“Sunny and 75” is a Southern California staple. We may not have the changing of the seasons or snow days, but good weather has been a guarantee for most visitors, travelers, and residents of Southern California. This year has been an outlier; rain has been abundant and trips to the beach have been much less frequent. We often take for granted the nice weather and the ability to experience activities outside.

Throughout the calendar school year, The Agua Hedionda Foundation, relies on the sunshine so that students and visitors can fully experience all that the discovery center has to offer. It truly is an amazing sight and experience (Continue to page 3)
THE BUZZ

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation

**Events**

**Discovery Gala 2019, BOND~ The Lagoon That Loved Me**
- Sa Aug 24
- 5:30pm Highrollers
- 6pm Regular Casino
- @ Westin Carlsbad Resort & Spa

*Character themed black dress attire*
- Members: $185
- Prospective Members: $250
- Table: $1750

*Sponsorships Available*

**KIDS KLUB**
- Sa 9-10:15am
- Jul 27 | Aug 17 | Sep 28

**Yoga**
- Sa 9-10:15am & Tues 6-7
- $12 / First Class Free
- $8 Drop in Members

**BIRD WALKS**
- Su 8am @ the DC
- Jul 21 | Aug 18 | Sep 15

**Closure Dates**
- Jul 4, Jul 6, Aug 24, Aug 31, Sep 2
* Partial closure dates, please check website

**Events**

**Members Exclusive Wine Tasting**
- Sa Jul 27
- 4-6pm

*Guests of members are $5 each*

Enjoy complimentary wine tasting and learn about Pegasus Winery

*Sponsored by PEGASUS ESTATE WINERY*
CHARCUTERIE BOARD SPONSORED BY TIP TOP MEATS

RSVP: samantha@aguahedionda.org

**At the D.C.**

**Bayshore Trail**
- Sa July 13
- 9am-12noon

*Please remember closed-toe shoes, sunscreen and reusable water bottle*

**Cove Trail**
- Sa Sep 21
- 9am-12noon

**Native American Gathering Night**
- Basket weaving demonstration by Diana Caudell of the Luiseno Band of Native Americans.
- Thurs Jul 11
- 5:30-7:30 pm
- Adult ONLY event

* No registration required

**Adult Series**

Contact: Kyle2@aguahedionda.org

Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation | 1580 Cannon Road, Carlsbad CA 92008 | (760) 804-1969 | www.aguahedionda.org
to witness smiling kids running around outside interacting with our great outdoors.

As Director of Education, maintaining the quality of education students receive through our programs is my ultimate concern. Our Academy of Environmental Stewardship educated 8,750 students during the 2018-2019 calendar year and we hosted students for a fieldtrip on a total of 143 days from September-June. Our programs educate students about nature in nature; cultivating the future generation of environmental stewards. We have outdoor classrooms that allow the lessons to be full of movement and interaction.

This year, Carlsbad has experienced 35 wet days, which indicates that rainfall has occurred on 21% of the days in the 6 months of the year that have already occurred.

Imagine hosting 90 excited third and fourth graders, or 60 kindergarteners for a fieldtrip. The room is filled with laughter and chatter as they anxiously await the hands-on learning opportunities they were told about. If weather does not permit the students to go outside, the experience is not the same. Our Academy operates rain or shine and while most of the lessons can be converted to be done inside, we have learned that part of a successful fieldtrip is allowing students to engage with outside, real-life elements of nature. Logistically, rain can make planning and executing lessons difficult. With limited indoor space, the individual learning stations become more restrained and can make it harder for students to retain the information they are hearing. Luckily, the team at Agua Hedionda Lagoon has come up with creative ways to keep students moving and engaged on rainy days. For one school, we led farm animal yoga during lunch to release some energy from being cooped up all day.

