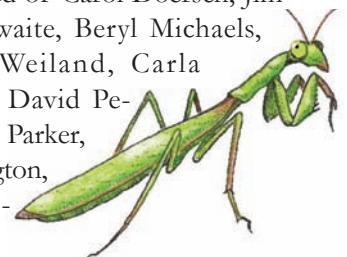
In the Raise the Paddle event, EYNC Executive Director Paul Tebbel encouraged gala patrons to make, in addition to the auction, almost \$7,000 in donations for ARNHA's Urban Nature Project. He talked about how it provides free science enrichment programs and bus transportation to the Nature Center for classrooms of low-income or special needs students.

Thirty-seven volunteers assisted during the event and many more helped clean, landscape, and set up before the event. In addition to Betty, the gala planning committee consisted of Carol Doersch, Jim Crosthwaite, Beryl Michaels, Betsy Weiland, Carla Nabity, David Pe-

terson, Diana Parker, Jamie Washington, Peggy Kennedy, LaRue



Fine Arts Center's David Peterson was a Gala/Auction hero, recruiting painters and organizing juried show and plein air "Paint Out." Photo by Kari Bauer.



Carnes, Liz Williamson, Molly Keller, Noah Baygell, Paul Tebbel, and Susan Bernard Webb. ■

Peter Hayes is co-chair of ARNHA's Publications Committee. A career journalist, he is author of THE AMERICAN RIVER ALMANAC and AN AMERICAN RIVER JOURNAL and editor of several ARNHA publications. In 2009, he was named county parks Outstanding Volunteer by the County Board of Supervisors.

Successful bidder Rick Heron of Western Health Advantage is joined by artist Imi Lehmbrock-Hirschinger of Loomis, who created this "Best-in-Show" mixed media painting of American River for June 9 Gala/ Auction. Nate, 7, and William, 9, assist dad. Artist went up in a plane to capture images for this synthesis of realism and abstraction.



Photo by Kari Bauer

Donations April-June 2012

- Susie & George Abbott
- Ronald Anderson
- Nate Atkins
- Ron & Iris Bachman
- Carolyn Bahl
- Dick Barber & Sandie Dunn
- Matthew & Patricia Baskin
- Dr. Lawrence & Mrs. Carol Bass
- Karinne Bauer
- Frances Baxter-Guigli
- Noah & Katie Baygell
- Jon Beck
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- Margaret & Thomas Blankenship
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- Sylvia & Douglas Enoch
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- Linda Hax
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- Julie Heskett
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- Debbie Kenngott
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- Lisa Lawson
- Margorie & Les Lehr
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- Judy Murray
- Marc & Marta Narlesky
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- Sarah Nichols
- Kim Pacini-Hauch
- Betsy Pawlowich
- PEO Sisterhood
- Carmen Pereira
- Anita Prieto & Jose Cueto
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- Ruth Rezos
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- Warren & Mary Truitt
- Alta & Del Tura
- Kimberly & Samuel Turnipseed
- Simon & Alberta Van Der Mik
- David Wade
- Frank Wallace
- Ella Warloe
- Jamie & Larry Washington
- Sally Weinland
- Rachel Weinreb
- Western Health Advantage
- Rebecca Whitehead
- Barbara & Ken Wiesner
- Mary Wilkinson
- Peter & Susan Williamson
- Ruth Younger

EV from page 6

the U.S. Choosing an electric car that can be charged during off-peak nighttime hours actually helps the utilities balance the daytime peak loads (which dictate their capacity requirements).

And there are zero emissions from electric cars during driving, which means no toxic pollutants being spewed in the path of bicyclists, joggers, and wildlife on our lovely Parkway. Electric cars move us toward a future that protects our climate and our biodiversity, compared to the status quo of petroleum production and gasoline cars, which continue to increase CO₂ (and its associated problems like ocean acidification and climate disruption) and other pollutant emissions (linked to emphysema and asthma), and strain the federal economy through oil deficits and military spending.

