

NATURE JOURNAL



Spring 2019 • Vol. 2 No.1



FINALLY, A RATHER SNOWY WINTER

I returned a little while ago from a soggy and windy morning walk to take the 24-hour (8am – 8am) precipitation measurement at the measuring station in the Mountain Park. Adding today's measurement of 0.22" of rain to yesterday's 0.08", this current storm has so far dropped close to a third of an inch of rain on the park. It is rather unusual to be measuring rain, and not snow, during the 2nd week of March. But as the thermometer has danced up and down the 30s all morning, rain has sometimes been mixed with some wet snow.

It's been a relatively snowy winter so far for the Beulah Valley. Relative to last year anyway. I should mention that my use of the word "winter" in this context refers not to the calendar winter, but the full snow season, usually mid-October when we get our first snow through around late April, and sometimes mid-May, when the season's last snow takes place.

It is worth noting that although much of Colorado's high country has received huge amounts of snow this winter, Beulah and nearby locales are somewhat independent of the high country when it comes to precipitation. Unlike the stories of deep snows and avalanches coming out of many areas of Colorado this winter, Beulah's snowfall is not nearly as dramatic and,





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NWDC mission is to promote
environmental stewardship
and population health through
Nature education, wildlife
rehabilitation and outdoor
recreation.



thus far, is pretty close to average.

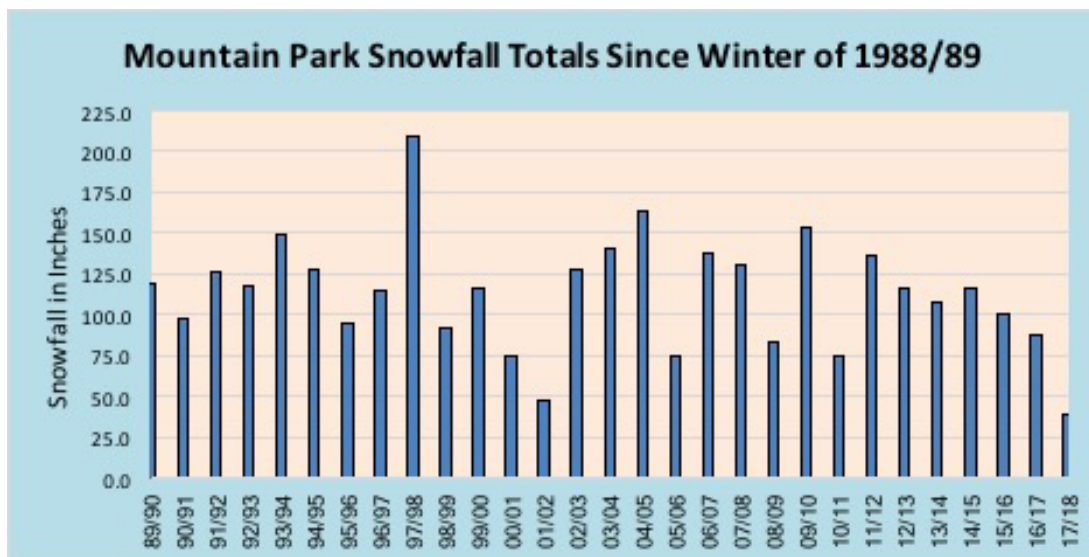
As the accompanying graph illustrates, there is no such thing as a “normal” amount of annual snow for Beulah. Meteorologists often look at 30-year averages as a general reference. The most recent 30-year average for the Mountain Park is 113.1” (the prior 30-year average was 119.5”). But that is only the average, and does not mean that a year with 80” or a year with 150” is considered abnormal. Since the winter of 1988/89, only six years had a snow total at or within a few inches of the average.

That being said, there are some years that can be considered extreme. I remember well the winter of 1997/98, when nearly 210” of snow brought countless opportunities for some great cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the Mountain Park. And, of course, the other extreme. The winter of 2001/02, which brought less than 50” of white stuff, was the year so many of us in Beulah referred to as the driest of the dry years. 2002 was the year we ran out of water, and it was the year Colorado’s Hayman Fire made all of us recognize the reality of how vulnerable our community is to a wildfire.

