

# Rancho del Oso

Nature and History Center

News

January–March 2018



Volume 33/1

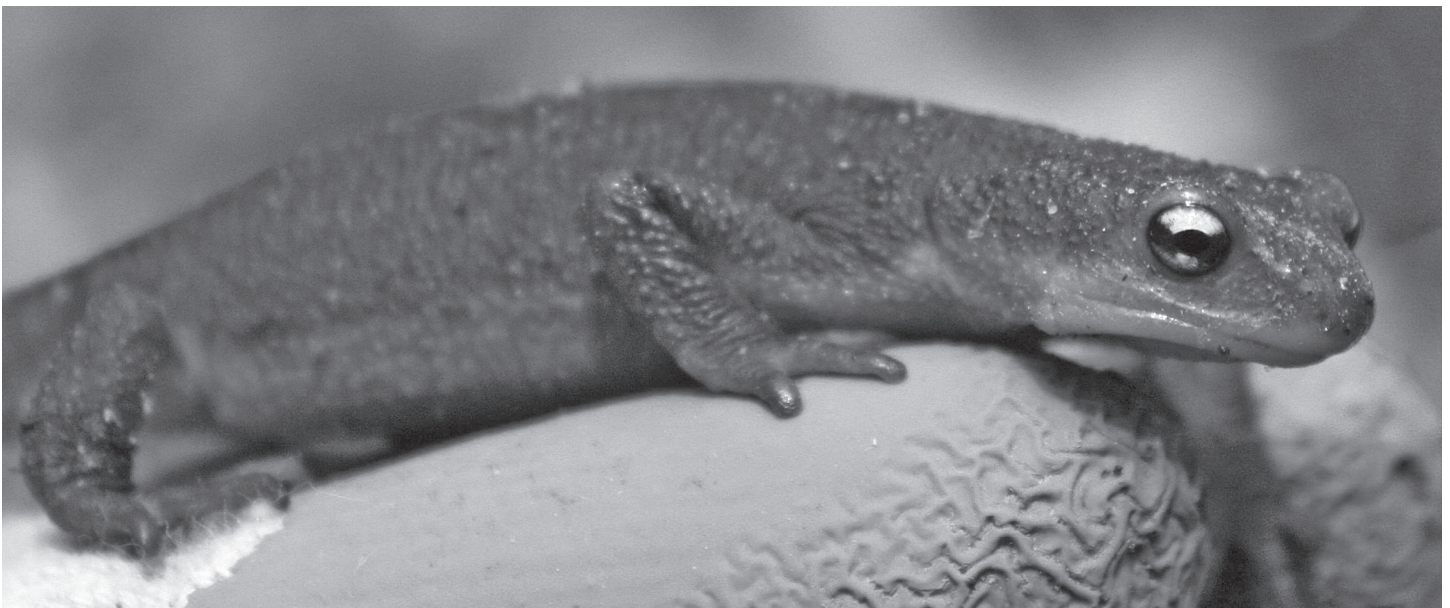


## Salamander Saturday!

**Saturday, March 3 • 12 noon to 4 pm • Nature Center**

Join us for our annual celebration honoring the often overlooked, but heroically well-adapted amphibians native to the Santa Cruz Mountains and other moist habitats. Live amphibians will be on display for viewing, with all-age crafts, and activities. Naturalist-led salamander hike will start at 3 PM to search for these regal creatures on the Marsh Trail. Learn about salamanders and their ecosystems on this short one mile hike! For more information: (831) 427-2288.

**Herpetologist Amy Patten** will present her talk, **Salamanders of the Santa Cruz Mountains**, at 1 PM.



The diverse habitats of the Santa Cruz Mountains are home to a number of spectacular salamander species. Colorful newts, minute slender salamanders, and the impressive California Giant Salamanders are just a few of the species that you might see on a walk through the woods or even in your own backyard. Each salamander has special adaptations to meet the challenges of escaping predators, finding food, breeding and surviving harsh weather conditions. This presentation covers the natural history and behavior of these salamanders, and highlights their importance in our local ecosystems.

🌿 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](http://www.ranchodeloso.org) and [www.facebook.com/RDOSP](http://www.facebook.com/RDOSP)

# Wildflower and Nature Hike of Waddell Valley

Fridays, January 12 ❖ February 9 ❖ March 9 ❖ 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.**

## Birding for Beginners in Waddell Valley

Saturday, January 13 ❖ 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 winter morning in Waddell Valley. We will meet at the deck in front of the Nature Center.