Those who already have one of these paradigm-shifting electric vehicles enjoy the amazing capabilities and environmental benefits of driving electric vehicles (EVs). New models continue to appear, and we are learning to factor in the lifetime cost savings of not buying gasoline when calculating a purchase. Arguments about “range anxiety” are falling away as local EV drivers log hundreds of thousands of their commute and trip miles on electric powered cars.

This newsletter’s lead article illustrates the ease of using a single battery charge in a single day, to circumnavigate the entire American River Parkway, visiting and canoeing along the way. We all have the potential to make transportation choices that are practical *now* and that make a crucial contribution to enhancing our environmental future.

Beth Schwehr works in the field of air pollution, and has graduate degrees from UC Berkeley in chemistry and in energy and resources. She is a long-time ARNHA supporter and participant in the Wildlife Count and river cleanups.

web4.audubon.org/news/pressroom/bacc/pdfs/Birds%20and%20Climate%20Report.pdf.



The new 4th edition of Biking and Hiking the American River Parkway is available at the Discovery Shop inside the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, and selected local bookstores, for \$14.95.

also available at www.arnha.org

Carol, from page 1

and edit several ARNHA natural history publications, fundraising for EYNC for such projects as the replica Nisenan Maidu village, and playing a leading role in launching the annual “Painting Where the Wild Things Are” Gala and Art Auction in 2010.

After learning of Carol’s passing, EYNC Executive Director Paul Tebbell said, “I just walked through the preserve, reflecting on how much Carol did to make this place and all that it offers successful. We were blessed to have her as a friend, a leader, a mentor and, in many ways, our guiding light.”

Perhaps Carol’s most significant contribution was her role in ARNHA’s response when the deficit-ridden county announced that it would no longer fund the nature center and invited ARNHA and three other non-profits to submit proposals to take it over. With only three weeks notice, ARNHA alone submitted a bid, a 35-page document packed with details of ARNHA’s 29 years of financial and volunteer support prepared by Carol and past president Greg Voelm. Success was assured following a crucial meeting by Carol, Greg, and former County Supervisor Sandy Smoley with interim county executive Steve Szalay.

A year later, at the ARNHA annual meeting at which the “Carol Doersch Courtyard” between the main EYNC and Assembly buildings was dedicated, Greg, serving as master of ceremonies, told the assemblage, “If it wasn’t for Carol’s work, we wouldn’t be sitting here today!”

EYNC Development Director Betty Cooper affirmed that Carol was an “excellent fundraiser” because she was a

greatly respected person involved with many fine organizations in the Sacramento area. “She inspired people with her determination to see the Nature Center succeed, which she had done since 1981 as a founding member of ARNHA,” Betty said.

“Carol’s grace, intelligence, philanthropy, and good humor earned her so much love and respect in the community that Muriel Johnson and Carol’s daughter Ann and son, Todd were able to raise over \$15,000 for the completion and ongoing maintenance of the Carol Doersch courtyard.”

Carol served as president of ARNHA in 1985-86 and the County Board of Supervisors named her Parks Volunteer of the Year in 1986 and again in 2008.

Besides her yeoman service to ARNHA and EYNC, Carol was an active volunteer over the years for the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Sacramento Pioneer Association, and Sacramento - El Dorado Medical Society Auxilliary.

The great granddaughter of California pioneers, the Sacramento native leaves daughter Ann Doersch of Carmichael and son Todd Doersch of Chicago; daughters-in-law Stephanie Monzon and Ute Doersch; sister Susan Chambers of Ashland, Virginia; grandchildren Paul Doersch and Krista Doersch; and many dear friends. She was predeceased by her husband of 56 years, Kemp B. Doersch, M.D., Sacramento general surgeon. ■



**Art Gala
Silent
Auction
Non-Art
Donors**



For the first time, the ARNHA Gala/ Art Auction presented a non-art silent auction at the June 9 event, netting \$2,200. We offer our deepest gratitude to the following donors:

Aerospace Museum, American River Raft Rentals, Ancil Hoffman Golf Course (Empire Golf), Arthur Murray Dance Studios, B Street Theatre, Bel Air Market Arden & Eastern, Cafe Saraformia, Cafe Vinoteca, California Academy of Sciences, California Musical Theater, California Railroad Museum.