But the record drought of 2002 lasted just 16 years, being surpassed by last winter’s measly 39.6” of snow measured in the Mountain Park. Which was then followed by a very dry spring and the accompanying limits to household water consumption in the valley. Fortunately, the summer brought with it some decent amounts of rain, and Beulah somehow dodged the wildfire bullet that hit the rest of Colorado very hard with one of the worst wildfire seasons in the state’s history.

While I write this article, the “bomb cyclone” (or bombogenesis, which is a 24 millibar drop in the barometric pressure of a midlatitude, non-tropical storm in 24 hours or less) that has brought much of the northeastern part of the state to an 80 mph blizzard standstill, continues to rain and snow on the Mountain Park, albeit with a somewhat more gentle delivery. As of eight this morning on this thirteenth day of March, this season’s snow total for the Mountain Park is at 91.4” By the time you are reading this, I suspect we will be much closer to that 113” 30-year average. And, maybe even surpass it! One can hope.

~ Dave Van Manen; March 13, 2019



We send heartfelt thank you’s to Katherine Halcomb for donating a filing cabinet; Dave Overlin for help with many projects, including getting our tractor up and running; Steve Douglas for continuing to help out with our healthy forests project

THE EVOLUTION OF EARTHKEEPER NATURE SCHOOL

By Dave Van Manen

A year ago, while we were deep in the process of jumping through the State's licensing hoops for our Nature Preschool, we were also wondering if our idea for a Nature-based preschool would actually fly. Yes, Nature preschools were a happening thing in places like Seattle and Berkeley. But, would it be embraced in Pueblo? As our school's first year nears its completion, I am so pleased to say that the answer has been a resounding "yes!"

This first year has 27 youngsters participating in our Nature School. Thanks to a handful of donors, along with covering the startup costs of purchasing car/booster seats, age-appropriate furniture, and other needed items, we were also able to provide financial aid for over a third of these students.

With Nature providing the focus of the school program's curriculum, and with classes taking place at both the Mountain Park in Beulah and the River Campus in Pueblo, these students have had an amazing first school experience. Amanda Laughlin, mom to Scarlet, sums it up nicely, "We were already expecting some great interaction with Nature and wonderful play opportunities, but I was really surprised by how much my daughter has really learned at preschool. She's far more interested in her letters and knows many of them now, is counting better and better, has a larger attention span for learning, and can even point out tracks and scat and identify what some of them belong to. It's been a more enriching and exciting experience than we ever would have guessed."

We couldn't have had a better teaching team than Tami Montoya and Gia Montoya. Tami brings to our school many years' experience as a preschool teacher in both local public school districts, as well as a deep passion for Nature-based education. And Gia's youth and infectious positive attitude has been the perfect complement to Tami's many years of experience. As Danielle Vincent-Dunfee put it, "My daughter and I love Earthkeeper Nature Preschool. She is excited to go to school to play and

learn with her friends. Ranger Tami and Ranger Gia are wonderful and caring teachers. They love what they do and truly care about the kids. My daughter has learned so much and loves being outside at school and going on nature hikes."

With nearly a year under our belt, our many experiences and observations has led us to changing our name from Earthkeeper Nature Preschool to Earthkeeper Nature School! Many of our parents want to see their children attend this kind of Nature-based program for another year, so starting this upcoming school year, we will be serving both preschool and kindergarten age students.

We already have several students enrolled for the upcoming school year and are actively taking enrollments. Financial aid is available! You can enroll and find lots of info on Earthkeeper Nature School at our webpage: <https://hikeandlearn.org/education/natureschool/>. And please check out the Earthkeeper Nature School Facebook page.

Questions? Email mpec@hikeandlearn.org or tami@hikeandlearn.org.



EARTH STUDIES 2019

by David Anthony Martin (AKA Ranger Pine)

The award-winning environmental education program known as Earth Studies continues to evolve and adapt to seize the opportunities and face the challenges of its larger organizational body and the needs of its growing community. At the beginning of 2018, the Mountain Park Environmental Center of Beulah merged with the Nature & Raptor Center of Pueblo and became the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center (NWDC).

and expanded manner. The NWDC now operates across two of Colorado's Life Zones and provides the communities of Pueblo County and beyond with programming covering nearly every aspect of five distinct ecosystems.

