Friends of Madrona Marsh Nature Center and Preserve

2021 Annual Report

During the year the Preserve offered a calm, beautiful place to walk and breathe for 16,909 visitors.

The Friends would like to acknowledge Steve Ash, Assistant Manager, and his part time staff; Jessica, Tracy, Mark and Jonathan, for their tireless dedication to keeping the Preserve, Nature Center and Gardens open and welcoming for all.



The Nature Center reopened in June and many educational programs returned:

Tyke Hikes for young children

Friday Fun for preschoolers

Nature Story and Crafts for young children

Bird Walks for Beginners and Intermediate Birders

Nature Walks for all ages

Restoration continued

with Dan Portway's Team, Tony Baker and volunteer groups such as the Audubon Society's Young Environmental Scientists



Next time you visit, stop and chat with **Jonathan Nakai** who is undertaking a restoration of the Coastal Prairie area of the Preserve. This project is funded by Audubon Friends of Madrona Marsh, Board of Directors

Suzan Hubert, President

Bobbie Snyder, Vice President

Carol Roelen, Secretary

Ellen Peterson, Treasurer

Jeanne Bellemin, Zoology Advisor

Bob Shanman, Ornithology Advisor



Congratulations to The Madrona Marsh Volunteer of the Year, **Estelle DeRidder** for her work on the extraordinary mural she is painting in the Nature Center. See photo to right

Membership: 727 Many thanks to **SkyOne Credit Union** for their promotion of Membership in the Friends.

Meet Our New Board Members

Steven Birnbrum grew up locally in Hermosa Beach and studied Environmental Studies at UC Santa Cruz. He is currently working at the Palos Verdes Landfill as a Technician. "I love the Madrona Marsh and am happy to help as the new Membership Director." Steve will work with long time membership volunteer **Cliff Heise**. Cliff will continue to maintain records for membership.

Catherine Leys, Volunteer Director, works in human rights with various non-government organizations. She is active in the Torrance community, working to achieve real time air monitoring through Torranceair.org. She has lived in Torrance for nearly a decade with her husband and two kids, ages 8 and 10. "They love going to the Marsh and exploring all that it offers!"

Biological Collections and Display Committee

The new Collections and Display committee, directed by board member **Jeanne Bellemin**, will utilize some of our better specimens of preserved birds. Although we have many great taxidermy mounts of birds, we have only a small collection of birds prepared as study skins. Study skins preserve the skin with feathers, the skull with beak and the legs of the bird. They are easier to transport for teaching and outreach purposes.



