

Rancho del Oso

Nature and History Center

News

October–December 2017



Volume 32/4

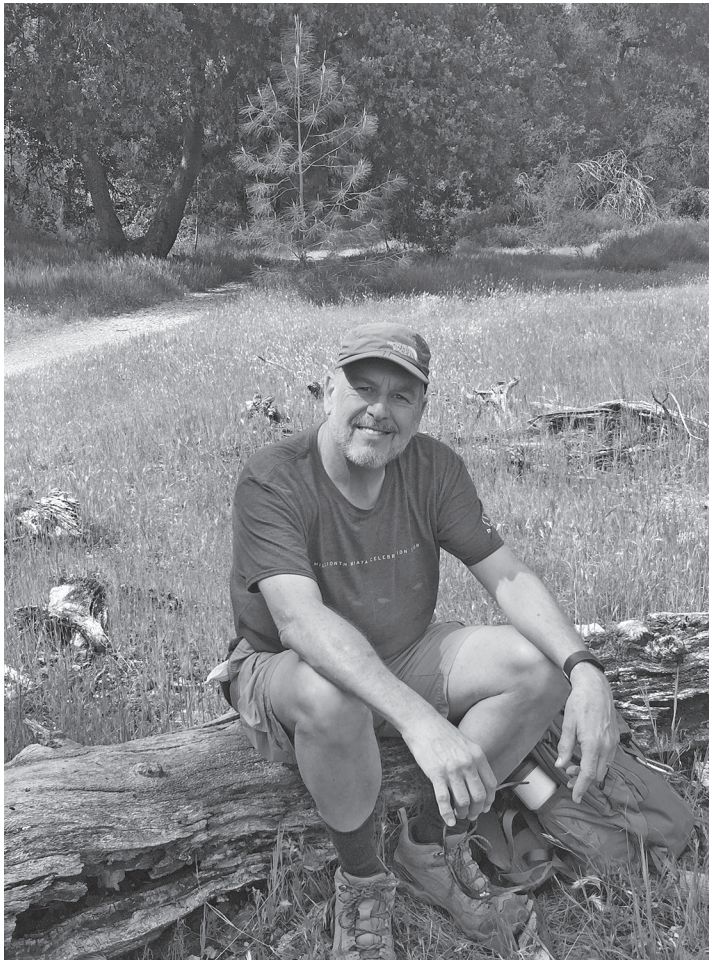


When Species Collide!

Saturdays, October 21 • November 18 • December 16 • 10 am

How did Rancho del Oso become the park it is today? Who are the plants and animals that live here? Why are they here? How did humans influence the natural history of the Waddell Valley?

Join Rancho del Oso docent **Ken Koll** for a hike on the beautiful Skyline-to-Sea Bypass Trail. Along the way, we will pass through the varied habitats of the Waddell Valley, and explore topics like natives vs. non-native invasives, and adaptations.



We will start our hike at the Rancho del Oso entrance gate (yellow gate on the inland side of Highway 1, across from the Waddell Beach parking lot). The hike will be approximately four miles. Bring water, snacks if you wish, and wear sturdy footwear. Don't forget your curiosity and inner-naturalist. It will be a great day!



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



Wildflower and Nature Hike of Waddell Valley

Fridays, October 13 ❖ November 10 ❖ December 8 ❖ 10 am

Join docent botanist **Bryce Stauble** and learn to identify many of Waddell Valley's plants within Rancho del Oso's seven diverse habitats. Observe the monthly change of the ecosystems. Each walk is unique as blooming flowers and pollinators are constantly in flux! This walk takes a leisurely pace and is great for learning the native habitats. Bring lunch, questions and curiosity! **Hike will begin at the yellow gate across from the Waddell Beach parking lot.**

Nature Wander

Sundays, October 8 ❖ November 12 ❖ December 10 ❖ 1 pm

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

Ann will share information about the plants and habitats of Rancho del Oso, as the group walks from coastal scrub through one of the remaining five distinct populations of Monterey Pine left in the world. Hike starts at the Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.

Snake Park Saturday

October 14 ❖ 2 pm

Why are snakes important to us? How do they see, smell, taste, hear? What and how do they eat? What does a snake feel like? Several snakes will be on display and native reptile adaptations will be discussed in the beautiful backdrop of Waddell Valley. We will meet up at the Ranger Station, a short hike in from the yellow gate across the parking lot at Waddell Beach on Highway 1.