## Nature Wander

Sundays, January 14 ❖ March 11 ❖ 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.



### Join the Waddell Creek Association!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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#### 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**  
3600 Highway 1  
Davenport, CA 95017



# Watercolor Workshop Series

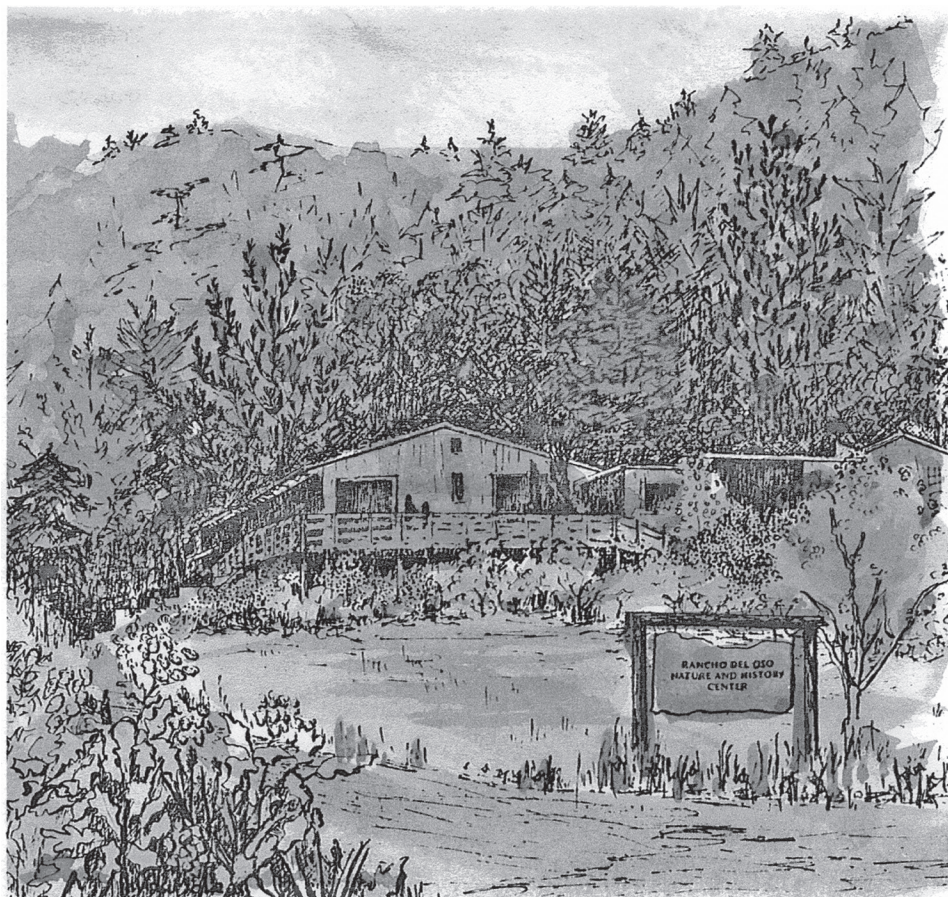
Saturdays, April 28 • May 26 • June 23 • July 28 • 10am

Joyce Rosenstiel will be leading this four day watercolor workshop series for beginner and almost intermediate artists. Students will focus on watercolor basics, assembling your painting kit, and fundamentals for landscape and nature painting. **Waddell Valley is an inspirational place to start your watercolor journey.** Learn to assemble a six by nine inch sketch and paint travel kit for summer adventures.

From Rancho del Oso to the Grand Canyon, capturing the essence of unique landscapes through your art will stay with you for many years, often more profoundly than a photograph. If you always wanted to try your hand at painting, there is no time like the present!

This will be a hands-on learning class. We will look at a scene together, then figure out several ways to sketch it out, and to mix the colors best needed to capture it on paper. You don't need to bring anything to the first class, but curiosity and a wish to learn more. You can mix any color in nature from red, yellow and blue paint.

This is a four-part series and registration is required; there is no fee. Please call (831-427-2288) or email (rdopis@parks.ca.gov) to reserve a spot. This is a small group class; space is limited.





## 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](mailto: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](mailto:judybugg46@yahoo.com).**

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**Editor:** Judy Buck. **Writers:** Jeremy Lin. **Photograph:** Linda Brodman.

**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.*