



AMIA

THE ANDERSON MARSH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION
*Promoting education & interpretive activities at
Anderson Marsh State Historic Park*

PO BOX 672, LOWER LAKE, CA 95457 (707) 995-2658 WWW.ANDERSONMARSH.ORG SPRING 2024



2024 Anderson Marsh State Historic Park First Day Hike group. Some of the 100 people who attended the First Day Hike pose for the annual group photo.

Another large crowd attends the January 1st First Day Hike at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

By Henry Bornstein

On New Year's Day, over one hundred visitors decided to get a healthy start to 2024 by participating in the tenth annual First Day Hike held at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park in Lake County. Hikers of all ages enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day in the park, and ranged from "old timers" who regularly hike in the park to first time visitors.

The First Day Hike at Anderson Marsh has

become a Lake County tradition. With the exception of 2021, which was canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the First Day Hikes at the park have attracted over 100 attendees for each of the past ten years. To allow visitors to "sleep in" on New Year's Day, the hikes begin at noon.

The hike this year covered a three-mile

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State Parks volunteer docent Henry Bornstein used his tailgate to gain some elevation while describing the route that hikers would take on the First Day Hike.

First Day Hike

(Continued from page 1)

loop on the park's trail system and was led by an all-volunteer team of State Park Docents. The hikers were divided into two groups to accommodate the large number of visitors, with each group starting in a different direction and passing each other in the middle of the hike.

Each group stopped periodically to allow the hike leaders to discuss the flora and fauna that was encountered on the trail. The recent rains created a good opportunity to identify the animal tracks on the trails and the sunny day was made brighter by Western Bluebirds finding perches in the trees and shrubs.

The State Park staff and volunteers at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park are looking forward to the start of another year of guided nature walks at the park, culminating with next year's First Day Hike on January 1, 2025.



Hikers on the Cache Creek Nature Trail.



Retired State Park Ranger Tom Nixon describing the oak trees found in the park.

President's Message

By
Roberta
Lyons

If you have driven past Anderson Marsh State Historic Park lately or visited the park, you will know there has been a lot of construction activity. The Park is finally getting a new bathroom. The bathroom is a handicap accessible "vault" toilet that will be pumped out periodically and kept clean and stocked by the park staff.



Another exciting development (well, if you can be excited about a toilet) is construction of an accessible trail from the parking lot to the Ranch House, and all the way out to the boardwalk that leads to Cache Creek. The parking lot also now

features marked and paved accessible parking, with the "iron ranger" (the metal box for paying day use fees) being moved to a more visible spot so people will be more likely to pay the fee when enjoying the area. There is now also a way to pay the \$4 day use fee using your smart phone and a free app.

The Valley Oak planting project that began last year is proceeding. Extra watering was required

in August so Gordon Haggitt and yours truly took AMIA's spiffy new water-tank equipped "gator" utility vehicle to the oak cluster sites and gave each tree a good watering. The survival rate is pretty good so far for this type of project. Of course, we will be looking for volunteers for helping with watering this year. It is usually hot, but we get out as early as we can. A large tank with a hose attached lives in the back of the gator, so we are able to carry a few hundred gallons of water.

The monthly guided nature walks are going well. Henry Bornstein is the usual leader and he always gets a good turnout. I attended one recently and found out I can still learn something about Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. I urge park fans to attend these walks. They are fun, educational, and a nice social event in nature.

As AMIA goes into its 41st year, we have a lot to look back on and a lot to be proud of. Things have changed, especially since Covid, but we're still here and are still busy helping the park, even though we have changed some of our activities. You can learn about some of the projects we are working on in this newsletter.

See you at the Park!

ANDERSON MARSH NEWS

is published by the
Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association
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Roberta Lyons - Newsletter Coordinator
Newsletter Layout - Robin Winniford



Jenny Papka of Native Bird Connections introduces a live Asian Hawk Owl at last year's Senior Days event.



Rob Morgan, Koi Nation tribal historian, discussed the history of his people at a Senior Days event.



Michelle Koschik, vector control biologist with the Lake County Vector Control District greets visitors to her booth during last year's Senior Days event at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park.

AMIA “Senior Days” are planned for June and July

By Henry Bornstein

In light of the success of last year's Senior Days events at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, AMIA is planning to reprise the events with a series of special interpretive talks and demonstrations designed to encourage Lake County's senior citizens to visit the park and learn about the county's nature and history. If last year's events are anything to go by, this will be educational and a lot of fun.

The program will be held on the first and third Saturdays of June and July, with separate events in the morning and the afternoon. Unlike last year's programs, participants will need to separately register in advance of each morning or afternoon program, and each program will have a \$5 registration fee to help cover the cost of the events. In order to allow as many people to participate as possible, there will be a limit of 4 separate program registrations per person.

Watch for future announcements about these events on our website (andersonmarsh.org), Facebook and in local online and print newspapers and calendars. We hope as many people as possible can take advantage of this program.



Michelle Koschik presents to the crowd during last Spring's Senior Days event at the park.



Harry Lyons, explains the boulder pile at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park during the February Guided Nature Walk.

Guided Nature Walks continue at the park

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park continues to hold monthly guided Nature Walks in 2024 starting at 8:30am on the second Saturday of each month except December. The Nature Walks are led by California State Parks volunteer docents and usually last about two hours. The actual route taken will depend on the weather and the condition of the trails. Participants should bring water and wear sturdy shoes and a hat and binoculars if they have them. There is no charge for the guided hikes and parking is free for participants.

