

Calendar of Upcoming Events

2009 Deer Creek Hills Hike, Bike and Equestrian Outings Schedule

Saturday, March 21, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Celebrate Spring Free Hike!

Saturday, March 28, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Wildflower and Natural Wonders Hike

Sunday, March 29, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Equestrian Ride

Saturday, April 25, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Birds and Wildflowers of DCH

Sunday, April 26, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Equestrian Ride

Saturday, May 23, 9:00am – 1:00pm
History/Archeological Interests of DCH

Sunday, May 24, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Equestrian Ride (TBA)

June TBA
Bat Night

August 15, 7:00pm-10:00pm
Astronomy Night

June/August TBA
Mountain Biking

For more information contact
outreach@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org or 916/731-8798

Announcements

SVC Goes Virtual in a Whole New Way

Have you had a chance to check out the new Sacramento Valley Conservancy website? Go to www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org and take a look around! We have updated information, great new photos, up to date events calendar and new staff emails. Please email Wendy Baty, Administrative Director at wbaty@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org to get on our new Enews system to get the latest updates for upcoming events and SVC news.

Conservancy Wish List

Contact Tammy Mebane, Stewardship Director,
at 916/216-2178 or
tmebane@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org
if you can donate the following needed items:

Weed sprayer
(backpack or truck mounted)

4 wheel drive truck

Thank you!



sacramento valley conservancy

Retooling, Revamping, Energizing Your Future

SVC Pursues Land Trust Alliance Accreditation

Lean times favor the fittest, strongest and most nimble. Now is the time for all of us to be creative and unconventional about our lives and organizations. To reexamine, focus on what's most important to us and use creative efficiency to achieve our core goals.

You help SVC do this every day . . . supporting us with investments of time, energy, notes to us about your values and how SVC helps realize them, and funding. You create SVC every time you support us.

You create the YES (Youth Education and Stewardship) overnight backpacking and day trips to Deer Creek Hills, providing local youth with a special place very close to home to experience and care for their natural world. You create special places preserved for you, your family, and future generations. You create clean water, clean air, local food, trails, and homes for stunning wildflowers and rare wildlife.

You care about providing and sustaining these special places

Get Out There and Thrive

Hike, Bike, Ride, Stargaze with SVC

Spring is in the air and what better time to visit Deer Creek Hills. Whether it's your first time or coming back to a place you love, every season brings new and exciting wonders out to experience. We have a great line-up of outings in 2009. Celebrate the first day of spring with a free hike at Deer Creek Hills on Saturday, March 21st.

Our regular scheduled docent-led outings will be great for viewing Wildflowers on March 28 and April 25. These hikes focus on the plants, natural wonders, and birds. For all of you horse enthusiasts, join us for one of our equestrian rides on March 29 and April 26.

Don't forget we also open our self-guided interpretive trail during 9am-1pm on March 28, April 25, and May 23. This is free to the public and you can take the entire family and stroll at your own pace.

As we wind down the season we will offer our 2nd annual Cowboy Breakfast, free to our members, May 2nd. If you're not a member yet, join for \$25 (can pay on website) and come on out! Join us for coffee, pancakes and great



Given the chance, acorns grow into oak trees and boys grow into men. Boys from the Sacramento Food Bank enjoy their day trip at Deer Creek Hills Preserve.

Gina Silvernale Photography

(See Accreditation . . . page 2)

(See Get Out . . . page 2)

www.SacramentoValleyConservancy.org

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Nonprofit ID
68-0256214

Spring 2009

Accreditation . . . *(continued from page 1)*

and basic needs and so you created SVC. We honor you by constantly striving to improve what we do so we can sustain your creation for future generations.

One of the best ways for SVC to retool, revamp, reexamine and energize is peer review and criticism—from you and from our fellow land trusts. The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) provides nationwide support and standards for land trusts like SVC to help us do our job better. LTA offers accreditation and SVC is pleased to announce we are applying for accreditation and a public comment period is now open for you to provide input.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of LTA, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs.

The Commission invites public input

and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how SVC complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see www.landtrustaccreditation.org/getting-accredited/2008-indicator-practices.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183; (mail) 112 Spring Street, Suite 204, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Comments on SVC's application will be most useful by May 10, 2009.

Thanks for providing your comments and helping SVC create a great Sacramento Region for future generations!

Give . . . *(continued from page 3)*

Best of all, the donor receives two major tax benefits: an income tax deduction for 30-60% of the value of the assets transferred, and, when the annuity is formed with a cash investment, part of the annuity payments are tax-free as a return of principal. When appreciated securities are transferred part of the donor's cost basis is received tax-free, while a portion of any long-term capital gain is taxed pro-rata at low capital gain tax rates.

This all means that your rate of return is multiplied compared to a taxable investment. For example, a 5.3% return on a charitable gift annuity, would be approximately equivalent to a 7% return on a taxable investment. And, a 9.5% return on a charitable gift annuity would be approximately equivalent to a 14.29% return on a taxable investment.

Call Aimee Rutledge, Executive Director, to find out more at 916-492-0908.

Get Out . . . *(continued from page 1)*

conversation, before heading out on a nice mid-morning hike.

Don't miss our May 23rd history hike at Deer Creek Hills where you'll step back 150 years into its fascinating history. Pioneer settler "Solomon Miser" (aka David Scharlach – SVC 2007 Volunteer of the Year), will take you to days of the Miwok, Kit Carson, Sutter, and the gold rush. His stories will weave the fabric of early California. Now this is how history should be taught!

Keep an eye on our website for more information on summer events such as mountain biking rides, bat night, stargazing and a few sunset hikes.

For more information about outings, check out the "Calendar" section at www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org



Give and gain returns for you . . . and save special places, too!

Help SVC and yourself by investing in a Charitable Gift Annuity for the benefit of SVC at the Sacramento Region Community Foundation.

An investment decision you make now could protect a vernal pool wetland, mighty foothill oaks, a trail for your children and grandchildren to enjoy or the local Central Valley food we all love.

Your irrevocable investment of \$10,000 or more (cash or securities) will earn you an interest rate between 5 and 9% for the remainder of your life or your beneficiary's life (rates as of 2-1-09). This investment opportunity starts at age 65 and rates of return increase up to age 90. By making this investment for yourself or someone you love, you will pass on a legacy to future generations when the remainder in the account, at the end of the beneficiary's life, supports SVC.

(See Give . . . page 2)

What joy will your legacy gift create? Girl from Bell Avenue School (located in North Sacramento) discovers nature in all its delicacy at the Deer Creek Hills Preserve. Gina Silvernale Photography

Donations Form

YES!

I want to make a difference and help create a legacy for the future and preserve Sacramento's beautiful open space, natural habitat and agriculture.

Gifts to the Sacramento Valley Conservancy are tax deductible. If you would like more information, please call (916) 492.0908 or email us at www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org

Here is my tax deductible donation of:

\$20 \$35 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other

Name _____

Company/Title _____

Street _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

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Contact me about: Planned Giving Becoming a Volunteer



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THANK YOU.