



## COMING UP!

### Members Reception

Saturday,

September 26

5:00-9:00pm (pg 1)

### Annual Bat Night

Saturday,

October 17

4:00-8:00pm (pg 3)

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## Recent Events

April 4th, Tucker's first annual *Spring Bird Fair and Art Show* was an exciting fun-filled day of arts, crafts, games, and music. Bruce Sanford Day, Modjeska Canyon's renowned plein air painter, and one of the day's featured artists, gave us a glimpse of historic Orange County with his fine quality paintings. Dar Warner, our other featured artist, showcased her detailed scratch art.

The day was an art seekers delight. Pottery, flutes, jewelry, woodworks, photography, wind chimes, sketches and paintings offered shoppers a wide variety of treasures to take home. Renee Wartman of Silverado Canyon demonstrated her wool spinning skills to onlookers. Susan Deering rounded out the day with a book signing and lecture on her book

*Images of America Silverado Canyon.*

Children's crafts were the highlight of family activities. Kids helped our own native birds by building bird houses and feeders. Parents joined in the fun playing educational games and making bird masks. Face painting was a big hit, making imaginary birds, kitties, and fairies of our guests. Local musicians entertained guests with their own brand of southern rock, folk and jazz tunes.

Staff and volunteers helped guests discover nature in our Natural Science Center. Skulls, taxidermy, microscopes, owl pellets, collections of butterflies and beetles all helped visitors enjoy learning more about the wonders around us.

The day was a fundraising success for Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. All the proceeds from the day helped support Tucker's K-12 Education Program.



## Upcoming Events

Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary  
presents  
*Summer Under the Stars*  
**Member Reception**

**Saturday September 26, 2009**  
**5:00-9:00pm**

Not a member?  
Join now and celebrate with us!  
Call for info 714 649-2760

**Wine & Cheese Tasting**



**Free for Members!**

**Live Music**



**Silent Auction**

**Amphitheater Dedication**



### How Did We Do?

June 30<sup>th</sup> marked the end of Cal State Fullerton's Fiscal Year (FY) 2008/09. Tucker had a successful year due to the fabulous support we have enjoyed from the community we serve. On-site donations increased 70%. Tucker's income from school/group tours increased 31% this year, and gift shop sales increased 30%. Local businesses and individuals

## A Message from the Director

provided the sanctuary with contributions of services and materials valued well over \$20,000. Tucker received \$71,500 in grants in FY 2008/09 and has already received another \$18,500 in grants for expenditure in FY 2009/10.

We have made significant progress toward our goal of becoming the best nature center in Orange County. Having survived fire, mud and flash floods, much of the year was focused on improving the physical facility. The Orange County Community Foundation funded an Activity Center in our Natural Science Center. The Center includes microscopes, coloring books and

educational wall displays and new "cubbies" that lets children discover nature by hands-on exploration. Hand puppets donated by Don Walton allow children to learn through role playing.

Upgrades to our Natural Science Center added new taxidermy and new cabinets that will house hands-on displays that will provide visitors with up-close viewing opportunities for a wide range of topics. The small animal display wall was completely rebuilt for easier viewing and stepstools were added to allow children to see into each cage.

Enthusiastic participants from Disney VoluntEARS helped us replace, repair and

paint many of our structures. With their labor and their generous grant we were able to build a new porch and new handicap ramp for the Natural Science Center, paint our bathrooms, and refurbish our Bird Porch. Eagle Scout candidates and Girl Scouts helped upgrade much of our grounds including a new pen for "Henry".

And FY 2008/09 saw our amphitheater completed. The Izaak Walton League, Anacal Engineering and Jon Hastings Construction spearheaded the project to give Tucker an outdoor classroom and small event venue.

All in all, a wonderful year! Karon Cornell, Director



**Volunteer  
Restoration Day**

**Join us the  
first Saturday of the  
Month**

**Help us give the birds  
and wildlife the  
resources they need.**

## Wetlands Restoration Project

Tucker received funding from the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project for a volunteer restoration project designed to enhance the quality of its wildlife habitats. The effort will increase the availability of resources for wildlife and birds. The restoration project will consist of the removal of non-native vegetation and the planting of the native plants throughout much of our riparian corridor and upland transitional areas.

In addition to the habitat restoration project we will also have opportunities for visitors to participate in our biological monitoring. Biological monitoring is a tool used for conservation and ecological management. Volunteers can assist Tucker staff every Friday at 9am by monitoring bird activity, water quality in Santiago Creek, and bloom time for our many native plants.

The Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project

has also generously given Tucker funding to assist low income K-12 schools in bringing their students to Tucker for an educational field trip (See pg 5). The students will enjoy a fun-filled hike with Tucker staff and learn about the native flora and fauna. Other topics will include fire ecology, Native American uses of natural resources, nature observation and bird watching. For more information, call 714 649-2760.



# Bat Night

Saturday October 17

4:00-8:00 pm

STORYTELLING  
WAGON RIDES  
\$3

FACE PAINTING  
\$4  
PUMPKIN CARVING  
\$6

BBQ  
\$5



## FREE BAT LECTURE AND TOUR

Bring the whole family for free activities and educational fun!

### Mexican Free-tailed Bats

Often the subject of myths and negative views, bats are amazing animals. Sometimes referred to as 'flying mice', they are more closely related to primates than to rodents. Bats are the world's only flying mammal.

Bats are an important part of our natural environment. Their value as a pollinator is equal to that of hummingbirds. They also control insect populations. A single bat will eat its body-weight in insects every night. Unfortunately, the use of pesticides and the destruction of roosting sites

has led to a global decline in bat population.

One of the bat species found in Orange County, the Mexican Free-tailed bat, is considered a *Species of Special Concern*. This designation is given to species whose populations are at historical lows or are close to becoming listed as threatened.

The Mexican Free-tailed bat is one of the fastest flyers among bat species. Considered a medium sized bat, it weighs less than half an ounce, has a body about 3 1/2 inches long and has a 12 1/2 inch wingspan. This

brown bat gets its name from the long thin tail that extends below the wing membrane.

Of the 16 recognized bat species in Orange County, 15 are insectivores and one is a frugivore, or fruit eater. Insectivores are probably the easiest bats to observe. If you want to catch a glimpse of bats in your area, follow the bugs. Where there are insects hanging out, there will be plenty of bats. Insects are attracted to large light fixtures so look in ballfields and urban parks. Look near ponds and lakes or

along streams and rivers. Also, look in leafy parks and gardens, especially those with water nearby. The best time of year for you to look for bats is during the summer, just after sunset.



## The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island

Every year hundreds of school children read Scott O'Dell's fictional book, *Island of the Blue Dolphin*. Based on the true story of the "Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island", it is the story of Wonapalei, a girl who is marooned on an island for 18 years. Living in isolation, she learns to make a life for herself. The book ends when, missing human contact, she decides to leave the island on a visiting ship and return to the mainland.

Awarded the Newbery Medal in 1961, the story has themes of forgiveness and trust; loneliness and companionship; survival

and resilience. O'Dell often said that the most important themes were forgiveness and respect for all life. "I tried to convey a simple, but profound message: forgive your enemies and have respect for life – all life."

The true story of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island is one that embodies the demise of California's native peoples and their traditions following the Spanish and American colonization. Violent clashes ensued between Russian and Aleut sea otter hunters and the island's native inhabitants. Mission padres requested that the surviving villagers be brought to the mainland. In

1835 the last of the islanders were loaded onto a ship headed for Santa Barbara. Having gone back to search for her lost baby, the Lone Woman was left behind when the ship sailed.

After 18 years of isolation the Lone Woman was found alive and well and brought to Santa Barbara. Her arrival caused quite a sensation although no one, including the local Chumash, could understand her language. Her true name was never known. She did however, enjoy a steady stream of visitors. Unfortunately, the new living conditions and altered diet soon affected her health. She fell ill and

died after only seven weeks on the mainland.

Baptized with the Christian name Juana Maria, she was buried in an unmarked grave at the Santa Barbara Mission. Her beautiful feathered dress of cormorant skins was sent to the Vatican, although it never arrived.. Other possessions of hers were destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and fire. One of her songs was recorded on a wax cylinder in 1913 by Smithsonian ethnographers. Sung by a Chumash man, the meaning is unknown. Her tragic story is all that remains of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas.

## Native American Material Cultures Workshop November 7th and 8th, 9am-2pm



See rare examples of  
hand-crafted items!  
Make artifacts using  
authentic materials!



On November 7th and 8th from 9am –2pm, educators, docents or anyone with an interest in California history can attend an informative workshop at Tucker . This fun-filled event uses *Island of the Blue Dolphin* as a focus to introduce Southern California's Native American material culture.