Of course, rain is essential for a healthy watershed and luscious greenery. The rain filled the Discovery Center vernal pool, spruced up our native garden and sprouted blooms of wildflowers along the coast. With 14 of the last 20 water years — prior to this year — having been drier than average, forecasters say it’s not unusual for recent rainfall to surprise Californians. This amount of rainfall can be beneficial for keeping California out of a drought and reducing wildfires but when the rain effects students’ ability to learn outside at the Agua Hedionda Lagoon, we hope that the coming months are slightly less wet.

By Cierra Russo, Director of Education

By Cierra Russo, Director of Education

Volunteers Needed

Saturdays
October 5
2019
12 PM to 9 PM

Oktoberfest & Family Fall Festival

Holiday Park
Carlsbad

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Our Donors of the Quarter are Henry and Mary-April Schute for their generosity and love of our community Discovery Center! Henry & Mary-April are long time members of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation and have continued to support us with their time, talents and treasures. They have made donations to many of our campaigns, both large and small throughout the years. Though, their greatest gift is giving us their daughter, Anne, for over 40 hours per week to dedicate towards taking care of all the animal ambassadors who call the Discovery Center home. We love the Shute family!
We are grateful for the support of new and returning members of the Foundation. We could not continue to grow and expand in our mission without you. Your dedication, love and support continues to keep our community clubhouse open and thriving; our native garden and trails green and clean; our animal ambassadors entertained and healthy; and our future environmental stewards educated.

RECENTLY, WE HAVE SWITCHED DATABASES AND ARE CURRENTLY TRANSFERRING OVER ALL OUR RECORDS. AT THIS TIME WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCURATELY LIST ALL OF OUR MEMBERS. AS SOON AS OUR NEW DATABASE IS FUNCTIONAL, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION AND THANKS IN OUR NEWSLETTER BY NAMING ALL OUR MEMBERS HERE AGAIN.

Our Members Make it Happen!
Words from the trenches...I like the way that sounds and it is exactly how I feel about some awesome volunteers we have the privilege of working with this year. My lens is rose colored because, I’ve been a Rotarian since 2005. Seeing the dedication and impact that they collectively have in our community is astounding to all that experience it. Many people don’t even know how many lives Rotarians touch and we at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation are so happy that we have had the connection to RAW (Rotarian at Work Day) to experience the journey first hand. Having the opportunity to work with this extraordinary group at Agua Hedionda was truly amazing. As we all know it was a rather wet winter and this caused our native plants to struggle to survive and our facility to become water, water everywhere.

During RAW this year, Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary, took to building a small roof to protect the doors of the Executive Board Room and the flooring that took on water from the doors leaking from rain. The roof is a happy addition to our lovely Discovery Center that was voted best free nature center in 2018. A dozen Rotarians took to sawing, hammering, and measuring ultimately creating this beautiful roofing that would protect our facility and the safety of the children that learn here.

As half of the group was creating the roof, the other half was pulling a ton of weeds that were choking out the native plants. So even though we are grateful for continuous showers of Mother Nature, it took dedicated volunteers, namely, Hi-Noon Rotarians, to bring back the beauty. We could barely tell there was a garden and the path to the plants was so overgrown. On a hot Day in April, they pulled weeds for 3 hours to make the Native plants happy and the garden to thrive once again.