Join the Waddell Creek Association!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Membership categories; please check one:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$100 |
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Please cut out and mail this form with your check, payable to:

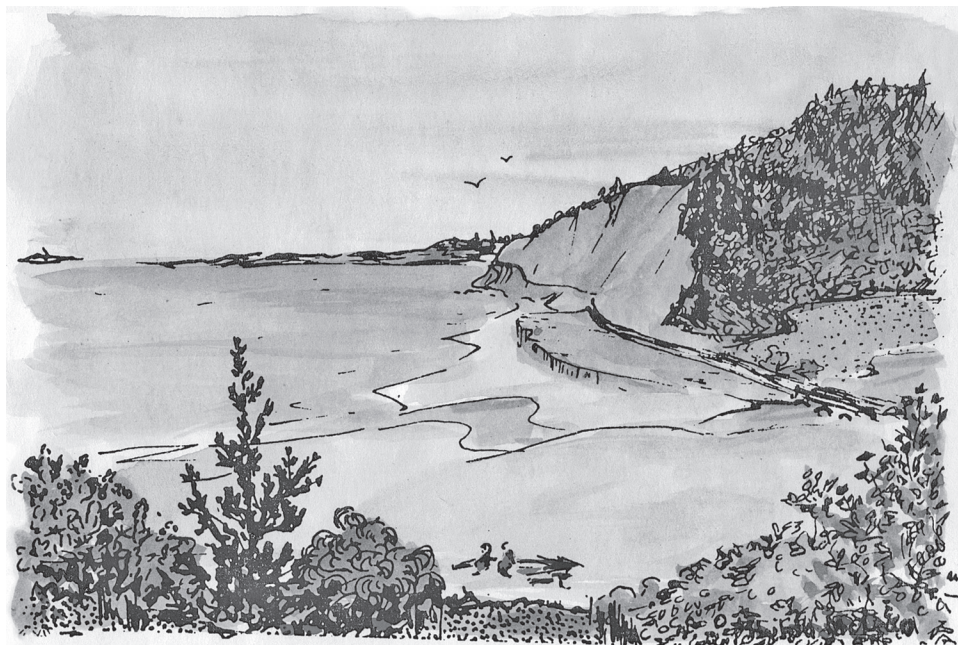
**Waddell Creek Association
c/o Connie Adams
200 Madrona Road
Felton, CA 95018**

☪ New President's Report ☪

There are many things that bring us happiness this fall!

The most significant is Jeremy Lin's permanent status as a State Park employee. This creates continuity for Rancho del Oso. It enables Jeremy to achieve complex goals; such as the successful Volunteer Wilderness Patrol Program, where citizens learn how to keep our park clean, functional, and safe. Jeremy will also be working on a botanical web site of the plants in our park, and strengthening the California State Parks Backpacking Adventures (CASPBA) program. It takes adults and young adults into the wilderness and teaches them natural history, science, backpacking techniques, and how to live in-tune with nature. No wonder that the State Parks are trying to implement these programs state-wide—truly appreciating and establishing a relationship with nature can change a person's life.

As we move towards fall, we have to say goodbye to Rancho del Oso's great advocate and leader **Walter Hays**, who is busy creating a new home for his wife Kay and himself. Words cannot express how much we will miss him, but we are grateful for his decades of service as our beloved President.—*Lea Haratani*



Birding for Beginners in Waddell Valley

Saturdays, October 14 ☪ November 11 ☪ December 9 ☪ 8 am

Join Interpretive Specialist **Jeremy Lin**, for an approximate two mile hike to observe, listen, and enjoy morning wildlife at Rancho del Oso. We will take our time and explore the beautiful coastal valley. No previous experience necessary. It is helpful to bring binoculars, bird guides and a readiness for patient observation as we witness wildlife awakening on a crisp fall morning in Waddell Valley. We will meet at the deck in front of the Nature Center.



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 jeremy.lin@parks.ca.gov.

Go Green!

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

Rancho del Oso News is published quarterly by the Waddell Creek Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Editor: Judy Buck. **Writers:** Lea Haratani, Jeremy Lin. **Photograph:** Ken Koll.

Production: Linda Brodman.



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.