



Oxley Nature Center Newsletter

Volume 157

May/June, 2008

Long Distance Monarch Recovered by Ian Clark

Monarch Watch, a program sponsored by the University of Kansas, is renowned for its work in tracing the annual spring and fall migrations of monarch butterflies, and reporting on their overwintering in the mountains of Mexico.

Members of the Blairfield Country Day School's Roots and Shoots environmental club were ecstatic to receive a certificate honoring their fall release of the monarchs they began on October 4, 2007 at Oxley Nature Center in Mohawk Park was recovered 1,180 miles away on March 5, 2008 at Casa Peon, Mexico.



This individual monarch might have begun its journey from as far away as Colorado, but its recovery is likewise impressive upon the children. How nature and environment are intertwined and how something as seemingly insignificant as a butterfly can help prove the tremendous value of an urban park such as Mohawk as a valuable tool and refueling stop during an exhausting international migration. It also underscored the point that one doesn't have to be a trained scientist to make a contribution to scientific research, and that even they, as students, can make an impact in fulfilling the knowledge about monarchs and monarch conservation.

Outdoor Skills Weekend June 11 and 12, 2008

Are you interested in learning new skills or improving existing ones, meeting new people and enjoying work to experience adventures outdoors? If you are 16 years or older, request a registration packet with course descriptions and fees.



Highlights



- Map and compass
- Orienteering
- Rafting
- Canyoning
- Backpacking basics
- Field Sketching
- Jobs for Wild
- Dutch Oven
- Fishing
- Survival



For registration packet, please contact Oxley Nature Center at Blairfield or visit www.oxleynaturecenter.org.

Welcome New Volunteers!

Congratulations to our new volunteer recruits who graduated from the Spring Training program and are eagerly meeting school goals. Welcome to **Haley Belling, Melissa Gray, Kevin Gould, Monroe Hill, and Hill Hill**.

Our new full-time volunteers were busy this Spring. Welcome to **Michael Bates, Tony Barone, Mike Meyer, Brian Mattson, Jack Nash, Valerie O'Brien, John Robinson and Doreen Nery**. The plants look great!

Carroll S. Park and **Paul Brown** are now volunteers doing trail work, and **Guyton Barone** has completed training as a visitor center volunteer. We're glad you're here!

Thank you for your effort and support!

Nature Center Happenings

Redwood Valley and Oakley Nature Center will be

CLOSED

**Monday,
May 26, 2008.**



A \$10 per car Weekend Party fee will be charged weekends April through October. The usual gate will be waived. Oakley members get in free.

GRATE AND WOODS-BURN

The gates of Oakley Nature Center are open daily, with the exception of most City holidays, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in Oakley. You may park outside the gates from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to walk the trails even when the gates are closed.

At Redwood Valley Nature Preserve, the gates are open Wednesdays through Sundays, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. You may **not** use the trails when the Nature Preserve is closed - on Mondays or Tuesdays, on City holidays, before 9:00 a.m., or after 5:00 p.m.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Call: 408-888-4 to register or for more information about programs. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult, unless otherwise stated. Programs that are wheelchair accessible are designated with the ♣ symbol. Programs with wheelchair registration may be cancelled at times prior to program. Visit our website at <http://www.educationcenter.org>.

Kid's Saturday Programs

♣ for general public, ♣ for members, and ♣

Discovery Club Ages 5-7 years
Each one accompanied by an adult, please

May 3, 2008: "From Egg to Terrestrial"
Where does a terrestrial come from? Let's find out how old the egg can become & identify terrestrial. Sign-up begins Sunday, May 4.

Acorners Club Grades K-3rd
See only please

May 3, 2008-100 "Terrestrial on the Wing"
A terrestrial is one of the most beautiful insects. Tell us how you got your name and how to tell if you're a terrestrial. Sign-up begins Sunday, May 4.

Full Moon Walks

Registration required. \$2 for general public,
\$10 for members, all ages. ♣

Sunday, May 25, 7:45-9:00 a.m. "Blossom Moon"

The spring's the best time to encourage abundance of life! We will walk of our own and see flowers & using the flower as the only marking. Are the bees still around?



Monday, June 23, 7:00-8:00 p.m. "Blossom Moon"

The moon is named for the relatively diminished light for blossoms. We will walk the visible moon light in search of wild blossoms and signs of wildlife.

Profile Thunder in Powhukia

Where: Powhukia runway (west of town)
When: Saturdays and Sundays, June 4 & 5

The Lake County Club is hosting the 10-day event between 10:00 and sunset with some waterfalls from 6:00 to 10:00. The Anderson Club of Naturalists offers portable generators, speakers, and activities for families including Live Music, photography provided from the Goldend Square High Center, and co-offering the collection on the storage and citizen projects.

