



sacramento valley conservancy

## Lodge Will Be Dedicated

as Future Myrtle Johnston Interpretive Center

Myrtle Johnston and the North Sacramento Land Company had a rich tradition of inviting the youth of the community to experience hands-on learning on what was then private land in the future American River Parkway. Sacramento Valley Conservancy is deeply honored and proud to carry on her tradition at the soon-to-be Myrtle Johnston Interpretive Center at Camp Pollock.



*Myrtle Johnston*

Myrtle A. Johnston was one of the original founders of the American River Parkway. President of the North Sacramento Land Company from 1953 to 1971, she was the first private landowner to help establish the Jedediah Smith Memorial Bicycle Trail. The North Sacramento

Land Company also donated the first acre of land, upon which the garden and lodge now sit, in 1922 to the Golden Empire Council, Boy Scouts of America. Myrtle provided the vision, the leadership and the land for the heart of the Parkway – the undisputed jewel of Sacramento. Upon completion the updated lodge will:

- Revitalize Sacramento's interest and connection to the lower American River through safe and welcoming educational / interpretive programs for all ages.
- Expand learning through the new outdoor classroom used to host SVC's YES (Youth, Education and Stewardship) outings and interpretive, educational outings for the public.
- Increase public access to unique riparian habitat of the American River Parkway at Camp Pollock.

We welcome your help to make Myrtle's vision continue at Camp Pollock. We need your support to finish the lodge renovation! Please Contact: Aimee Rutledge, Executive Director, 916-425-5879 for more information on opportunities for you or your family, office or organization.

## Another 860 youth reached through YES and SNJ Partnership

Sierra Nevada Journey's Classroom Unleashed and Sacramento Valley Conservancy's Project YES (Youth, Education and Stewardship) programs partnered to bring 860 kids over 8 field days to Deer Creek Hills and 4 field days to Camp Pollock. Since 2009, Sierra Nevada Journeys has partnered with SVC to offer high-quality, outdoor science education programs for elementary students. Now, the full suite of SNJ's Classrooms Unleashed programs is available to 1st-5th grade teachers in the Sacramento Region! SNJ's Classrooms Unleashed program is designed by

teachers to be inquiry-driven, hands-on, student centered, and highly engaging. Each program includes a field exploration of a beautiful local nature site – including Sacramento Valley Conservancy's Camp Pollock and Deer Creek Hills! SVC has reached more than 1,500 youth in 2015. Your support for our YES program makes these youth education experiences possible.

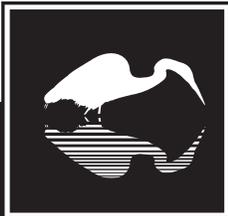


*Photo by Kelly Hopkins*

For more information about Sierra Nevada Journeys, visit [sierranevadjourneys.org/classroomsunleashed](http://sierranevadjourneys.org/classroomsunleashed).

Project YES offers day hikes and overnight backpacking trips at Deer Creek Hills as well as space for picnicking, river access, native garden, lodge and overnight camping at Camp Pollock for all youth groups and schools. For more information about SVC's Project YES program visit our website or e-mail [info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](mailto:info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org).





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Fall 2015

**SVC's 2015 Treasures of the Valley GREAT success!**

Thank you to our attendees, sponsors, volunteers, Board Members, vendors and supporters. SVC was proud to announce the Camp Pollock Lodge restoration and intent



*Photo by Linda Thomas*

to dedicate the lodge as the Myrtle Johnston Education and Interpretive Center. Attendees had fun dressing up and snapping shots in the 'construction themed' photo booth. Card tables, live music, Vic's adult ice cream

floats, silent auction, live auction, wine tasting and casual atmosphere made for a memorable evening. Assemblyman



*Photo by Linda Thomas*

Kevin McCarty spoke in favor of the progress that has been made at Camp Pollock, honored SVC's 25th Anniversary with an Assembly resolution, and shared his hopes to help bring greater funds and support to the American River Parkway.



*Photo by Linda Thomas*

**Land Acquisition Sponsors**

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View additional photos from this year's event on our *Facebook Page*.

If you missed our TOV event you may have also missed our 25th anniversary commemorative glasses. We have some glasses still available for purchase for \$5.

If you would like to purchase a 25th anniversary wine glass or would like to purchase a few more to complete the set please contact Paulette at 916-974-4331.



*Photo by Kelly Hopkins*

**That's a wrap! MTB 2015**

**Mountain Bike Season closes at Deer Creek Hills Preserve**

As the 2015 Mountain Bike Season closes at Deer Creek Hills we look back on this year's rides and events. MTB season is June through October, with rides held every Monday evening and Guided Mountain Bike rides held every 4th Saturday of the month. Thanks to Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition (FATRAC), the local chapter of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), for leading bike programs with SVC. The 3rd Annual Mountain Bike Demo Day was a huge success, thanks to organizers at FA-

TRAC, Bike Dog Brewery and many bike vendors who provided the new top models for cyclists to test ride. Riders enjoyed the 3 pre-marked demo courses and Docents led 2 guided rides. The Demo Day was well attended with over 100 visitors and 15 docents. The 2016 MTB season is set to start in June. We look forward to seeing you on the trails.



