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 conservancy

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sacramento valley conservancy

[www.SacramentoValleyConservancy.org](http://www.SacramentoValleyConservancy.org)

### Calendar of Upcoming Events 2014 - 2015

#### November 2014

Sat, Nov 28, 10am - 2pm Thanksgiving Weekend Equestrian Ride

#### January 2015

Sat, Jan 10, 8:30am - 1pm Winter Service Project  
 Sat, Jan 24, 8:30am - 1pm Winter Service Project (rain date)

#### February 2015

Sat, Feb 21, 9am - 1pm Taste of DCH (birding, geology, mining history)  
 Sun, Feb 22, 9 - 1am Upland Winter Birding  
 Sun, Feb 22, 10am - 2pm Equestrian Ride

#### March 2015

Sat, Mar 14, 9am - 1pm FREE Green for No Green St. Patrick's Hike  
 Sun, Mar 15, 7 - 11am FREE Green for No Green St. Patrick's Birding  
 Sun, Mar 15, 10am - 1pm FREE Green for No Green St. Patrick's Equestrian Ride  
 Sat, Mar 21, 9am - 1pm DCH History Hike Native American History Hike  
 Sat, Mar 21, Time TBD Birding by Boat at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Mar 21, 9am - 1pm Wildflower Hike  
 Sun, Mar 22, 7 - 11am Blue Oak Woodland Birding  
 Sun, Mar 22, 10am - 2pm Equestrian Ride

#### April 2015

Thur, Apr 2, 6pm - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Apr 11, 4 - 8pm Sunset Equestrian Ride  
 Sat, Apr 25, 9am - 1pm Wildflowers of DCH  
 Sat, Apr 25, 9am - 1pm DCH History Hike Early Settlers of DCH  
 Sat, Apr 25, 7:30 - 11pm Night Shift Hike (bats, birds and other mammals)

#### May 2015

Sat, May 2, 9am - 1pm Cowboy Breakfast Hike, Birding & Equestrian Ride  
 Thur, May 7, 6 - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, May 9, 9am - 11pm Spring Bird Migration w/John Robinson  
 Sat, May 23, 9am - 1pm DCH History Hike Grinding Holes to Cattle Brands  
 Sun, May 24, 7 - 11am Pond Birding at Deer Creek  
 Sun, May 24, 10am - 2pm Equestrian Ride

#### June 2015

Thur, Jun 4, 6 - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Jun 27, All Day Great American Backyard Campout & GlampOut  
 Sat, Jun 27, 7:30 - 10am Mountain Biking

#### July 2015

Thur, Jul 2, 6 - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Jul 25, 7:30 - 10am Mountain Biking

#### August 2015

Thur, Aug 6, 6 - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Aug 22, 7:30 - 10am Mountain Biking  
 Sat, Aug 15, 7:30pm - 1am Summer Trifecta of Fun (Twilight Hike-Story Telling Meteor Shower)

#### September 2015

Thur, Sep 3, 6 - 8pm Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Sep 19, 8am - 12pm Great American River Clean-Up at Camp Pollock  
 Sat, Sep 26, 7:30 - 10am Mountain Biking

#### October 2015

Sat, Oct 3, 9am - 12pm IMBA's Take a kid Mountain Biking Day  
 Tue, Oct 6, 10am - 12pm Birding for Youth - Migrating Birds  
 Tue, Oct 6, 4 - 6pm Birding for Youth - Migrating Birds  
 Sat, Oct 10, 8:30am - 1pm Caminata Interpretativa  
 Sat, Oct 17, 8:30am - 1pm Autumn Service Project  
 Thur, Oct 22, 5:30 - 8pm Treasures of the Valley Silent Auction  
 Sat, Oct 24, 7:30 - 10am Mountain Biking

#### November 2015

Sat, Nov 28, 10am - 2pm Thanksgiving Weekend Equestrian Ride

Register at:

[www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp)

## Western Spadefoot Toad & California Tiger Salamander habitat protected and more than 1,600 acres saved!

SVC is partnering with the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) and Westervelt Ecological Services to protect a variety of unique habitats in the Sacramento Region.

Starting in 2006 SVC and SMUD have worked to establish the SMUD Nature Preserve and on June 6, 2014 the SMUD Nature Preserve Mitigation Bank was put in place. The Preserve protects 1,132 acres of critical agricultural and ecologically unique land just east of the decommissioned Rancho Seco nuclear power plant. The SMUD Nature Preserve safeguards grassland, vernal pools, habitat for burrowing owls and habitat for the threatened California tiger salamander. In addition to preserving land, SMUD has created 25 acres of vernal pools and enhanced aquatic habitat for the tiger salamander.

The Preserve is providing benefits for other species too. SMUD biologist, Emily Bacchini, reports they found western spadefoots, a unique species of toad, in six of the created vernal pools. This is the first occurrence of western spadefoot toad at Rancho Seco in at least fifteen years. Emily also reports that California tiger salamander larvae have been found as recently as September in a stock pond at the Preserve. The California tiger salamander lives in the wetlands at the Preserve. Surveys have also found the threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp and endangered vernal pool tadpole shrimp. The preserve sustains the family ranching operations by maintaining grazing on the grasslands. SVC and



Western Spadefoot Toad

Photo Credit by David Rosen

(See Western Toad . . . page 2)

## 2nd annual Mountain Bike Demo Day a success!

SVC and FATRAC teamed up for a VERY successful 2nd annual MTB Ride and Try day at Deer Creek Hills with more than 75 participants! Scott, Niner, Trek and Marin Mountain Bikes provided a great selection of bikes for riders to try on for size.

Folsom Bicycle and Planet Bikes supported the event with fabulous tech service!

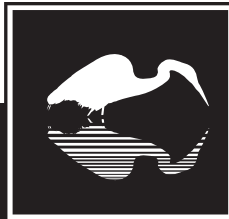
Special thanks to Greg Tenorio for hosting the BBQ and New Glory Brewery for providing riders with cold local brew. SVC would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the FATRAC volunteers and our Mountain Bike Docents: David Herman, Greg Tenorio, Mark Pecotich, Jim Carr & Fred Strickland and Equestrian Docent, Chuck Tuffli.

## Annual Fundraiser moves to Camp Pollock

HUGE success at Camp Pollock with this years themed event, Treasures of the Valley. Pinstripes and feather boas were the rage as guests and many volunteers dressed the part to raise money for the Conservancy. Garb from the 1920's complimented the 4 classic model T's and members of the Sacramento Valley Model T Club. Rag-time jazz filled the Camp Pollock Courtyard with it's organic contagious sound of the F Street Stompers. Guests enjoyed local wine, local beer and local Two Rivers Cider and Mama Kim's catering. In true fashion, an official bust took place to the speak easy event by two volunteers, in costume! Guests were hustled into the Lodge, supporting the many ways to donate by playing card games, provided by A&A Music Events.

(See Camp Pollock . . . page 2)





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Fall 2014

**Camp Pollock** *(Continued from page 1)*

Over 250 guests attended this year's fundraiser. Over 40 volunteers assisted staff with this exciting event. New this year, was an old-time fishing game, Monte Carlo style games, and the ever popular silent auction helping to raise, along with our generous sponsors, over \$68,000 for this year's Treasures of the Valley.

Thanks to those that continue to support the SVC and all the many new faces!

**Land Acquisition**

- Al and Christie Jahns  
Law Office of Alfred F. Jahns
-  **MURPHY AUSTIN  
ADAMS SCHOENFELD LLP**

**Stewardship**

- The California Endowment
- Easton Development Company, LLC
- Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP
- Gilson Government Strategies
- The Harry C. & Deborah L. Elliott Family Foundation
- Teichert
- Vulcan Materials Company, West Region
- Hugh thanks to our many sponsors who can be viewed at:  
sacramentovalleyconservancy.org

**Docent Training Dates Set**

Ready to become a Docent? We are in search of new and returning docents with an interest in leading active and educational outings at Deer Creek Hills and Camp Pollock.

Want to volunteer, but not ready to become a docent? Take our online survey so we can find a volunteer position that best fits your interests, skills and availability. All interested persons are asked to complete the survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9X7QYWD>

**Western Toad** *(Continued from page 1)*

SMUD will continue to work closely to protect this ecologically and agriculturally unique area as SVC helps to oversee its long term management.

