

# Valley Views

The Friends of San Pedro Valley Park

September/October 2023

## Upcoming Programs

### A September Zoom Webinar with Bob Lewis “The Importance of Islands to Avian Evolution”

The Friends of San Pedro Valley Park welcome master birder Bob Lewis, who will present a lecture via Zoom on **Saturday, September 16th, 2023 at 7 pm** entitled “The Importance of Islands to Avian Evolution.”

Islands play a key role in both the evolution of new avian species and the extinction of others. Because of their isolation, birds that arrive on islands evolve separately from their parent group and eventually become unique... thus a new species is born! But that isolation also makes them vulnerable to threats like hurricanes, volcanoes, rising seas, and introduced diseases or predator species. Although over 80 percent of bird species live on continents, 92 percent of extinctions since 1500 have been on islands.

Join us to view some marvelous island species and learn about the conservation issues unique to islands. Please register using the following link:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_44IqJQJoT3qNT9EN1VAu9g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_44IqJQJoT3qNT9EN1VAu9g)

**About the speaker:** Robert Lewis is a master birder who trained as a chemist and worked in the energy field for 33 years. He has taught birding classes in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 25 years (Birds of the Bay Area, Avian Evolution, Master Birding, etc.) and served as adult education chair on the board of Golden Gate Audubon. He was honored with the American Birding Association Chandler Robins Award for Conservation and Education in 2016, and Golden Gate Audubon's Paul Covel Award for Education in 2017. His life list is over 5000 and he loves to talk about birds. He is an award-winning photographer, focusing on birds, and he is extremely busy having resumed his worldwide trips.



### An October Zoom Webinar with Laura Cunningham “California Past Landscapes and Wildlife”

Join us on **Saturday, October 14th at 7 pm** when biologist and artist Laura Cunningham gives us a fascinating look back at California wildlife and ecosystems of the past, as well as the indigenous people who lived here and managed the landscapes for thousands of years. Laura has spent decades researching and exploring early California landscapes and the history of wildlife, before European contact. She has gone out into the field to find relict landscapes, interviewed Tribal experts on cultural history, and attempted to reconstruct these lost landscapes. Join us to explore herds of tule elk and pronghorn, California condors flying overhead, abundant salmon, grizzlies, wolves, and jaguars, as well as ancient grasslands and oak habitats. See the history of Tulare Lake in the past and its present resurgence as a result of the huge, historic rains this past winter.

Please register using this link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_EnhxlRVmSpOi\\_y7c157Ocg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EnhxlRVmSpOi_y7c157Ocg)

**About the presenter:** Laura Cunningham is a self-taught oil painter and artist, as well as a biologist. She wrote and illustrated *A State of Change: Forgotten Landscapes of California* (Heyday: 2010, now out of print). See Laura's website: <https://www.californiaecologicalorigin.org>, where she is uploading the original manuscript for free as an educational curriculum. Cunningham currently works at nonprofit conservation organizations trying to save California's biodiversity and natural habitats.



## The Friends of San Pedro Valley Park

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### Visitor Center

The Friends provide  
volunteer hosts to staff the  
reception desk at the VC  
when it is open on  
Saturdays and Sundays  
(only) from 10 am to 4 pm.  
Our Trailside Store is open  
during those hours.

## Recent Program

### Dr. Joseph Szewczak's "The Fascinating World of Bats"

by Bing Huey

On Saturday, 25 March, the Friends hosted Dr. Joseph Szewczak for a webinar entitled, "The Fascinating World of Bats." Attendees got a view of the often unseen world of these animals and saw some of Dr. Szewczak's own research into the biology of bats and their food webs. Dr. Szewczak is Professor of Biology at Cal Poly Humboldt and is also an engineer by training. He has employed his technical knowledge developing methods for his research and created software to study vocalization in animals. Research like his is vital to bringing about protection for these animals which face an uncertain future in a changing environment.

There are around 1400 described species of bats, which makes them about one out of every four to five mammals on Earth. Their numbers are obscured by their being nocturnal and able to hide from view in the daytime. However, more than half of the bat species are in moderate or serious decline. Bats usually produce only one offspring per year and are known to live 30 to 40 years. By comparison mice have much shorter lifespans and produce multiple litters per year.