*Photo by Kelly Hopkins*

**Matt Gaylord is moving**

Matt Gaylord, *Camp Pollock and Stewardship Manager*, will be moving this December. He has been a fantastic grounds manager at Camp Pollock since the beginning, when SVC became managers for the California State Lands Commission in 2013. Matt has been instrumental in building our Docent Program and community partnerships. He

has also been a tremendous help in building our MTB program and fostering our partnership with FATRAC. Matt will continue to work with SVC remotely.

*Thank you Matt for the hours of trail marking, ride set-up and breakdown, coordination, building partnerships and more. Without you the programs wouldn't be what they are today. Wishing you happy trails!*

## Meet A Docent

### Sue Fossum - Docent, Volunteer & Docent Trainer

Rolling hills, beautiful blue oaks, seasonal creeks, rust and green lichen on granite stones and the opportunity to ride my horse through all of this beautiful wonder. Opportunities for the Cowboy Breakfast, Sunset Rides and being trail support for the Saturday hiking groups. And of course, being an equestrian docent! Sue loves all of these things and feels blessed to be able to be a part of the experiences out at Deer Creek Hills. Sue loves to ride her horses - Blaze, Reno and Blondy. Sue enjoys sharing the trails not only out at Deer Creek Hills, but also as an equestrian docent and President for the American River Parkway Volunteer Equestrian Trail Patrol. Support for preservation of land and trails that can be used by the public for all activities is of huge importance to her and she appreciates the opportunities to serve. Not surprising, Sue also serves on the board of the American River Parkway Foundation! Sue's husband Curt, serves on the board of SVC. Sue has been a registered nurse for over 41 years,

most of that time (35 years) being spent at UC Davis Medical Center. Not wanting to have any free time since retirement, Sue volunteers as an American Heart Association instructor. She assists with classes at UC Davis (CPR, Advanced Cardiac Life Support) and is a qualified First Aid/CPR instructor. She truly enjoys volunteering her time to train SVC docents, Trail Patrol members and others.

*We are so thankful to have you as our Docent Trainer! SVC thanks Sue for her commitment to her MANY roles as a volunteer with SVC, in our community and beyond!*



## SVC celebrates with #GivingTuesday

Tuesday, December 1, 2015, a global day dedicated to giving

Last year, more than 27,000 organizations in 68 countries came together to celebrate #GivingTuesday. Since its founding in 2012, #GivingTuesday has inspired giving around the world, resulting in greater donations, volunteer hours, and activities that bring about real change in communities. We invite you to join the movement and to help get out and give this December 1. Get your workplace and local government officials, nonprofits, and small businesses involved in #GivingTuesday. Encourage them to officially sign up as partners on the website ([www.givingtuesday.org](http://www.givingtuesday.org)).

org) and to organize a campaign that promotes a cause or charity that is meaningful to them.

Donate online at [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org), tell your family, friends and co-workers where and why you give. Or better yet, ask them to make a donation instead of getting you a gift this year! Thank you for your support of SVC. We are really excited about GivingTuesday, and hope you will participate in all our year-end activities!

# #GIVINGTUESDAY™

## 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    \$100    \$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) 731.8798 or email us [info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](mailto:info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org)



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

## OptOutside for Black Friday!

Get outside where the wild turkeys roam free and explore the American River from Camp Pollock

This Black Friday we're joining REI's OptOutside movement by encouraging our supporters to get outdoors. Say no to the lines and doorbusters, say YES to fresh air, trails and Open Space. Burn off the pie and stuffing with friends and family as you explore the 11 acres at Camp Pollock, where the wild turkeys roam free and the American River flows. Win an REI Outdoor Lounge Set-up worth \$200. Share your photos of you on our Open Space with #OptOutside and #CampPollock on both Facebook tagging Sacramento Valley Conservancy and @SacConservancy on Twitter. One lucky winner will be chosen and announced on Saturday, November 28th.



## DCH Outings There's Still Time

You still have time to visit Deer Creek Hills this year to see the largest open space preserve in Sacramento! This can be done on your own two feet or your horse's four hooves.

Please register on-line. Enjoy the preserve on Saturdays from 9am - 1pm during November for self-guided hiking adventure. The last equestrian ride for the year is on Thanksgiving weekend, Saturday, November 28th, 10am - 2pm. Cost for equestrian event is \$20. DCH is now closed to Mountain Bikers.

### November, December, January & February Calendar Selections

Friday, November 27, Sunrise to Sunset	#OptOutside at Camp Pollock
Saturday, November 28, 10am - 2pm	Thanksgiving Weekend Equestrian Ride at DCH
Saturday, November 28, 9am - 1pm	#OptOutside Free Self-Guided Hike at DCH
Tuesday, December 1, All Day	#Giving Tuesday
Thursday, December 3, 6 - 8pm	Volunteer Open House at Camp Pollock
Saturday, December 5, 10am - Noon	Volunteer Open House at Camp Pollock
Saturday, January 9 or 23, 9am - 1pm	Winter Service Project at DCH
Every Saturday, 9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Service Day
Thursday, January 28, 6pm - 8pm	SVC Docent Training
Saturday, January 30, 9am - 12pm	SVC Docent Training
Friday, February 5, 6pm - 8pm	SVC Docent Training
Saturday, February 6, 10am - 2pm	Guided Equestrian Ride at DCH
Saturday, February 20, 9am - Noon	Birding with Docents at DCH
Sunday, February 21, 9am - Noon	Intro to Bird Language at Camp Pollock

Check out all of SVC's events on our Online Calendar at  
[www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp)