



# Rancho del Oso



Nature and History Center

Volume 33/3

News

October–December 2018

## Wildflower and Nature Hike of Waddell Valley

**Fridays, October 12 November 9 December 14 — 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 that is great for learning the native habitat we are experiencing. Bring lunch, questions and curiosity! *Hike will start across from Waddell Beach at the yellow gate.*

## Snake Park Saturday

**Saturdays, October 13 November 10 December 8 — 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? Come to the Rancho del Oso Ranger Station to learn about the fascinating world of snakes. Several snakes will be on display and native reptile adaptations will be discussed in the beautiful backdrop of Waddell Valley! *Ranger Station is located ¼ mile inland from the yellow gate across from Waddell Beach parking lot.*

## Birding for Beginners in Waddell Valley

**Saturdays, October 13 November 10 December 8 — 8 am**

Interpreter **Jeremy Lin** will lead an approximate two-mile hike to observe 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 Waddell Valley morning. We will meet at the deck in front of the Nature Center. Please RSVP to [jeremy.lin@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jeremy.lin@parks.ca.gov).



**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)

# When Species Collide

## Sunday, October 21 — 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.

The hike will begin at the Rancho del Oso entrance gate (yellow gate on the inland side of Highway 1, across from Waddell Beach parking lot). The hike will be approximately 4 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.

## Join the Waddell Creek Association!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone and Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership categories; please check one:

Associate \$25  Family \$40  Sponsoring \$50

Sustaining \$100  Patron \$250  Benefactor \$500

### Please cut out and mail this form with your check, payable to:

Waddell Creek Association 3600 Highway 1 Davenport, CA 95017



## Drawing for the Love of Nature

Saturdays, October 13 November 10 December 8 — 10:30 am

*To See – To Draw: Engaging your senses with intention and curiosity*  
with **Judy Sears**, California Naturalist, student of Art and Nature

Join **Judy Sears** in exploring nature drawing. If the weather is pleasant, the group will stay outside to discuss and practice ways to draw what you are most curious about in nature, from leaf to watershed. No art drawing experience necessary. Just bring a notepad with a rigid back, a pencil and your curiosity. You may also wish to bring something so you can sit comfortably on the ground. Come enjoy the process of developing your nature drawing style. This workshop follows the 8 am bird walk for beginners and usually ends at noon.



# A Special Thank You to Local 104!



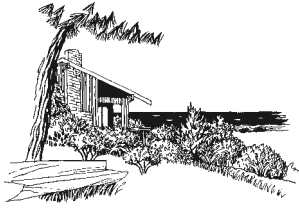
I love outdoor work parties, having run them for over ten years elsewhere; and now, thanks to **Local 104 of the Sheet Metal Workers (SMW) Union**, we have a fully rehabilitated path from the parking area to the Nature Center at Rancho del Oso, Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

Community service is in the DNA of these SMW union workers. Over the past fourteen months, union workers provided over 900 community shifts of volunteer work in northern California alone. Their generosity supports various non-profit endeavors for state, county, and local parks. We were blessed that Local 104 chose Rancho del Oso (RDO) Nature and History Center for their altruistic herculean work.

These collaborative and productive union team projects can accomplish so much, while providing such camaraderie. There isn't a place, anywhere that I know, where so much can get done while getting to know others so well. I found all the folks solid, fun, and energetic!

The Nature Center trail has been in serious disrepair with extensive muddy areas, making it dangerous and inaccessible to many State Parks visitors. Our new footpath is 120 feet long and was built using over a ton of crushed rock. This carefully crafted trail will now disperse the rainfall and provide a safe walking area to the Nature Center. In addition to this artfully constructed path, SMW volunteers installed a sturdy wooden bridge (4' x 12') crossing the seasonal stream bed. This walkway now connects to seven new wooden steps leading up to the Nature Center and bathroom facilities.

**Most of the building materials and labor were provided by the Union.** Fifteen union members (apprentices, journeypersons and retired persons), Mark Van Den Heuvel (Business Representative), and Mathew Weil (State Parks Trail Crew Leader) contributed to this project. It has been a pleasure to team up with the SMW Union Local 104, and we hope they will return to Rancho del Oso. We appreciate their professionalism and high quality work. On behalf of the RDO Board, thank you. —Ed Poser



## **Waddell Creek Association**

3600 Highway 1  
Davenport, CA 95017

### ***Return Service Requested***

#### ***Board of Directors:***

Lea Haratani, President  
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Fred McPherson  
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Gary Strachan  
Diane West-Bourke  
John Working

## **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](mailto: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:** Jeremy Lin, Ed Poser. **Photograph:** Ed Poser. **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.*