Campus Commons Golf Course, Capital Nursery, Capital Tax Service, Carmichael Cycles, Carvahlo Winery, Cindy Dunning, Crocker Art Museum, David Girard Vineyards, Dos Coyotes, Eleakis & Elder Photography, Emigh Hardware, Evangeline's, Fairytale Town, Firestone Walker Brewing Co., Fly Fishing Specialties, Gekkelikan Sake.

Green Acres Nursery & Supply, Hearst Castle, Hoppy Brewing Co., Infection Raceway, In-N-Out Burgers, Jackson Rancheria Casino & Hotel, Kathleen's World of Travel, Little River Inn, Massage Envy, The Melting Pot Restaurant, Merryhill Eastern Preschool, Morro Dunes RV Park, Natomas Bike Shop, Orietta, Paragaray Restaurant Group.

Pavillion Car Care, Petsmart Sacramento, Practical Cycle, Puddles Children's Shoppe, Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra, Sacramento Zoo, Sky High Sports, Soil Born Farms, Sports Authority, The Travel Store, Todd Taylor Wines, Linda Melching, Whole Foods Market, Wild Birds & Gardens, Wild Birds Unlimited.



The **Hoary Bat** migrates to the coastal area south of San Francisco come fall

River run

There are two ways to sense the dimensions of the American River as it winds through the capital city and environs. One way is to pick a spot on the bank amid the willows and cottonwoods and watch the product of Sierra snowfields go by enroute to the Sacramento River and, eventually, the Pacific Ocean.

That is the role of the spectator and it is a pleasant experience indeed. But more involved is the participant who, with the help of inflated rubber raft, canoe, kayak, or inner tube, can become a part of the final run of the famous golden river.

For the participant, the American is a river of many moods on its 23-mile sweep to Discovery park. Released from Folsom Dam, Lake Natoma, and, finally, Nimbus Dam, the American moves past green galleries on either shore, picking up speed as it splits to race by on either side of a gravel bar.

Slowing its tempo, the river spreads out and meanders past a rocky shore of gold dredge tailings where a lone killdeer steps carefully and utters the shrill call from which it gets its name.

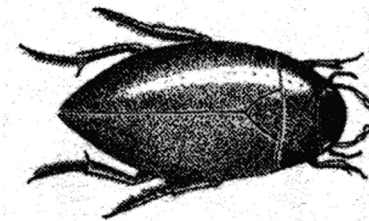
Sometimes the river flattens out so the unwary traveler's craft misses the main channel and scrapes bottom for a few moments before the river-runner pushes off into deep water.

Past the high cliffs dotted with holes made by home-building swallows, the river runners are paced by a belted kingfisher sounding its rattling cry as it dives for fish. Overhead an acorn woodpecker with flashes of white and dark wings shuttles back and forth across the river from tree-top to tree-top.

Now there is an insistently steady roar. Up ahead the river seems bumpier than usual, then there is a flash of white water signaling the San Juan Rapids. Soon the life-jacketed traveler is into the rapids, into water sliding glassy-smooth over slanting granite slabs, pitching downward and outward, a moment of no control, swirled toward the shore.

The downriver journey resumes placidly, the traveler accompanied by many-colored dragonflies and tiger swallowtail butterflies, past shore greenery, propelled by the unseen force, one with the river.

From an "American River Journal," published by ARNHA. It features drawings by ARNHA co-founder Jo Glasson Smith and nature essays by Peter Hayes, retired newspaper editor and ARNHA associate board member. The book is available for \$9.75 at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, ARNHA.org and selected stores. Visit ARNHA.org "Podcasts" to hear readings of the essays by the author.



