

Friends of Shipley Nature Center
2019 Summary of Activities

The Friends of Shipley Nature Center is a non-profit organization formed to manage the nature center as an ecological sanctuary for California native plants and wildlife and to provide environmental education in an urban setting in partnership with the City of Huntington Beach and the local community, and with the wider world.

*Established 2002
SNC Opened 2005*

Highlights of 2019 include:

- The total count of **visitors recorded in 2019 is 14,049**
- FSNC contracts with the Orange County Department of Education as a site for the popular **Inside the Outdoors** program. In 2019 a total of **13,838 students** visited the Center with their teachers and parents. These young people learn how the indigenous people lived when they moved through this area.
- The total number of **volunteer hours recorded for 2019 is 6,382**. The hourly **volunteer value of \$25.43** (according to the latest information from Independent Sector) **equates \$162,294.26** in effort donated.
- **Fifty trained Docents** serve to staff Shipley from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday. They lead tours for groups upon request and provide specialized information by design. **Extended summer hours** were possible with the addition of summer interns to support the Shipley docents.
- **Increased our volunteer base** with a wide-range of skills and knowledge.
- This year marked year 12 of presenting the annual four successful **Compost Seminars**, sponsored by Public Works, City of Huntington Beach, and FSNC. These seminars inform citizens of the waste stream and how to alleviate it. Compost bins, subsidized by Public Works, are available for purchase.
- Continued maintenance and upkeep of the 18 acre **Habitat** has resulted in multiple sightings of unique birds, snakes, rabbits, squirrels, and other critters to delight young and old.
- Successfully dealt with the challenges of the evolving natural elements, including the removal of trees that were overwhelmed by the long-time pond flooding. The original **Master Plan** serves as the template for all work.
- Continued propagation and sale of **native and drought tolerant plants** is both a source of income and an opportunity to support a drought tolerant and sustainable environment.

- The **Interpretative Center** features the history of Huntington Beach, up close animal studies through the pelts and taxidermy, story time programs for young people. Many of the displays are made by volunteers and all of the programs are volunteer led.
- Hosted a luncheon and special tour for the Anjo, Japan visitors with the City's Sister City program.
- Partnered with **National Charity League Ticktockers** (mothers and daughters) to provide a fun educational day for young visitors.
- Re-created our **Second Saturday Volunteer Days** to enable those who wish to work in the Nature Center and/or outside the gate in Huntington Central Park.
- Supported scouts with projects. The most significant is the re-build of the Kicha, a Native American living shelter, following a winter storm.
- Presented the ever popular **Cool Summer Nights** summer program which attracts many guests, in particular young families. This program culminates in the astronomer program.
- Worked with the California Native Plant Society to offer the "**Buckwheat in Every Garden**" campaign.
- Assisted the **Edison High School** native garden implementation.

We manage a staff of three paid employees. Our budget includes workers' compensation policy and payroll premiums. Liability insurance is purchased to indemnify the City of Huntington Beach in accordance with our MOU. Directors' and Liability insurance is included in our budget. Endowment funds are held in an investment fund.

We raise funds with the sale of California native plants and the gift shop. We hold a sales permit and report sales tax. Funds are also raised through membership drives, applications for corporate funding, on site donations and individual donations from estates. FSNC is in good standing with the California Secretary of State. We proudly display a GoldStar 2019 Bronze Seal of Transparency on our website.

Kathryn E. Goddard
 President, FSNC
 March 2020