



MEADOWLARK

Winter 2022 Solstice Photo Gallery
(Email only) Update for our Members & Friends

412 South McClelland, P O Box 5254, Santa Maria, CA 93456



• Oct • Nov • Dec 2022 •
Lots of photo happenings at the muesum

We hope to be finished with the C.R.E.F. grant upgrades soon.

Take a look at the life-size steelhead trout swimming to the museum's Pacific Ocean front room **ON THE FLOOR!** Hopefully we will see them in the Santa Maria River someday, if we ever get enough water.

The following photos show the artists, Glenda Stevens and her daughter, Marcie Gooley, and their amazing artwork.





The huge gray whale (at left) is soon to be displayed breaching out of the "ocean" on the south side of the museum. Our sea creatures are very realistic, their eyes follow you as you move along, you will also hear them talking to each other and you!



We are getting more visitors now that COVID restrictions have somewhat lifted, seen are . . .

. . . long-time treasurer of the California Native Plant Society of SLO, David Krause admiring his favorite plant, manzanita, and the museum's native garden.

Young visitors are enthralled watching the museum's video "From the Jurassic Under the Sea". "Desde el Jurassic debajo de mar". The video was provided by a grant from C.R.E.F.



Our fall event was a success!



Over 60 people attended the October lecture on Chumash uses of native plants by Jan Timbrook, Ph.D., renowned anthropologist and ethnobiologist.



We had a great time at the annual volunteer Christmas Party. Volunteers attending were, from left to right. Back row, Kathy Sharum, John Fuhling, Brennan Simpson, Mark Robertson, Virginia Souza, Randall Rich. Middle row, Pat Chandler, Judy Garrett, Nancy Heck, Cynthia Lara, Bill Decker in front. (Missing in the photo is Annie Lawrence, she is taking the picture)

More photo happenings at the museum this fall . . .



Two Acorn Woodpeckers were sighted in our garden gathering acorns in our oaks. Interesting fact, their vocalizations, loud parrot-like squawks, are believed to be the inspiration for the Woody Woodpecker laugh. Please come and visit our native garden and let us know if you see any unusual birds.



CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS ONE! Our 'Margarita BOP' was dug up and stolen! Penstemon heterophyllus "Margarita BOP" is very popular with native plant gardeners because of its beautiful flowers and interesting story. First discovered as a seedling in the early 1980's on the property of Las Pilitas Nursery near Santa Margarita, it is a chance hybrid between two native Penstemon species - heterophyllus and laetus. It was growing at the bottom of the front porch, hence the name "BOP". Hopefully the thief has given our 'Margarita BOP' a good home. We will plant another soon.



Our altar honoring Bill Deneen at the Dia de los Muertos Celebration hosted by Santa Maria Rec & Parks at the Santa Maria Public Library on October 29th. Bill was a passionate environmentalist, naturalist, anti-nuclear activist and self-described "Eco-Hooligan". He loved chocolate, and Mexican food & beer which was represented here.



We love our hard working docents. Here we have Kelsie doing some filing of the museum's newsletters from 2000 to 2022!



At our volunteer Christmas party we played the "white elephant" game. Cynthia was very excited to get a "superman" teddy bear to go with her "Teddy". Teddy was found in a vacant lot by Cynthia's father circa 1930. He once won a contest for "Most Loved Bear"!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM ALL OF US AT THE
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM