



CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Membership Categories	Annual Dues
Student	\$ 15
Senior	\$ 15
Individual.....	\$ 25
Family	\$ 50
Sponsor	\$ 100
Patron	\$ 250
Corporate or Life	\$ 1000

Make checks payable to:
Animals for Education

Mail to:
Critter Creek Wildlife Station
36710 Sand Creek Road
Squaw Valley, CA 93675

Members receive our quarterly newsletter
Visit CritterCreek.org to see back issues of the Chronicle

Critter Creek Wildlife Station's Fall Open House Saturday, September 22nd 11:00am-2:00pm

Gates will close at 1:30 to allow time to tour

With the uncertainty of the pandemic, masks may be required at this event.

Entrance is by donation. Field parking is free. The Open House will be unguided, so the pace is leisurely and there are more opportunities to take pictures. Our volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions that you have and to share stories about some of our permanent residents. The expanded gift shop will be open. We have a picnic area, so bring a lunch or the country store next door has refreshments.

Call (559) 338-2415 or email at crittercreekwildlife@hughes.net for information.

Volunteers Needed

As the covid restrictions have been lifted we are in need of volunteers. Here are ways you can help.

VOLUNTEERING FOR CRITTER CREEK

Must be 18 or older

Must attend a Saturday orientation: call ahead 559-338-2415 or email crittercreekwildlife@hughes.net

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

1. Runner--- pick up wildlife, do initial care (needs to be available to respond to calls). This involves sometimes netting and handling orphaned or injured wildlife.

2. Wildlife Care--- help with weekly wildlife maintenance at the facility. This includes washing water dishes, raking enclosures, general clean up. There is a great deal of contact with the animals.

3. Construction Crew--- help with building projects, repairs, and renovations. This includes carpentry, cement work, plumbing, etc.



4. Open House Guides--help several times a year with tours and wildlife inquiries.

5. Fundraising--- help to organize and run fundraisers.



6. Baby Bird Care--- help with the regular feeding of baby song birds during the spring. This requires you to be at home during the day.

Why Here?

Songbirds find the strangest places to nest. A construction crew needed to move an office trailer from one location to another. Once the trailer arrived and the crew started to hook everything up, they heard chirps and realized that something had built a huge nest in the intake pipe to the trailer. They cut the pipe and immediately got it to us. It was an amazing feat of engineering to pack nesting material so tightly yet have a space to get in and out to feed the babies. Inside were two sparrows a little hungry but safe none the less. In time, we were able to release them.



Early Heat Wave Takes Its Toll

In mid-June we experienced a heat wave with temperatures over 105 degrees. The timing couldn't have been worse for small hawk fledglings like Cooper's hawks and Sharp-shinned hawks. In less than a week, we admitted over sixty small hawks. We finally had to advise people to provide the fledglings with water and hope the parents would continue to feed them as we had run out of room. Sadly, often people reported finding one or two siblings dead next to the remaining live one. Once we rehydrated them and gave them some food, they were able to leave our infirmary and go into a flight cage. In time once fully feathered and hunting on their own, they will be able to be released. These birds came from all over the Central Valley. The heat was relentless and so no area was spared. As the extreme heat has returned, we continue to admit many fledglings from most hawk species including red-tails, red-shouldered, and Swainson's. Unfortunately, not all of these fledglings survive even with our help. In these harsh times of the summer, it is beneficial to wildlife to leave a shallow container of water out if there is no other source of water nearby.



Amazing Speed--Lodgepole Chipmunks



Early in June, we got a call from a couple up in

Miramonte. They were helping a neighbor take down an old water tank mounted on wooden poles. Once down they realized they had destroyed a lodge pole chipmunk nest. Four babies, eyes still shut, no longer had a home. They brought them to us right away. The babies were reluctant to take milk, but in time they rallied. Even with their eyes still closed they were quick to move around. It was a challenge to catch them several times a day to feed them. Once their eyes were opened, they were ready to roll. It didn't help that there were four of them wanting to dart all over the place. It didn't take them long to switch over to regular food. Their favorite was sunflower seeds, but any grass, grain, berry, or fruit was welcomed. Over the course of four weeks they were chewing their way out of the plastic enclosure they were in. This was a signal that it was time for them to return to their home. The couple gladly returned for them with plans to let them go on their property, a much more chipmunk friendly environment, with the promise that they would keep an eye on them providing they are able to catch sight of them at all!