



Hawks, Hikes, and Heroes

After a stormy night, the day dawned clear, dry, and gorgeous for EDI's second annual fundraiser on the morning of November 5, 2011. The inspiring energy of the day was reflected by the attendees who hiked and rode the Crestridge trails and by our speakers, Marion Soloway and Sharon Keffer. Marion, San Diego County's Environmental Teacher of the Year for 2010 spoke to the importance of connecting children to nature and some of the students whose lives she has seen changed by that connection. Sharon Keffer, Cajon Valley's Service-learning Coordinator and a Crest Elementary School teacher for over 3 decades

described how EDI's programs at Crestridge have inspired and engaged students for over 8 years.

Attendees contributed generously to win raffle prizes and silent auction items, helping EDI to sustain programs in the coming year. Crest's Andrea Johnson was awarded EDI's Volunteer of the Year honors for her decade of support leading student and volunteer projects, assisting in habitat restoration, participating in species monitoring and doing just about anything that needs doing at Crestridge. Our first ever guided equestrian ride was led by Sandra Cairncross. A Red-tailed hawk was on hand courtesy of Nancy Conney and Sky Hunters to give us an up-close reminder of the amazing creatures who



Andrea Johnson, Volunteer of the Year

depend on us and upcoming generations to keep the planet healthy for all of us.

Thanks to all who helped with the event including EDI Board, staff members, and volunteers, Crest Kiwanis members, and El Capitan High School Roots and Shoot students. Thanks to all who assisted, attended, and sent contributions. You created a wonderful day for an important cause!



Upcoming Events:

Saturday, November 12, 2011: Reserve Rangers Meeting, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Reserve Rangers is EDI's volunteer patrol group for Crestridge. Members keep land managers apprised of habitat and use issues noted while spending time at the reserve. All are welcome to join. At this meeting, Rangers will be trained on law enforcement issues at Crestridge. Information will be presented on state Fish and Game regulations that apply in the reserve. Speakers from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and Animal Services Department will discuss related regulations and help Rangers understand safe and effective ways to share information about reserve rules. Directions/RSVP to Cathy; chadgroup@cox.net or 619-277-3605.

Saturday, November 19, 2011: Volunteer Projects Day/Mountain Biking Demo, 8:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Volunteers will conduct trail work and install horse watering stations in the Horsemill area of the reserve. The San Diego Mountain Biking Association will coordinate trail work. All interested equestrians are invited to help with installation of the watering stations.

8:00a.m. – 12:00 noon: Trail work and horse waterer installation.

12:00 noon to 4:00p.m. - Ellsworth Demo, BBQ, and Mountain Bike Ride.

BBQ will be free to trail/waterer volunteers, \$5 donation for those attending demo and ride only. (Proceeds to benefit EDI and SDMBA.) Directions/RSVP to Cathy; chadgroup@cox.net or 619-277-3605.