There will be a special hike in the park on January 1, 2025 starting at noon as part of the nationwide First Day Hike program, with state parks systems in many states across the country participating in helping to get American families to start off the New Year right by getting out into nature.

We invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to get some healthy exercise in the outdoors, see a beautiful part of Lake County and learn something about nature and local history from our knowledgeable park docents.

See you at the park!



Checking out the acorn woodpecker cache tree on the Marsh Trail.



RED-SHOULDERED HAWK

Buteo lineatus

Size: 17-24 inches long; wingspread 32-50 inches.

Voice: A loud, rapid "kee-you, kee-you, kee-you."

Habitat: Lowland woods, river-bottoms, swamps, even thickly-settle farmlands.

Food: Small-to-medium mammals: mice to skunks; small birds, reptiles; beetles, snails, worms.

Nest: 20-60 ft. up, in crotch of branches in hardwoods or conifers, made of sticks, moss, evergreen sprigs.

Range: Mainly northern California to northern Baja; north central states, southern Canada, central eastern states to Texas; accidental in Scotland; year-round locally.

Example from new exhibit. Photo by Brad Barnwell

South Barn Interpretive Center's new bird photo exhibits coming

The Interpretive Center located in the historic South Barn at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park contains exhibits created by AMIA that are used for public school field trips and special tours of the park. Exhibits include bird mounts, animal furs, copies of ancient rock carvings found in the park and examples of stone and obsidian tools used by the indigenous people who inhabited the land for thousands of years.

Now, a new exhibit of photos and descriptions of birds found in the park is being created by AMIA to add to the Center's collection. The first phase of this project will produce a set of eight photos and descriptions to be displayed during school field trips and other tours. The beautiful photos were taken by Brad Barnwell, a well-known local nature photographer. The graphic design and production are being done by Anne Riggs, AMIA Board Member and Membership Chair.

If anyone is interested in arranging a school field trip to the park, please contact the State Parks Lake County office at (707) 279-2267.

State Parks renames trail at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

By Henry Bornstein

In response to a proposal from the Koi Nation, the descendants of the indigenous people who resided on the land that is now known as Anderson Marsh State Historic Park ("AMSHP") for many thousands of years, State Parks has renamed the former McVicar Trail in order to acknowledge the land's ancestral and cultural significance to the Koi and other Southeastern Pomo tribes.

AMSHP was acquired and designated a State Historic Park in 1983 primarily to preserve the park's archaeological and cultural significance. As identified in the 1988 General Plan, "the archaeological sites remaining from the first 10,000 years of human occupation constitute one of the most complete records of pre-historic Native American cultures in the entire State Park System."

The new name for the trail is "Dawa Qanoq'ana," which translates to "south way in front of me" in the Southeastern Pomo language. The trail leads from the Anderson Flats trail to the shores of Clear Lake across from Indian Island (known to the indigenous people as "Koi"), a distance of a little under four miles.

"If you received this newsletter through the US mail, it may be because we do not have your email address. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, along with other news about happenings at the Park, please email us at info@andersonmarsh.org."



Gae Henry and Henry Bornstein, AMIA board members, got one-on-one time with State Parks Director Armando Quintero.

AMIA Board Members attend State Parks “Engaging in Partnership” training

In November 2023, AMIA Board Members Gae Henry and Henry Bornstein attended a three-day “Engaging in Partnership” training sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The training, held at the Asilomar Conference Center, included representatives from many other nonprofit “park partner” organizations and State Parks employees ranging from local park staff to the state parks director.

The training provided a forum for engagement between state parks and partner organizations and, in the words of the training program, “provided an opportunity to learn and share the skills necessary to develop successful relationships that move State Parks and its partners toward an innovative and sustainable future.”

The three days of workshops were varied, ranging from handling challenging volunteer situations to marketing strategies and natural disaster training. In addition to the formal workshops, the three-day program provided valuable opportunities for informal conversations “in the hall” between sessions with state parks managers and representatives from other nonprofit association, including an opportunity to get one-on-one with Armando Quintero, the Director of the California State Parks system.

Looking for another way to get information about events at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park? Ask to be put on our events email list by sending an email to: info@andersonmarsh.org



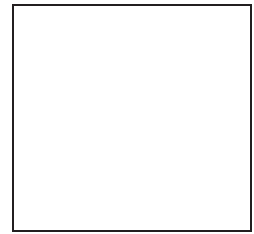
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ANDERSON MARSH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to the preservation of all facets of the park. New members are always welcome! Come Join the Fun!

2024 AMIA Membership Application

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Special Interest (music, education, history, ecology, archaeology, other): _____

I would like to know about volunteer opportunities

AMIA members receive the AMIA newsletter, special invitations to attend events being held at the park and the satisfaction that comes from supporting a community treasure and working to preserve it for future generations.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Annual

Amount	Membership Level	Member Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	Educator/Student	Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	Individual	Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	Family	Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	Supporter	Newsletter and Newsletter Mention
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Sustainer	Newsletter, Newsletter Mention, Donor Event and DVD of "A Walk Through Time" film
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Patron	Sustainer benefits + special recognition at event
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Business Supporter	Newsletter, Donor Event, Newsletter Mention, Website Link
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Business Sustainer	Business supporter benefits +DVD of AMSHP film

Please send check and completed application to

AMIA

**P.O. Box 672
Lower Lake, CA 95457**

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www.andersonmarsh.org

For more info call AMIA
at 707-995-2658