Its hard work educating the Future Lagoon Stewards and with Rotary’s help the water that is needed for the environment no longer threatens the natives or the facility we call home. RAW is all about rolling up their sleeves and literally working in the trenches of their community; water, water everywhere is a blessing after all thanks to them. I invite you to discover our beauty anytime.
We are grateful and appreciative of our Board Member of the Quarter, Diane Proulx. Diane provided us tremendous support for our inaugural event, The Lagoona Kahuna Team Challenge. She recruited a total of 6 different teams to participate, including Grand Pacific Resorts, Grand Pacific Palisades, Carlsbad Seapointe Resort, Carlsbad Inn, Grand Pacific Vacation Services, and San Clemente Cove/Southern California Beach Club. This fundraising effort generated $5,000 in funding for the educational programming.
Southern California is home to an abundance of water dwelling animals, and not just in the ocean. Inland California is a great habitat for animals such as frogs, toads, fish, water striders, and many others. One such animal is the California Treefrog. It thrives in and near ponds, lakes, and rivers, and as an amphibian, it immensely enjoys the rain. They live off of insects, spiders, and centipedes, and they are nocturnal. When threatened, they rely on their coloration of gray and brown with dark blotches to hide themselves. They may also jump into the water and then quickly escape. Male tree frogs become territorial when in the presence of another male during the breeding season. Their range is from coastal Southern California into San Luis Obispo County all the way east to Joshua Tree National Park. Although they are small, California Treefrogs are some of the most interesting frog species of Southern California.

By Aiden Bolstad, 11 year old volunteer
California Watersports

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CarlsbadLagoon.com
The inaugural Lagoona Kahuna Team Challenge, chaired by Gary Endres–Stifel Carlsbad, took place on the Agua Hedionda Lagoon down at California Water Sports on Friday May 10th, 2019. Presented by Walmart Labs, this fundraising event served as a team building clean-up effort on the lagoon and a great opportunity for businesses to support an environmentally friendly initiative, build team relationships, and ultimately be crowned “The Big Kahuna” by receiving the prized paddle and bragging rights for the year.

The day began with a scavenger hunt clean-up via kayak, paddle board, and shoreline stroll along the lagoon and its shores. In addition to trash pick-up, competitors also had the opportunity to participate in trail restoration along Bayshore Drive Trail. Meanwhile teams competed for points by finding hidden medallions, picking up the most trash by weight and number of pieces; in addition to, the most unique piece of trash. After the clean-up challenge, teams competed in team building challenges including Blindfolded Corn Hole, Giant Volleyball, Water Cycle Basketball and Water Relays.

The final winners were Ryan LLC, 3rd place, Hospice of the North Coast, 2nd place, and Calsense, 1st place, was crowned “The Big Kahuna”. Although only one team was crowned champion, everyone is a winner for helping to remove 767.8 pounds of debris and 135.8 pounds of invasive species and weeds from our lagoon. We wish to thank Waste Management for hauling it all away!

We give a paddle of applause to all our participants: Calsense, Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce, CSUSM, Easy Life Management, Grand Pacific Resorts (Carlsbad Inn, Grand Pacific Palisades, Vacation Services, San Clemente Cove, Southern California Beach Club & Capistrano Beach Club), Hospice of the North Coast, Ryan LLC, Salesforce, Thermo Fisher Scientific and Walmart Labs. We would also like to thank our non-profit team sponsors: Carlsbad Seapointe Resort, Stifel Carlsbad and Weseloh of Carlsbad; in addition to, California Water Sports for being the Venue and Vessel Sponsor, Pizza Port for providing the lunch and beer and Ryan LLC for being our Sustaining Sponsor.
We’re hiring!

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- Program Management

- Design
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- Architecture

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Our Volunteer of the Quarter is Andy Sanchez. Andy is a hard-working, dedicated, and motivated volunteer. Andy is constantly willing to go above and beyond the call of duty and has aided the Discovery Center on multiple landscaping and building renovation projects that have helped us to keep the Discovery Center looking welcoming and beautiful. We cannot thank Andy enough for sharing all his talents with us.
Carlsbad is a hub of public access. From broad beaches to narrow inland trails, the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation is dedicated to promoting environmental stewardship and awareness through public access. A wide array of volunteers, community members, interns, and staff members make all of it possible. We want to highlight some of the projects and people who’ve helped keep the AHL Trail system open all year round.

With 6 miles of public trails, 400 acres of habitat, and a large diversity of species there is a lot to experience at the lagoon. Our monthly trail events are the place to be if you want to experience it all. In the past year eleven local businesses, three local colleges, three local high schools, four community organizations, and many community members participated in 21 separate trail cleanup events. A total of 345 volunteers helped across five trail system. These trails would not be usable without their support. Volunteers repaired trail tred, installed protective fencing, planted native species, picked up trash, and removed invasive plant species.