Water scavenger beetle



ARNHA Calendar of Events

- **ARNHA Annual Meeting**
Wednesday, September 12, 6 pm to dusk
Effie Yeaw Nature Center (see story page 3)
- **Great American River Clean-up**
Saturday, September 15, 9 am to noon
Ancil Hoffman Park (see story page 4)
- **NatureFest**
Sunday, October 7, 10 am to 3 pm
Effie Yeaw Nature Center (see story page 2)
- **Weekend Events at Effie Yeaw Nature Center**
Every Saturday at 10:30 am
Every Sunday at 1:30 pm
See arnha.org for more information

New Members

- Judy Lynn Baker
- Marcie Amparo
- Kathleen Benabides
- Tom Benso
- Victor Binsacca
- Hilde Bly
- Erica Booth
- Christopher & Emily Browne
- Dennis & Meg Bryerton
- Kate Burns
- Ethelwynne & Edric Cane
- Tim Cardoza
- Shannon Carlsen
- Alice Carney
- Glen & Yuko Carson
- Scott Causley
- Sheena & James Chand
- David & Julie Chriss
- Catherine Christo
- Oanh Clark
- Melissa Cofer
- Jan & Gayle Conroy
- Jennie Corey
- Louie Correa Jr.
- Marianna Dapello
- Linda Daugherty
- Dawn Dayce
- The Dias Family
- Mark Dinubilo
- Anna Dohnke
- Mike Donovan
- Judith Downs
- Mary Dubose
- Ben & Kate Eckhart
- David Edgar
- Bernice Espinoza
- Samantha Forcina
- Tania & Dan Fowler
- Margaret Friedman
- Suzanne Gibbons-Donnelly
- Emily Giza
- Robert & Christine Gold
- Susan Goldstone
- June Green
- Victoriya Greenberg
- Andrea Grover
- Melinda Guyol
- Harold Harrington
- Sharon Helmer
- Lori Hockemeyer
- C L Hodges
- Christine Hunter
- Susie Hurst
- Azita Ichel
- Diane Jankauskas
- Liz Jye
- William Kahren
- Kathy Kayner
- Annie Kempees
- Jacklyn Krantz
- Michelle & Wallace Lavery
- Matt & Laura Legrand
- Jessica Lewis
- Jinx M. Liberato
- Jack Love
- Ruth Maloney
- Jean Manzella
- Arthur & Meg Mark
- Dennis & Nancy Marks
- Linda Maurer
- Danielle McCarthy
- Amber McGee
- Darlynn Meguiar
- Jeri Merritt
- Jennifer Molina-Stidger
- Bruce Monighan
- Shannon Mooney
- Cindy Moreno
- Hillary Munson
- Violet Nye
- Sallee O'Brien
- Elaine O'Connell
- Julie O'Donnell
- Glenn & Devon Olson
- Kim Pacini-Hauch
- Ruth Pagano
- Ana Peralta
- Melissa Pierce
- Micheline Pope
- Nancy Price
- Collin & Lillian Rammelkamp
- Eileen Rollinson
- Katie Rozental
- Jennifer Rozumowicz
- Robert Rygg
- Kathryn Sale
- Ann Margaret Skarda
- Melissa Steinman
- MariJoyce Stenger
- Pat & Pam Stewart
- Elizabeth Stewart
- Patricia Stock
- Janet Tebbel
- Erica Tendall
- Estelle Tensey
- Jennifer Teodoro-Tristan
- Chris Tooker
- Paul Towne
- Lisa Velazquez
- Jay Verhaag
- Levi Vigna
- Steve & Nina Vilter
- Renee Walker
- The Wilder Family
- Lisa & Terry Wilson
- Stephanie Wiman
- Elaine Yeates
- Lindsey Zacharias