Their conservation is of particular importance because of the essential roles they play in natural ecosystems and in things economic. They are important pollinators of plants both wild and agricultural, the latter including the agave used in tequila production and a host of tropical fruits. In the tropics they are also important seed dispersers. Some also drink blood, around three species, and they are all in the Americas.

In temperate regions bats are more involved with insect control. They are well adapted for locating and catching insects in flight in the dark, coinciding with when most insects take flight. The pallid bat, which some are working toward establishing as California's state bat, is known to also come to the ground in order to take scorpions and centipedes.

Dr. Szewczak spoke much about methodologies he and his team use to monitor the bats. First among these is locating them. They tend to be well camouflaged in the daytime and, of course, not easily seen at night. The key is to find them where they roost. A minority roost in caves. More often they are in rock and tree crevices or on man-made structures, the Yolo Causeway being a notable example. Generally, they need to be where the temperature is favorable and out of view of predators. Additionally, he discussed methods developed for capturing, listening, and imaging. Mist nets are usually employed to catch them. Another technique involves climbing the granite walls in Yosemite and inserting cameras into the crevices to view them. To track their seasonal migration animals can be fitted with lightweight radio transmitters.

For a number of years Szewczak has made bat calls a significant part of his research. Normally too rapid to be discerned by human hearing, bat calls are used for echolocation, a process essential to the animal for capturing prey and navigating in the dark. Differing calls are used depending on the task and situation. Lower frequencies are emitted when flying through open fields when calls need to cover greater distances, while higher frequencies are emitted in dense forest with lots of obstacles and background noise. A call made when approaching a prey differs from that used for actual capture. Because bat calls are task-specific they may be shared among species. To clarify associations of calls with species Szewczak and his group have been working since 1990 on creating a reference library of data connecting specific bats to their calls. Recordings of bat calls can be done in the open air using microphones, often at the edges of forests. By capturing and identifying them, then attaching to them a small LED light, they can be followed in the dark and their calls recorded. Additional data have been collected making recordings across transects.

*continued on page 3*



## Recent Programs

### Joe Morlan's "Just Look and You Will See"

by Mark Golembiewski

On Saturday, June 17th, Pacifican Joe Morlan gave us a fascinating, educational and most enjoyable talk on the birds of Pacifica. Using his own beautiful photographs, which often were taken in his own backyard, Joe showed us the extent of the avian beauty that we have to enjoy right here locally in our own town and our own backyards. Throughout his presentation, he emphasized his mantra of "just look and you will see" to impress on us how much there is to enjoy here for everyone from the casual bird watcher to the ardent avian enthusiast. We just need to pay attention and stop and look to see the birds that are all around us.

While he showed us the beauty of many of our local birds, Joe also taught us how to identify them and distinguish between the different species we might encounter. He showed us the house finch versus the purple finch versus the American goldfinch. The downy woodpecker versus the hairy woodpecker. The red-tailed hawk versus the red-shouldered hawk. The California tohee versus the spotted tohee. Crows versus ravens. And the Anna's hummingbird versus the Allen's hummingbird, among many others.



For those of us venturing out on local bird-watching expeditions, Joe advised us to always have a good set of binoculars, as well as field guides. He suggested having a copy of Sibley's Birds or using National Geographic field guides as good options. He also recommended signing up for local birding field trips led by the Audubon Society as a good way to learn about local birds.

Joe also talked about using bird feeders to attract and support the local bird population. He showed us photos of different types of feeders, including the hanging tube feeders that he prefers (although they are expensive). He also recommended purchasing inexpensive bird seed, specifically black-oiled sunflower seed and mixed seed at Ace hardware.

Finally, Joe concluded his presentation by giving us the URL for his excellent website, "Joe Morlan's

California Birding Pages." Go to: <https://fog.ccsf.edu/~jmorlan>

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### The World of Bats *continued from page 2*

Szewczak's work on their food web was used to inform the management of water and dams. Flooding events determine the abundance and type of aquatic invertebrates. Investigating two river systems in Yosemite, one dammed and the other free-flowing, he used stable isotopes as signatures of different trophic levels, that is, when one organism feeds on another, and was able to determine that bats derive more energy from aquatic vegetation than do the trout in the rivers.