Any trail volunteer can attest three-hour trail events are plenty of work for anyone. We are grateful to our interns and long-term volunteers who, despite the rigor, put their time and energy into conservation every week. This year, eight interns from local high schools and colleges helped coordinate regular trail work and participated in scientific study. They held a variety of responsibilities including monitoring invasive plant species, community concerns, and possible hazards. They also participated in the AHLF Sea Lavender Eradication project, studying non-herbicidal ways of treating Limonium ramosissimum invasions in Coastal Salt Marsh habitats. We are proud that multiple of our interns have progressed into larger positions here and at other ecological firms this year.
There have been a number of projects which contributed significantly to the health and happiness of Agua Hedionda. We received additional funding for the Sea Lavender Eradication project. This allows for large-scale treatment in the coastal reserve and for cooperation between the AHLF, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, and the Newport Bay Conservancy. We’ve also begun a new cooperative project with the Berkley Lab and Poseidon water focusing on water quality at the lagoon. Look for more from both of these projects in coming years.

Two new trails have been added to the Discovery Center, hosting seven outdoor education classrooms. These trails and classrooms provide learning areas for students and visitors alike. Both trails are surrounded by preserved lands, exhibits on water conservation, pollinator-friendly plant species, and a plethora of learning opportunities. Please feel free to stop by the center and check them out.

We are grateful to the community and to the many people who have kept these trails accessible, healthy, and safe for another year. Thank YOU!
Vernal pools are seasonal pools of water that provide habitat for distinctive plants and animals. They are now a rarity on the California landscape. In San Diego County, a few occur on the Kearny and Otay Mesas, in Proctor Valley, near Cuyamaca Lake, and here in Carlsbad. The Agua Hedionda Lagoon is home to one restored vernal pool.

Vernal pools arise when winter rains collects in shallow depressions lined with clay soil. The non-porous clay allows water to gather rather than sink below the surface. Delicate plants ring the pool’s edges while animals big and small take advantage of the water. There in the middle of grasslands and fields, vernal pools spring to life. As quickly as vernal pools form, they evaporate. Winter storms abate by late spring and by summer, the only life hinting at the presence of Agua Hedionda’s vernal pool are plants like spiny juncus and occasional wildflowers that line the pool’s edge.

The center of a vernal pool collects the most water and sees the greatest evaporation. As a result, it is more alkaline and saline than the outer edges. At Agua Hedionda’s vernal pool, you’ll see salt-tolerant plants, such as saltwort, saltgrass, and alkali heath. In the spring, vernal pools are remarkable islands of life. They support an array of wildlife—some large and some very small. Dormant until the rains arrive, the eggs of aquatic invertebrates hatch and develop rapidly into adult forms. Springtails, worms, copepods, water boatmen, and diving beetles race to complete their life cycles before the water recedes. Larger animals, such as waterfowl, are temporary visitors. During annual migrations, American wigeons, mallards, and cinnamon teals stop here to rest and feed.

By Samantha Richter, Chief Operations Officer
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Our Non-Profit of the Quarter is Hospice of the North Coast (HNC) for their dedication and effort in all they do. HNC participated in our Lagoona Kahuna Team Challenge and gave every challenge a 110%. They are also an active member of AHLF and help to support our mission in addition to their own. HNC’s personal mission is to provide compassionate personalized care to patients and families during the end-of-life transition and is dedicated to offering patients and families the right to experience the highest quality of life possible during end-of-life care.
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- Featuring Pegasus Wines at Table
- Open Casino

We hope to “spy” you there!

Discovery Gala 2019
Bond: The Lagoon That Loved Me
Saturday, August 24th
Carlsbad Westin Resort & Spa