



Newsletter of Critter Creek Wildlife Station Winter 2008 Volume 13, No. 4

OPEN HOUSE

Our next open house
will be on

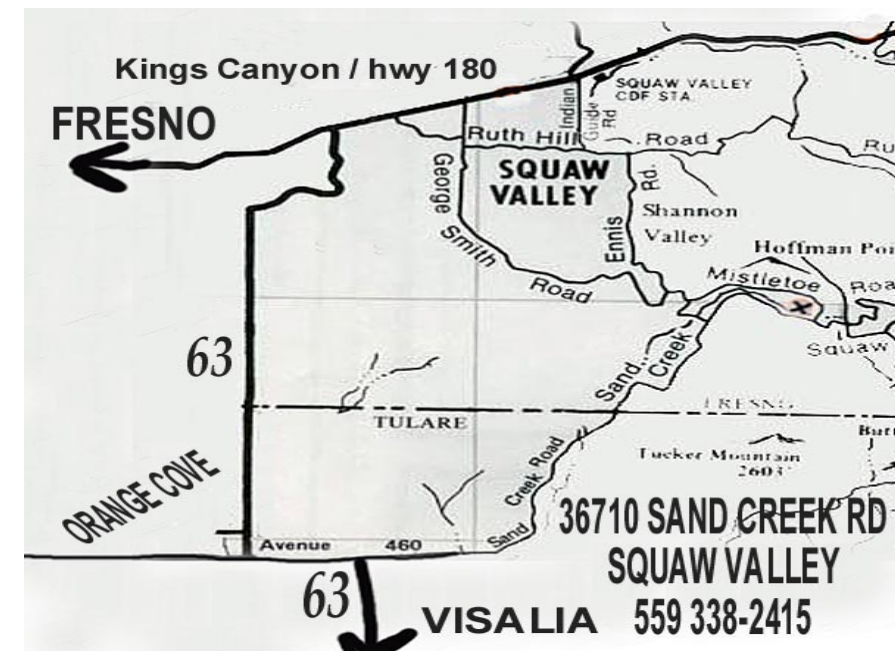
Saturday, December 27th

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Last tour begins at 1:30 pm

Are you looking for something to do during the holidays to get all the visiting relatives and friends out of the house? Come join us at our Open House.

Enjoy seeing the furry, wintry coats on all the cats!
See misty frost coming from the coyotes as they howl!
Enjoy some hot chocolate at the end of your tour.



CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Membership Categories	Annual Dues
Student	\$ 10
Senior	\$ 15
Individual	\$ 25
Family	\$ 40
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

Critter Creek Chronicle
Animals for Education

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Orsi, CA
Permit No. 6

Projects are moving ahead

The intermediate hawk cage is almost finished and will be ready for young red-shouldered hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, northern harrier hawks, Cooper's hawks, falcons, and kites for the spring baby season. This project has been grueling since each individual slat had to be screwed into place every two feet. Particularly challenging was the ceiling requiring over head efforts that produced more arm fatigue than Ben Gay or massages could fix.



Intermediate Hawk Flight Enclosure



Inside of Red-Shouldered side of Intermediate Flight Enclosure

Three Cheers for Our Volunteers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers who give generously of their time, gas, and money to help Critter Creek do its job. For example, one of our volunteers, Kirk Turner, took a week of vacation time to help finish the construction of the intermediate hawk cage.

I saw a breakdown in the Fresno Bee about the percentage of donations that is spent on paid staff who work at homeless shelters. I was surprised at how high some of those percentages were. No one who works with Critter Creek Wildlife is paid staff. Everyone is a volunteer. So if you want to see your donations actually go to the cause you are supporting, I can guarantee your money will go to food, caging, medicines, etc. We are truly a non-profit. No one benefits from the work we do except the earth.

There'll Be Some Hootin' and Hollerin' next month

Our small owls have been residing between a set of mews and a hunting cage for many years. We have had to replace the wire on the cage bottom a couple of times. The last time we realized we needed to do repairs we had one winged screech owls running around the compound. Apparently one of the burrowing owls had dug its way out of the enclosure and then invited the screech owls to join him down the tunnel and out into the compound. In the end we recovered the three runaways but not after learning a lesson to check the enclosure for recent excavation activities

The small owl cage is completed; however the burrowing owl home has not been excavated or made camera-ready yet. We will be installing one "Night Hawk" camera that will televise what is happening in the burrow of the small owl cage. Another camera will be televising the activities of the screech owls above ground. Visitors will be able to view what is happening on a monitor



located several hundred feet from the enclosure ensuring privacy for the owls. Within a month, our



small owl population should be relocated to their new digs.

Instead of a Barn Raising How about a Cage Raising!

The area for Shasta's mountain lion cage has been leveled. We will be trenching and doing cement work to prepare for the anchors for the arched pipes. Once the cement is set we will need volunteers to help set up the pipe structure. If you are interested in helping, please give us a call for work dates and arrangements (559) 338-2415

Memorial for Scooter, gray fox

Sadly this month, one of our gray foxes passed away from an internal organ failure,. Scooter came to Critter Creek Wildlife Station suffering from distemper. Through force feeding and a lot of attention, she beat the disease but not without paying a price. She lost a few brain cells in the battle which made her loveably goofy. Not strong enough to be released she became a permanent here and one of the volunteers' favorite. She wasn't at all shy about showing affection to a new volunteer and she helped to "break-in" new recruits. She will be missed especially by her cohort, Shadow, who has never been particularly anxious to visit people, preferring her perch high up in the oak tree that is part of the gray fox enclosure.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
CRITTER CREEK WILDLIFE