Dr. Szewczak shared much information about the complex adaptations of these animals, from the complex anatomy evolved for their intricate flight and echolocation, to their value to the environment. Understanding their biology also makes clear the threats to their survival, like from pathogens and diminishing insect populations, and the need for their protection.

This webinar was recorded and is available through the Friends' website.



## A Great July Trail Day!

by Joseph Piro

Our July 8, 2023 Trail Day was another success with lots of new-comers! **Mary Larsen, Stan Jensen, Istvan Puski**, my brother **Erik** and I joined **9 new friends** to do some trail trimming work. (Erik's social media efforts continue to do well!)



With so many people again, we divided into 2 groups -- Ranger **Matthew Tholmasoff** led one group up the Montara Mtn. Trail, while I led another group up the Old Trout Farm and Brooks Falls Trails.



Taking along handsaws, loppers, rakes, McLeods (and probably a few other tools) we trimmed a lot of branches and brush that were hanging over too close to the trail.

A big thank you to all the new-comers (hope to see you again!) and everyone enjoy the trails!

## August Trail Day Work

by Joseph Piro

We once again had a nice turn-out for our August 12, 2023 Trail Day. **Mary Larsen, Stan Jensen, Istvan Puski**, my brother **Erik** and I joined good-to-see-you-again new friends **Heather, Steve, Colleen** and **Raymond** to



continue some light brushing work on the popular Brooks Falls/Montara Mtn. Trail loop. We trimmed a few bushes and branches all along the way, but overall things look in

pretty good shape and we -- along with a lot of other hikers -- enjoyed the pleasant sunny weather and views.

## September / October Calendar

### September Trail Day

Saturday, Sept. 9 ..... 9 am

### Sept. Habitat Restoration Day

Saturday, Sept. 16 ..... 10 am

### Lewis: Islands-Avian Evolution\*

Saturday, Sept. 16 ..... 7 pm

### Friends Meeting & BBQ

Sunday, Sept. 17..... 11 am

### October Trail Day

Saturday, October 14 ..... 9 am

### Cunningham: Past Landscapes\*

Saturday, October 14 ..... 7 pm

### October Habitat Restoration Day

Saturday, October 21 ..... 10 am

\* Zoom webinar registration required

>> FACTOID <<

### Why whiskers?

So rats' long whiskers are not just for feeling around in the dark. They have a set above their eyes (supra-orbital whiskers) that are like little antennae, but especially sensitive to the direction of the wind, according to neuroscientist Matias Mugnaini and colleague, Ann Clemens, working together at Wood's Hole, Mass. Because the hairs are long and very thin, so they move more easily in the wind.



"Wind is an important carrier of information about the environment in the form of odors, humidity and airflow, but has been barely studied by neuroscience," says Mugnaini. They dissected the area around a hair to determine the nature of its nerve structure.

Supra orbital whiskers prove handy in other mammals: in seals they are sensitive to the flow and smell of water. Some believe that the tufts above a bobcat's ears are primarily for telling them the direction of the wind.

Source and photo credit: [www.sciencenews.com](http://www.sciencenews.com)





— Carolyn's Corner —

## MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN

As I was sauntering down the upper Trout Farm Trail one day many years ago, I saw something weird and out-of-place: little figures of gnomes, hanging gently from a branch. I didn't mention this anomaly to anyone until later I noticed another pointy capped creature near the same area. Why was someone littering our lovely nature area with these toys?

Strange things happen: another strange time was when I saw a grey-haired, bearded fellow clearing a pathway through the shaggy growth above the Trout Farm Picnic Area. I had been hoping to work my way up a newly built trail, but was confused because more than one pathway had been hacked away. Stymied! Then the same tautly muscled elderly man came down from the brush with his Maddox and said, "here, take this trail." So he was the independent trail maker I'd heard so much about, a Lou Pearson, who was the talented and industrious volunteer clearing out pathways in SPVP.



As one who got a friend and myself going the wrong way in a simple trail from the Calistoga Mill, I was not too surprised that one day when I had headed up the Brooks Creek Trail toward the mountain, I found myself going down past a bench on an unfamiliar pathway: a new trail? Luckily it wasn't too long before I learned how these trails worked and before Ranger Doug Heisinger got some signage up for everyone.

A final act was when the rangers refined and graded the work on Lou's clever, but rough Mt. Mountain Trail cut and brought things to a beautiful state. I found out much later that he was also the tireless, brilliant worker who had built the Hazelnut and Brooks Creek Trails. Finally there was a big celebration in our picnic area one Saturday, lauding Mr. Pearson for his trail work, for finding an easier, smoother pathway from the Center to the top of the mountain. Lou received an award which all volunteers, rangers, Lou's family and Pacificans agreed was only a small token for his miracles.

Lou passed away in 2005, but early this July I finally read the obituary for Mr. Pearson, and found no mention of his Montara Mt. trail cut. But the article did mention something we volunteers already knew. Lou had launched his muscle and 3-D brain into making other trails in the Park, ones that were not sanctioned by the rangers. He was ordered to stop any cutting and clearing in SPVP and all his tools were taken away. So Lou lost that battle, but it was in his blood to carve pathways, so later he was found starting one trail in an area contiguous to the Park, one that was headed from the little alder forest that used to be on Valdez and all the way into the Park proper.

But that same article applauded him not only for his expertise in making flowing contours through the wilds of SPVP, but for his many years of designing and structuring hundreds of sinuous terraced retaining walls, "ribbons of curvy concrete" for planting, and four-figure prized sculptures of curving metal,\* ones with breathless designs (see photo at right). Oh, and strangely he had also sculpted little gnomes for our Park. James Mackey had tried to tell me that years before, but I had always wondered. In a way his art was a combination of Henry Moore's works, a Zimbabwean heron masterpiece I ran across: He was not just of a wild person who, strangely, was able to craft expert turns and curves over a rough, gully-ridden ascending landscape.



\*One of Lou's sculptures is in the lobby of the California Pacifica Medical Center.

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## We Need Volunteers!!

The Friends of SPVP are continually looking for new volunteers to join the small, but dedicated, group of individuals who now contribute to our organization's activities on behalf of the park. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help us and give back to our wonderful park — whether it's being a host at the Visitor Center on weekends or helping to maintain the trails each month, or just pulling weeds and invasive plants now and then — **please contact President Judy Bacon or our Visitor Center Host Coordinator, Carl Schwab**, or any of the members of our Board of Directors (listed on page 2). We'd be more than happy to speak with you about our volunteer opportunities.

## SPVP Butterfly Display – a Gift from Ron Wilson!!

by Sharron Walker

In the early 2000s, Ron Wilson, primary photographer, Jim Mackey and Laurie Nikitas produced the *San Pedro Valley Park Butterfly Guide*. This was the second such guide in what is now a series of three: *Wild Flowers*, *Butterflies and Mushrooms* - all showing species that are found in SPVP. Ron, a long-time supporter of the Friends of San Pedro Valley Park, Jim, then the president of the Friends, and Laurie combined their outstanding skills! Working with Martie Sauter of Sauter Graphics in Montara, they produced the butterfly guide. But that is not the whole story.

Ron began his passion for butterflies at age 10 when his mom connected him with a nature class in La Honda. He was fascinated by the insects he discovered. At age 12, his mom introduced him to Dr. Ed Ross with the SF Academy of Sciences who took him under his wing. As Ron stated, “his interests were elsewhere (girls) at 16 — a far more exciting endeavor.” Years later, his interests in insects returned as the opportunity to travel took hold.

Ron has traveled with several well-known lepidopterists, including the late Dr. Tom Emmel of the McGuire Center of Lepidoptera & Biodiversity and with Dr. Ross to various parts of the topics. His collecting has taken him to every continent except Antarctica. To prepare for his expeditions, he required special permits, equipment, and an extensive knowledge of the species to be collected. Travel for collecting is not a simple task! Ron not only collects, but also mounts the specimens for display.