SVC is excited to hold the conservation easement on the 472 acre Cosumnes Floodplain Mitigation Bank as of July 2014. The CFMB provides a cool spot for growing salmon fry on their way to the Bay in restored shaded riverine aquatic habitat at the confluence of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers just outside the town of



*The F Street Stompers*

*Photo by Doug Marsh*



*Big thanks to Two Rivers Cider & SoCal's Tavern*

*Photo by Linda Thomas*



*Roulette table at TOV Fundraiser*

*Photo by Doug Marsh*



*A&A Music Events provided gaming tables*

*Photo by Linda Thomas*

Thornton. The restoration of the property to wetland habitats began in 2009 and culminated with the breaching of the farm levee on the Cosumnes River in order to reestablish the natural hydrology and Delta tidal influence. The Bank is located directly adjacent to 6,000 acres of nature preserves including the Cosumnes River Preserve and will contribute to the overall restoration and protection of the natural floodplain and fish habitat along the Cosumnes .

**SVC Lead Docent  
Meet Thomas Baumann!**

When you think of a Second Assistant Engineer, traveling the world in shipping vessels, what hobby can be taken in your back pocket, even when your feet aren't firmly planted on terra firma? What is mythical, well traveled, beautiful, highly visible, admired by man and can sing? Nope, not Lady Gaga, but rather the hobby of bird watching. Thomas Baumann, SVC Lead Docent, brings his passion of birding to public outings with unmistakable ease. The past two years, birding-only events have been offered to the general public and have been a great success! Bird outings are scheduled, highlighting the species that call Deer Creek Hills Preserve and the lower American River home. Always fostering the love of nature and pointing out birds was Thomas's mother, EC Baumann. She was the moving force of Thomas's love for birds. You'll find Thomas is well spoken on the species with flight characteristics, calls, physical description, nesting habitat and migration. Thomas is passionate about one's personal connection to the landscape. Thomas continues his connection to regional landscape more than ever by updating the species bird list with other docents and working on special projects. What drives Thomas' spirit? He answered without hesitation, "To have a vested interest in the area, it helps to be connected to the flora, the fauna



*Photo by Roger Brandt*



*Photo by Lisa Couper*

and the landscape itself, and how they interact." He also believes, "If I can help to show someone these beautiful and sometimes fascinating interactions of nature, and help to expand an existing or foster a new connection and appreciation of nature, then I am happy." You'll know when you meet Thomas, he's the one who shares inspiration, passion and interest of preservation of lands, like Deer Creek Hills. "Thomas - SVC sends a heartfelt thank you for YEARS of dedication to the conservancy and our community."

**Leave No Trace Awareness Workshops  
for Leaders and Teachers!**

Join the Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers for a class on Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids! In this free, hands on program you'll learn tips and tricks for how you can teach your youth about the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace. During this interactive training you will learn games, activities and other fun ways to integrate Leave No Trace into your youth outings, making outdoor events safe, fun, educational, and ultimately protecting our natural world for future generations. The training will take place at Camp Pollock, located on the lower American River just minutes from the downtown Sacramento. Pollock is now open for events, rentals, classes and offers primitive camping reserved exclusively for Youth Organizations. Two workshops offered to fit your schedule best: Tuesday, December 2nd, 10am - 12pm, or 6pm - 8pm. More info at [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org)

**2015 Season Passes and Holiday Gifting**

Give the gift of the outdoors with a Sacramento Valley Conservancy Season Pass! The 2015 Season Pass valid for most Deer Creek Hills and Camp Pollock outings are on sale now. \$50 if purchased now through the end of 2014. Great value if you plan to participate in more than one type of docent led outing, since registration is \$10 per outing and \$20.00 for equestrian events. 2015 outings include hiking, birding, kayak/canoeing, mountain biking, equestrian, camping and special bat and star gazing outings throughout the year. The 2015 Season Pass is valid NOW through 12-31-2015! \*Some special events/fund-raisers are not included with purchase of SVC Season Pass, please check site for details. SVC Season Passes and SVC Gift Memberships are available online by selecting the Giving Ideas button at [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org) or call 916-974-4331.

**Donation 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.*

- \$1,000
- \$500
- \$250
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- \$50
- Other

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Contact me about:  Planned Giving  Becoming a Volunteer

*Gifts to the Sacramento Valley Conservancy are tax deductible. For more info, please call (916) 492.0908 or email us [info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](mailto:info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org)*