



Friends of Shipley Nature Center

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY KATHRYN E. GODDARD

In this edition of the newsletter you will read articles by members of the Board of Directors who are also hands on managers of the Center. Please feel free to contact any of us and offer your comments or ask questions through the web site: www.shipleynature.org.

It's a wonderful time of year to visit the Center with plants blooming and going to seed, birds and butterflies in abundance, new life among the squirrels and rabbits. Although our pond shows the effects of the drought there is a great deal to observe as nature reclaims the plant life. Come visit the new indoor map of the entire 18 acres and see which animals live at Shipley. It is a grand introduction to the little ones and a good exploration and eye test for the rest of us created by Juana Mueller.

DEMONSTRATION GARDENS, BY NANCY HARRIS

It's time to see our showcase gardens in full bloom. Our hummingbird, butterfly, coastal sage scrub, riparian and water-wise lawn alternative gardens are at their best right now. Our beautiful California native plants, unlike the eastern plant species, have their own time clock and do best when planted November thru March so their roots can become established during the rainy season. They are then prepared for the long hot summer which is their dormant season, even though many remain wonderfully green during summer. They begin blooming in winter when snow is covering the rest of the world and flourish in spring and early to mid summer. A few natives bloom later in August and early fall, such as fuchsia and manzanita's, etc. Seeds are abundant and what the wildlife doesn't consume is left to begin the cycle again. If you are considering replacing your lawn to conserve water, you must see our water-wise lawn alternative garden. We can help with references!

NATIVE BUNCH GRASSES, BY JAKE HOFFMAN

As the volunteer's of Shipley Nature Center pull out non-native invasive plants and replace them with California's native bunch grasses, the seed eating birds follow close behind. While a bird feeder may bring you convenient avian viewing pleasure, a far better sight is to watch the hungry birds pluck seed from the grass stalks or forage along the ground. Stop by the Nature Center and spend some time among the native bunch grasses, your eyes and ears will be rewarded. If you are brave enough to restore a bit of your yard back to "California's Gold" of years gone by *Nassella pulchra*, *Nassella lepida*, *Nassella cernua*, *Muhlenbergia rigens*, *Festuca californica*, *Melica imperfecta*, and *Melica californica*, while out of its normal range, all do well in the Huntington Beach area. If you can't find these grasses at your favorite nursery, stop by the Nature Center and we can get you started with plants from our nursery or point you in the right direction if we do not have them in stock.

VERMICOMPOSTING, BY KATHRYN GODDARD

The Vermicomposting programs offered by Shipley, the City of Huntington Beach and Rainbow Disposal have

proven very popular. The program scheduled for September 20 is already filled to capacity. We have openings at this writing for the October 18 program and we hope to offer more events teaching the art of utilizing kitchen resources (waste) in worm bins which results in rich nutrients, free of chemicals, for your garden.

SUMMER NIGHTS AT SHIPLEY, BY STEVE ENGEL

The Center will be open Thursday Evenings July 3rd through August 28th from 4 pm to 8 pm. See the reverse for the program schedule.

VISITORS FROM JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND, BY TOM LIVENGOOD

On July 2 students from Huntington Beach sister cities Anjo, Japan and Waitakere, New Zealand will be taking tours of the Bolsa Chica and Shipley Nature Center. Each group will have four Huntington Beach students as hosts. Both cities are green cities with programs to build green and protect the environment. This is a great opportunity to showcase our community's restoration projects. Gifts are being provided by both organizations. The Friends of Shipley will be providing lunch for the students and guests.

DOCENT OPPORTUNITIES, BY SHIRLEY DETTLOFF

What a terrific way to give back to your City, being a docent at Shipley Nature Center. It is a wonderful experience, either working with school groups or being at Shipley on Saturday mornings. It's fun and a learning experience as well as a way to meet new people. Because of our docents, Shipley is now open from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. every day except Sunday. Docents are trained before they begin their duties, and are given a docent's notebook which is filled with everything you need to know about Shipley Nature Center. New docents are paired with an experienced docent on their first time out, or as long as they feel they need assistance. We also have a lecture series every year where you gain more in-depth information on a variety of topics. Last year we had a birding lecture and one on Native Americans. Next fall we will have a lecture on native plants found at Shipley. Twice a year we have a party for docents so that we can get to know one another on a social level. Many wonderful friendships are developed through working and socializing together. We are also starting a new program which will be offered to all docents. It will be meeting on an informal basis once a month to talk over problems encountered, input of new ideas, getting to know each other and informal talks which will give additional information about Shipley. It will be both fun and informative.

If you are interested in becoming more involved with Shipley, giving back to your city, and having a wonderful experience, please contact either Carol at the Shipley office 714-842-4772 or me, Shirley Dettloff, Docent Coordinator, 714-847-8371. I will give you additional information and let you know the date of the next training class.

FRIENDS OF SHIPLEY NATURE CENTER
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SHIPLEY NATURE CENTER

Physical Address: 17829 Goldenwest Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1052, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Email: info@shipleynature.org Phone (714) 842-4772

Parking is located on the west side of Goldenwest, just before Talbert.
Open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Closed Sunday.
Board and General Meeting is second Saturday of each month 9:00 am,
Huntington Beach Central Library.
Restoration Day is the first Saturday of each month 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.



www.shipleynature.org

COOL SUMMER NIGHTS AT SHIPLEY, BY STEVE ENGEL

The Center will be open Thursday Evenings July 3rd through August 28th from 4 pm to 8 pm.

Spend your vacation right here in HB and enjoy some super programs! All Programs are Free!

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| July 3 6-7 pm | Lizards, Snakes & Bugs | August 7 4-8 pm | Ride Your Bike to Shipley Night- Help Shipley "Go Green" by riding your bike to the center. Free Refreshments for all riders!! Co-sponsored by REI in HB. |
| July 10 6-7 pm | Solar Power | August 14 6-7 pm | Urban Wildlife |
| July 17 6-7 pm | Urban Wildlife | August 21 6-7 pm | Lizards, Snakes & Bugs |
| July 24 6-7 pm | The Raptors of Shipley and HB Wild Gardener Timo Waterman will share his experiences and knowledge of the wide variety of raptors that visit here and call Shipley home. | August 28 6-7 pm | "Where's the Pond?"- Juana Mueller, Habitat Manager will discuss the current water situation at the center and possible solutions we can use in our own backyard nature centers. |
| July 31 6-7 pm | California Friendly Plants | | |