

Rancho del Oso

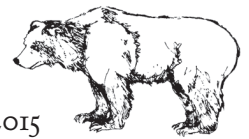
Nature and History Center

News



Volume 30/2

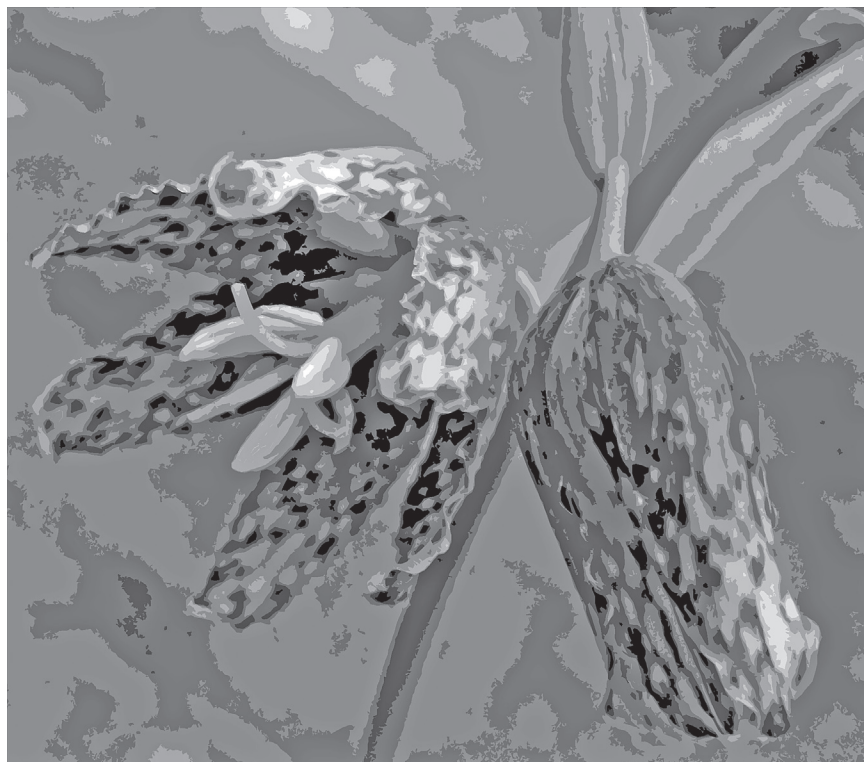
April-June 2015



Celebrate Spring at the Wildflower Festival!

Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26 • 11 am to 4 pm • Nature Center

Spring is coming to the Waddell Valley! Each year a unique variety of colorful flowers appear, in all sorts of forms to delight our senses. Come and see what's blooming this weekend at Rancho del Oso.



View flowers on display at the Nature and History Center and visit them on the park's trails with displays featuring 50 or more native and non-native species, labeled and grouped by habitat. There will be kid-friendly activities as well! Naturalist led wildflower walks at 11:00 AM and 1:30 PM on Saturday and Sunday that will enable you to see the blooms in their natural setting while learning about their unique features.

 Come visit the Nature and History Center 

Open Saturday-Sunday, 12 noon to 4 pm

Check us out on the Web and join us on Facebook!

www.ranchodeloso.org and www.facebook.com/RDOSP



Memorial Day Interpretive Hike

with **Jeremy Lin**

Monday, May 25 ☛ 1 pm

Celebrate Memorial Day with Rancho del Oso naturalist **Jeremy Lin** in a stimulating and educational hike through the diverse ecosystems of Waddell Valley.

Expect to explore the iconic Monterey Pine forest, marsh habitats, and beach communities on a four mile jaunt with frequent stops to observe and discuss the natural history of our beautiful coast. Bring plenty of water and your curiosity!

This hike will be a couple of hours and start at Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.

Nature Wandering

with **Ann Garside** ☛ **Sundays, April 12** ☛ **May 10** ☛ **June 14** ☛ 1 pm

Find out what's growing, living and blooming right now in the Waddell Valley on this approximately one mile, one-hour-plus guided walk with docent naturalist **Ann Garside**.

Information will be shared about the plants and habitats of Rancho del Oso, as we mosey from coastal scrub through one of the remaining five distinct populations of Monterey Pine left in the world. Show up with curiosity and energy. Hikes start at the Nature Center.



Join the Waddell Creek Association!

Name _____

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City, State, Zip _____

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Membership categories; please check one:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$100 |
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Please cut out and mail this form
with your check, payable to:

Waddell Creek Association
c/o Jesse Bregman
519 Van Ness Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

President's Report

The big news in my last report was that State Parks is planning to rebuild the viewing platform at Berry Creek Falls, and asked us to contribute \$5,000 toward the estimated \$15,000 cost for materials. The even bigger news this time is Board Member Lea Haratani asked Big Creek Lumber Company if they would donate the equivalent of our \$5,000 in lumber, and they generously agreed!

Big Creek Lumber—and the **McCrarys** in particular—have been strong and steadfast supporters of the Waddell Creek Association from its inception, and we are truly grateful. Once the platform is assembled, we plan to publicize the gift as widely as possible.

The other exciting new development is that State Parks has hired a new Interpretive Specialist, **Jeremy Lin**, for Rancho del Oso. Jeremy studied natural history and environmental conservation at UCSC and has since worked as a naturalist teacher and trail crew member in various wilderness areas and National Parks. He spends his free time biking and surfing around Santa Cruz so is familiar with the area, and is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with us in interpreting the Waddell Valley.

Our Board is very grateful for the guidance to our Association from Supervising State Parks Ranger Terry Kiser. As the State Parks' Cooperating Association Liaison (CAL), he guided us during the course of big changes including the total renovation of our facilities. The new CAL is Ziad Bawarshi, State Parks Ranger, who resides next to the Nature and History Center.

—Walt Hays

Wildflower Hikes

with Scott Peden

Saturdays, April 11 • May 9 • May 23 • June 13 • 10 am

Docent and native plant specialist **Scott Peden** will lead an approximately four mile hike to view a variety of blooming flora. Photographers are easily accommodated. Take your time among the wildflowers of Rancho del Oso's Waddell Valley, and join us for the entire hike or a portion. Bring lunch, water and spirited fervor! Hikes begin at the Rancho del Oso gate located across Highway 1 from the Waddell Beach parking lot.



Our Mission

The Waddell Creek Association, in cooperation with California State Parks, works to educate and inspire public appreciation and stewardship of the extraordinary natural and cultural resources of the Waddell Valley, by providing resources and support for volunteer and educational programs at Rancho del Oso/Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Your membership helps us achieve these goals.



Waddell Creek Association

3600 Highway 1
Davenport, CA 95017

Return Service Requested

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Rancho del Oso — Coastal Section of Big Basin Redwoods State Park

The Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center is open to the general public.

The Center is located 2 miles south of Año Nuevo (or 16 miles north of Santa Cruz) just off Highway 1.

Turn at the first road south of the Waddell Creek bridge and follow the signs. Extreme weather may cancel events; please call ahead.

For more information or to register for events, call 831 427-2288 or email parksr dopis@parks.ca.gov.

Go Green!

If you would like to go paperless, please send your full name and email to judybugg46@yahoo.com.

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