Lake County Club will be participating in a special day, taking advantage of the view and enjoying view of the area. Several telescopes will be available for viewing the night sky, where the Milky Way stretches from horizon to horizon. The Occasion City Education Club will bring free 2008 Live! Astronomy, telescopes. For more information on the event go to <http://www.lakecountyclub.com> or Call Lake Nature Center at 888-8888.

Programs and Special Events

May

1 "Paper Plate, Dishcloth"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: All \$

1:00-2:00 p.m.
free for members

Using a May Day! We will create a May Day basket by recycling old and new grocery bags into strong, sturdy dishcloths. And if you have something to your basket and have a gift perfect for giving, Meet at Casey Sign up anytime.

7 "Saturday Morning Gardening"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$

8:00-9:00 a.m.
registration not required

Meet in the Oakes parking lot at 8:00 a.m.
Bring gloves if you have them.

14 "Butterfly Gardening"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$

1:00-2:00 p.m.
registration not required

Join us on our monthly butterfly walk. Bring brochures if you have them. Meet at Casey.

14 "Cedar Plate Making"

Saturday
\$20 for general public

April: 14-4 up \$

1:00-2:00 p.m.
\$14 for members

The American Indian Plate and its music was an integral part of tribal culture, combined with celebration and entertainment. In this class you will build your own cedar plate. Supplies will be provided. Meet at Casey. Class is limited to 4 participants. Sign-up anytime.

15 "Loop Weaving Days 4 Catfish Needles"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: 15-4 up \$

10:00-12:00 noon
\$2 for members

The ancient technique for creating useful objects found throughout much of the world. Using a special variety of wools to make bags, hats and other items, we will make our own catfish-needle needs and/or bring frog. Meet at Redwood Valley. Sign-up anytime.

17 "Honeybees at Sunset"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: All \$

8:00-10:00 a.m.
free for members

Experience different calls, smells, shapes, sounds, sights, and tastes of our honeybees in what is known as the "nectar, brood" Meet at Redwood Valley to pick out. Sign-up anytime.

May

21 "Back from the Argentine"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: All \$
1:00-2:00 p.m.
free for members

In the past 50 years, more than 100 species of birds have arrived in California. Which one has been left? Do they travel to California? Maybe we can discover it. It is recommended that you wear "Back from the Argentine" in "Marina County Avenue" to also. Meet at Casey Sign up anytime.

25 "Wildflower Walk"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$
8:00-10:00 a.m.

registration not required

Meet at Redwood Valley for a walk through wild.

June

4 "Saturday Morning Gardening"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$

8:00-9:00 a.m.
registration not required

Meet in the Oakes parking lot at 8:00 a.m.
Bring gloves if you have them.

8 "Butterfly Gardening"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$

1:00-2:00 p.m.
registration not required

Join us on our monthly butterfly walk. Bring brochures if you have them. Meet at Casey.

15 "Simple Leaf Printing"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: 15-4 up \$

10:00-12:00 noon
\$2 for members

Using a simple and technique with new tools, chemicals and leaf-plant material we'll create our own nature print art. Meet at Casey. Sign-up anytime.

23 "Wildflower Walk"

Saturday
Free

April: All \$

8:00-10:00 a.m.
registration not required

We will look for wildflowers on the hills of Casey.

24 "Hoppers for Engineers"

Saturday
\$2 for general public

April: All \$

1:00-2:00 p.m.
free for members

Hoppers are the little cousins of the butterfly world. They are also known to be from Japan's Computer and "New of species" look and to call the computer of interest. Meet at Casey. Sign-up anytime.

Spring Art Classes of Oakley With Brenda Knapp

Landscape Painting of Redbud Valley

Date: Saturday, May 14

Time: 10:00-12:00 a.m.

Age: 14 through adult

Skill Level: Beginner through advanced

Materials: Various supplies are needed

Fallows: \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members

Students may work in either oils or acrylics. We'll also visit the fields of Redbud Valley and visit the beautiful scenery. Instruction will emphasize working from general ideas to detail, using color matching cards, and capturing light and shadow. Supply list available with enrollment.



Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.

—Doris Krieger

Kids' Landscape Painting of Redbud Valley

Date: Saturday, May 14

Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Age: 7 through 13

Fallows: \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members

Participate in the field with us and you feel like an artist! Students will paint what they see around them in various points, lessons will emphasize identifying, labeling and composition. Supplies will be provided.

Registration is required for all classes. Fee must accompany registration. Sponsored by OACA.