Each half day workshop features a different theme. Participants will: create their own artifacts; enjoy a guided hike; learn about the tools and resources used by California's First Peoples; and

hear native songs and stories. A light lunch is also included. All educators attending will receive handouts containing lessons plans, economical classroom activities, native stories and lots of fun facts. Workshop Fee is \$25 per day or \$40 for both days. Call Tucker for details.



## Star Performance Recognized



Tucker's Site Manager, Marcella Gilchrist, was recognized this year with a *Titan Excellence Award-College of Natural Science and Mathematics*. CSUF's President Milton Gordon acknowledged Marcella again when she received the campus' highest staff honor, the *Outstanding*

*Staff Employee of the Year Award*.

The award was based on her stellar performance and leadership in overcoming the challenges of fire recovery, mud flows, flash floods and recession which faced the Sanctuary over the past year. In spite of all these challenges, Tucker has grown, improved and thrived. When interviewed

Marcella was quick to share credit with her staff; "The staff here is what makes it possible to do all we do. They work so hard and we all work together so well."



## Disney VoluntEARS

On May 14th, Disneyland did its part to help Tucker realize its goals. Disney employees and executives alike spent a fun-filled day of laboring in their community. 20 VoluntEARS, and a film crew, arrived early that day, ready to work hard. Disney Cast members gave the bird porch a much needed face-lift, painted the restrooms and gazebo, planted, and

installed greenhouse irrigation. The highlight of the day was constructing a new ramp and front porch for the Natural Science Center. Tucker staff was ready with hotdogs and hamburgers at quitting time.



## For Educators-Bus Scholarships for Tucker Field Trips



Thanks to a generous grant from Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project Tucker can make a limited amount of funding available to assist with busing costs for school field trips to Tucker.

As educators you know the value of introducing youths to the natural world. Tucker's rural Orange County location offers

K-12 teachers an exciting way to ignite the interest of their students in the environment. Guided hikes and activities provide cross-curricular lessons in art and culture, language arts, and science. Each tour lasts approximately two hours and introduces students to native habitats of the Santa Ana Mountains. Program fees are only \$6 a student.

**Applications are now being accepted.**

Visit our website at [www.tuckerwildlife.org](http://www.tuckerwildlife.org) for more information.



## Winging Our Way to a Brighter Future



With an eye toward water conservation, Tucker will soon be offering native plants for sale in our greenhouse. Two local Eagle Scout candidates have

made some much needed improvements to the greenhouse area. The size of the structure was doubled thanks to the efforts of Zack Williamson and new rabbit-proof fencing will be added by Lance Kraft this month.

While we have been focusing mainly on growing plants for our own habitat restoration efforts, the improvements have given us

the space needed to expand our inventory and offer native drought tolerant plants for use in home landscaping. White sage, black sage, ceanothus, monkey flower, and native grasses will be some of the plants available for purchase starting this September. All proceeds will go toward Tucker's water conservation education.



"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



## A Renovated Natural Science Center

A major focus at Tucker is the renovation of the Natural Science Center. Many new features have been added to the Center as we work toward our goal of a year-end completion date. New cabinets were purchased with the help of Lowe's and CSUF. Partition walls have been built and the cabinets installed. The cabinet drawers will

allow us to expand each section's display potential and staff members are working hard to design and build fun and informative exhibits. As we complete each drawer, we will place permanent signs on the drawer face hinting at the drawer's content.

Additional elements of the renovation will include murals hand painted by

members of our staff. Interpretative signage will be designed for the native animal diorama. New hands-on displays will encourage visitor interaction.

The new exhibit subjects will highlight such topics as Endangered Species in Orange County, insects and insect eating birds, wildlife in urban areas, and learning to observe nature.

Tucker's staff is excited about the future as we begin the anticipated transition from construction projects to programs, nature hikes, and events. The completion of the amphitheater, the greenhouse expansion, and the ongoing improvements to the Natural Science Center have us thinking about the next step-becoming one of Orange County's premier environmental education facilities. The amphitheater

## A New Amphitheater lets Tucker Shine

now provides us with a venue to host a variety of fine events such as a lecture series, nature programs, and even the occasional musical event.

Tucker's staff is developing ideas for leading guided nature hikes on the weekends. On Saturdays, visitors will soon be able to enjoy early morning bird

watching opportunities, interpretive tours, and the occasional evening program such as stargazing or a nocturnal insect study.