Our newest exhibit is one he created especially for the Visitor Center (*see photo at right*). It is now installed next to the Mountain Lion display (*see photo below*), along with the Butterfly Guide, so that both scientific and common names of the specimens are on display.



When I asked Ron about his most memorable collecting moments — and he has had many — his reply was “The Silver Satire in the Atacama Desert” and “catching in Cameroon, the Goliath Beetle, with a wing span of 5-6 inches!” So many exotic experiences — perhaps a future program for our VC lecture series?

(*at right: Silver satire, *Argyrothorax argenteus* - photo by Ron Wilson in Alto Huelmul, Chile*)

Ron is also an avid photographer and his photos are often featured in the Valley Views Newsletter, as well as being on display in our visitor center.

Ron lives in Pacifica with his wife Dianne — who also travels with him. He is the owner of Omni Insurance, which has been in business since 1971 in Pacifica. Ron is in the process of donating his extensive butterfly collection to the San Francisco Academy of Sciences.

We are very appreciative of his donation of the SPVP Butterfly display! Thanks, Ron, for your generosity, passion for San Pedro Valley Park, and support of the Friends!!





## Friends of SPVP Annual Membership Meeting, Election and Barbecue

The Friends of San Pedro Valley Park's Membership Meeting 2023, with Election, will be held on **Sunday, September 17th at 11 am**, followed by a **Barbecue at noon**. These two events, held back-to-back, will take place at the Visitor Center in San Pedro Valley Park. Please mark your calendars. The presence of our members at this event is much appreciated. We look forward to seeing the Friends of SPVP there.

For the barbecue, please let us know if you can come and if you can bring a side dish for all to share. The Friends of SPVP, as usual, will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Please RSVP to our President, Judy Bacon at: [baconegg@earthlink.net](mailto:baconegg@earthlink.net). As a reminder, members will also be called by a member of the Friends' Board to remind you of the event and to answer any questions you may have.

The Annual Election for the Board of Directors will be held during the annual meeting. The nominating committee: Mark Golembiewski, Mila Stroganoff, and Adrian Stroganoff, have selected the following officer candidates, but others may be nominated from the floor (and must be seconded):

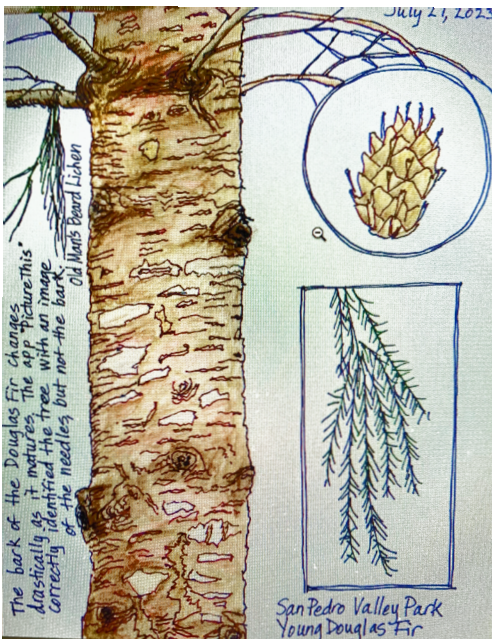
**President:** Judy Bacon; **Vice-President:** Mark Golembiewski; **Secretary:** Enid Ansgarius; **Treasurer:** Susan Kern. Other Board Members and Members-at-Large will be elected from this slate of nominees: Carolyn Pankow, Adrian Stroganoff, Mila Stroganoff, Carl Schwab, Melinda Moses, Istvan Puski, Sharron Walker, and Bing Huey.

### On the Nature Journaling Trail

by Sharron Walker

On July 27th, the San Pedro Valley Park Nature Journalers celebrated our second year of monthly meetings at our park. There were 14 of us meeting at our usual place, the Creekside Picnic Area. Celebratory bookmarks were distributed with the following quotes: "in every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks" - John Muir; "Slow down, discover and see" - John Muir Laws.

The goal for our third year is to continue meeting monthly, expanding our scope by including sessions on botany (with a focus on plants in SPV Park), and other natural history subjects. We continue with monthly journaling prompts and are always open to new members. We acknowledged the Sanchez Art Center, presenting a certificate to Cindy Abbott, Executive Director. Cindy has supported four "Intro to Nature Journaling Workshops." The majority of our nature journalers have come from these workshops.



In early August, I attended the Wild Wonder Nature Journaling Retreat at the SFSU Sierra Nevada Field Campus. This 5-day retreat went from dawn into the evening. It was jam-packed with instruction on all aspects of nature journaling given by the amazing Wild Wonder Foundation Crew, including John Muir Laws (Jack Laws). So our third year of the SPVP Nature Journalers will benefit and we are now on the Wild Wonder Foundation Nature Journal Club Map. Check out: <https://www.wildwonder.org/nature-journal-club-map>.

Our prompt for June was "Bark." There were some amazing pages shared. (see the Bark NJ page by Vivian Walz at left)

So why do trees have bark? Bark is the outside layer of wood that all trees have. Bark protects trees from harsh environmental conditions, including weather, pests, disease and damage from hungry animals. It is different across species. Some have thick, rough bark, while others have thin, smooth bark. Take time to inspect some of the bark on our trees in the park. When comparing young Douglas fir bark to old bark on the same trees, there is no resemblance. This is true of many species.

If you have an interest in Nature Journaling, check us out. For info contact: [sharronlee@aol.com](mailto:sharronlee@aol.com).



## Big Lift - A San Mateo County Library Program Brings Kids to San Pedro Valley County Park

by Sharron Walker

One hundred and seventy (170) kids on a field trip to San Pedro Valley Park! Yes, that happened on Friday, July 7th from 10 to 1 pm. Katherine Wright, Lauren Ford-Peterson and Tracy Nappi with the Interpretative Division of San Mateo County Parks, were responsible for this well-managed and organized event.

The visit to our park was a part of the “Big Lift” preschool to 3rd grade San Mateo County Library Summer Program. Accompanying the group were library representatives and teachers from Los Cerritos Elementary School in So. San Francisco. Six buses transported the kids and leaders to San Pedro Valley Park. As the large buses could not navigate the entrance drive into the park, the kids walked in from Rosita Rd.

The program was split into three segments. One was at the Creekside Picnic Area where the kids designed wood chip necklaces.



A second segment was a presentation on park wildlife in the Visitor Center -- another Friend of SPVP volunteer, Penny Mitchell, assisted me with that presentation, and Tracy shared some wonderful animal facts, especially on owls.

A third segment consisted of a docent-led hike on the Weiler Ranch Trail led by a volunteer from



Huddart Park, Peggy Berlese. Lunch was scheduled after the three activities.

With 170 kids split into three groups of about 55 each, it was a challenge, but the kids and their leaders were great! All were enthusiastic, attentive, and endured the damp summer Pacifica weather!

The “Big Lift” program, through San Mateo County Libraries, provides a full-day, five-week summer program to low-income rising kindergartners through third-graders throughout San Mateo County. According to the SMC Library website, “Over a thousand eager students are now ready to tackle the new school year (2023-24) with some extra confidence thanks to an uplifting summer with San Mateo County Libraries and the Big Lift Program!”



SMCP Interpretive Rangers and volunteers

And as an added benefit this year, many kids were introduced to our San Pedro Valley County Park, so they can now return with their families!



Programs such as this one need the support of volunteers from the Friends of SPVP. If you have interest in working with kids in the park and can help with similar activities in the future, let us know!



## ~~~ 2023 Friends Photo Contest - "People's Choice" Winner ~~~

As was done last year, the winning images from this year's contest were printed and displayed in the Visitor Center, and for a period of about 60 days, all visitors were able to view them and vote on their favorite. The photo that garnered the most votes during that time was selected as the 'People's Choice Award' winner.

In late July, the ballots were counted and we are very pleased to announce that **this year's winner was Shane Kadlecik** for his photograph "Coast Live Oak & Atmospheric Trail," which had been awarded first place in the Trails & Landscapes category by the judges earlier this year. **Congratulations Shane!!**

Shane will receive a certificate of award from the Friends at our Membership Meeting and BBQ on September 17th. (see the July-August issue of Valley Views to view Shane's winning photo)

### Recent Programs

#### Gabe Kerschner's Wild Things by Mark Golembiewski

Gabe Kerschner brought his wonderful children's program to SPVP on Thursday, July 20th and once again wowed an enthusiastic crowd of children and adults with his wildlife ambassadors and his infectious humor. This year's group of "wild things" that Gabe brought to meet us from his wildlife sanctuary included "Samantha," a brown lemur, "Harley," a striped skunk, "Noah," a red-tailed boa constrictor, "Darwin," a capuchin monkey, "Opie," a Virginia opossum, "Dewey Hopper," an African bullfrog, and last, but not least, "Chubbs," a North American alligator. See each of these engaging creatures in order in the photos below. (all photos by Mila Stroganoff)



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## Recent Programs

### Gabe Kirschner's Wild Things *(continued from page 9)*



The lucky children who were present at Gabe's show at SPVP on a beautiful summer day were enthralled by Gabe and his wildlife ambassadors (the parents and other grown-ups in attendance seemed to be enjoying the show as well). A great time was had by all!!

### Stephanie Dole - The Beetlelady by Mark Golembiewski

On Saturday, August 12th, the Beetlelady, Stephanie Dole, brought her popular show about insects and beetles, in particular, to SPVP once again. She began with an explanation of the great diversity of insects when compared to mammals, birds, reptiles and fish using a slide show presentation with videos. She went on to focus on the diversity of beetles, with some examples that she brought with her and passed around for the kids to see close up and touch. She concluded with program by taking the kids outside to show them how to catch bugs using butterfly nets and home-made pooters that they made out on the patio. Judging by the excitement displayed by the kids, and their participation, throughout the program, I'd say they had a pretty good time!





**Images of Some of the Small Inhabitants of SPVP** by Bing Huey



Spiny leaf gall wasp (*Diplolepis rosae*) on California rose leaf - taken 6-12-23 on the Hazelnut Trail



Katydid nymph on woolley sunflower - taken 6-12-23 on the Hazelnut Trail



Larva on paintbrush - taken 7-9-23 on the Hazelnut Trail



Satyr comma butterfly (*Polygonia satyrus*)- taken 7-30-23 on the Hazelnut Trail

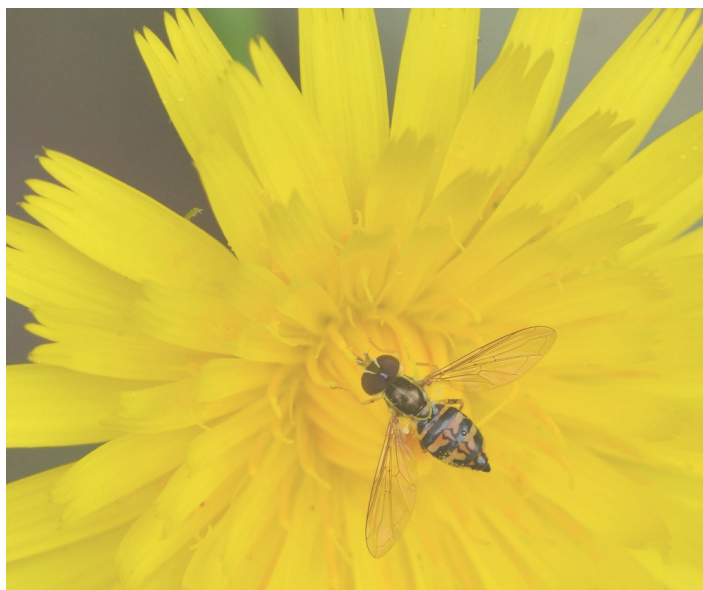


## A Study of Bee-Mimicking Flies in SPVP

by Bing Huey



Hover fly approaches wood mint -  
taken 6-3-23 on the Hazelnut Trail



Syrphid fly on dandelion -  
taken 7-9-23 on the Hazelnut Trail



Robber fly (*Laphria*) with prey -  
taken 7-23-23 on the Montara Mtn Trail



*Bombyliidae* bee fly -  
taken 7-31-23 on the Valley View Trail