

What's What at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center? A Report from ARNHA

The Fourth of July – a symbolic date for the transfer of our beloved Effie Yeaw Nature Center to the care of the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA). A new freedom, a new hope. And a new financial responsibility.

When the county ended all funding, ARNHA stepped up to keep the award-winning Effie Yeaw Nature Center open and its sought after children's programs alive. We know that when children grow up in the Sacramento area, they learn something wonderful (if they have a grownup to show them). They discover that we live at the foot of a great mountain range, with two beautiful rivers flowing together through green forests and fertile fields where the children can still see deer and wild animals. For more than 30 years children have learned of these things at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and 80-acre preserve on the American River.

With only 3 weeks' notice that ARNHA is the non-profit chosen to operate the Center, we find the schedule for having the doors open will be uneven for just a little while. Please be patient. We hope to offer a late July Children's Summer Fun Days program and plan to be open most mornings and evenings after July 17. By fall, things should be back to normal.

ARNHA must now find enough funding from our friends to sustain this marvelous resource – to meet a payroll, pay the costs of insurance, create all the details of a major business, and continue to offer our award-winning programs for children. Can we do it? We can and will. Of course, these obligations of ours will be long term – **forever**, actually. We will seek corporate help, write grant proposals, talk with individuals who want us to succeed, and ask YOU to help in any way you can. The Nature Center and Preserve are a public trust, our heritage, and they belong to us all now.

Please send your contribution to ARNHA by donating via our secure pay service with your credit card at the American River Natural History Association web page – www.arnha.org Or send a check to ARNHA at P.O. Box 241, Carmichael, 95609. \$10,000 will bring a school full of classrooms to the River; \$1,000 pays for the care of an animal friend; \$250 makes you a Charter Supporter of the renewed Effie Yeaw Nature Center; and \$100 brings you and your family special benefits, including an invitation to the Nature Center Gala in September. Any donation helps.

Thanks from our hearts. American River Natural History Association