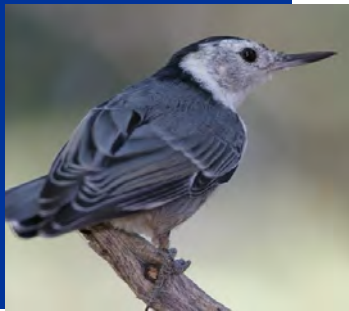
## From the Bird Porch

### Birding Software

We are pleased to introduce Thayer Birding Software's *Guide to Birds of North America*. This interactive software contains over 2,000 color photos and helps you identify over 900 birds. You can use this software's "Identification Wizard" feature to identify unknown birds. In addition to being a great visual bird guide, this software allows you to hear the sounds of specific birds and see them in action on recorded video footage. This software also features games and quizzes to test your birding knowledge. Next time you are at Tucker be sure to explore this exciting birding software on our Natural Science Center public computer.



A group of nuthatches are collectively known as a "jar" of nuthatches!



### White-breasted Nuthatch

Join us for the seasonal return of one of Tucker's favorite fall visitors, the White-breasted Nuthatch. This active and agile bird can now be seen creeping, often head downward, probing tree bark for food. An omnivore, it eats both insects and meaty nuts and seeds. If you see the nuthatch making lots of quick trips to and from our feeders it may be storing seeds for winter. It "hatches" the seed from its shell, hacking it open with its sharp bill.

**DID YOU KNOW?** - This small bird is the largest of the nuthatches found in North America!

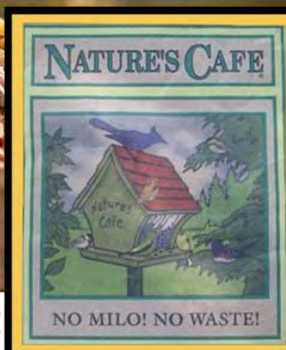
Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary  
now sells top quality birdseed

FILL YOUR FEEDERS AND  
SUPPORT THE SANCTUARY

40 LBS  
ONLY \$15.00



FOR MORE INFO  
OR TO PICK UP A BAG  
CALL  
(714)649-2760



NO MESS! NO WASTE!

We are frequently asked what we feed  
our hummingbirds.

Here is our recipe:

1 cup white sugar  
4 cups boiling water

Dissolve sugar in water and allow to cool down to room temperature. There is no need to add dye to the mix. Store sugar water in the refrigerator until needed.



**Tucker Tip**  
Placing a platform feeder under your hop feeder will catch falling seed and will serve as a secondary feeder.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON  
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

## Spring Bird Fair and Art Show Sponsors



### How You Can Help

Become a Member. Membership dues help provide funding for continued upgrades. Members receive special discounts and invitations to events.



Participate in Volunteer Days or come by anytime Tues-Sat from 9-4 and let us know you want to help. Volunteer opportunities are available for groups.



Donate cash or items from our wish-list. We are always in need of printer paper, black sunflower seed, sugar, disinfectant soap, and gift cards.



Proceeds from the sale of items in our Gift Shop go directly to supporting our Environmental Education and Habitat Protection Program.



### FOR INJURED BIRDS OR WILDLIFE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ANIMAL</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
<u>OC Animal Care Services</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Orange</u>	<u>714 935-6848</u>
<u>OC Bird of Prey</u>	<u>Raptors</u>	<u>El Toro</u>	<u>949 837-0786</u>
<u>Pacific Wildlife</u>	<u>Pelicans, Mammals, Birds</u>	<u>Irvine</u>	<u>949 831-1178</u>
<u>Wetlands &amp; Wildlife Care</u>	<u>Native birds/ animals</u>	<u>Huntington Beach</u>	<u>714 374-5587</u>
<u>Modjeska Ranch Rescue</u>	<u>Unwanted Pets</u>	<u>Modjeska</u>	<u>714 649-4406</u>
<u>Susan Doggett</u>	<u>All birds</u>	<u>Orange</u>	<u>714 637-8355</u>
<u>Songbird Care</u>	<u>Songbirds</u>	<u>Fountain Valley</u>	<u>714 964-0666</u>
<u>Monique</u>	<u>Hummingbirds</u>	<u>Mission Viejo</u>	<u>949 493-4834</u>

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www.tuckerwildlife.org

Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization and depends greatly on the generosity of its visitors and members for much of the funding required to maintain the sanctuary and feed the birds.  
Thank you for your support.