Although the credit for the creation of much of the new sessions' material and elements goes to several individuals operating out of the Nature and Raptor Centers, much of the success of the NWDC's new programming curriculum and execution goes to the diligent work of the organization's Programs Director, Ashley Nestman, and her crew of seasoned, returning and new environmental educator professionals. Ashley Nestman began her role working for the Mountain Park Environmental Center (MPEC) overseeing the Earth Studies program (for District 60 5th graders), the Forest School for Little Rangers (for 4- and 5-year olds in collaboration with parent educators from Catholic Charities and Health Solutions), and a variety of other stand-alone programs serving people of all ages. Ms. Nestman was now tasked with developing and facilitating expanded environmental programming for all the various grade levels of the Beulah School of Natural Sciences in Beulah, and to develop new Earth Studies programming to cover the Short Grass Prairie and Riparian ecosystems of the NWDC's River Campus.



Patty Kester stepped in, at first as the Interim Executive Director and later being appointed as the Executive Director, to effectively lead the new organization in refining its operations and redefining its role as southern Colorado's premier environmental education and wildlife rehabilitation organization. This new organization, operating with only a core skeleton crew managing two campuses and three facilities, a Mountain Campus in Beulah and a River Campus in Pueblo which houses both the old Nature Center as well as the Raptor Center, has managed to rise to the challenge of its mission statement in a far greater

Collecting elements of the educational focus and shorter blocs of programming developed by previous staff of the Nature and Raptor Center (some of whom have continued to work for the NWDC) and weaving them together with new material, Nestman crafted them into a full-day program, formatting it to fit the style of execution that her team of environmental educator rangers and District 60 teachers have come to recognize and expect. Although Nestman can by no means take full credit for development of the material, turning the disparate modules and information

into a cohesive Earth Studies program session involved research, collaboration, creation of both educator training material and student handout material, testing material (all supporting the 5th Grade-specific educational standards of the State of Colorado), as well as organizing the logistics of the session day and element teaching locations for the various ranger-led groups.

Aside from the addition (two years ago) of a climate science module to each session of the long-standing Earth Studies curriculum, the new programming covering the Short Grass Prairie and Riparian zones organized by Nestman represents the first major evolution to the program since 2002, when it was developed and implemented by then MPEC Director Dave Van Manen. This new programming expands the Earth Studies program (and Van Manen's vision) to meet the NWDC's new mission statement in a more comprehensive manner, and brings environmental education home to the community of Pueblo in a whole new way.

The City of Pueblo was built in the Plains Life Zone in and around the riparian zones bordering the confluence of the Fountain Creek and the Arkansas River, both of which are surrounded by the western-most portions of Americas Short Grass Prairie. Previously, the children of Pueblo were bussed out to the Foothills Life Zone to learn about the various ecosystems there and to introduce them to the amazing outdoor pursuits of education and recreation to be had in the mountains statewide. Now, with the new experiential and immersive programming covering the Prairie and Riparian ecosystems of the Plains Life Zone, the youth of Pueblo are being introduced to the natural environs of their own back yards. What is often seen as bleak and lifeless territory of the plains surrounding Pueblo is being illuminated for the richly diverse Life Zone that it is by

detailing the plant and animal adaptations living things have co-evolved to meet their basic needs within the challenges of the Short

Grass Prairie's harsh climate. The riparian zones running through the city that bridge the gap between the waterways and the prairie are being revealed to be naturally resilient, abundant and diverse in life, as well as fragile and susceptible to the activity of the human communities that have risen around them.

What was once the Nature Center of Pueblo, a quiet and nearly forgotten stretch of river frequented by bicyclists, bird-watchers and fly-fishermen, is now also a thriving center of education throughout the school week as it is not only home to the Earthkeeper Nature Preschool several days a week, but now each 5th Grade class in District 60 is now treated to at least one Earth Studies session exploring the places where the prairie meets the river. Although this is a great new step for the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center, there is a sense that it is only the beginning of greater things to come as the

NWDC begins to embody the role of inhabiting and stewarding both campuses in a dynamic way.

"In nature,
nothing is
perfect and
everything
is perfect.
Trees can be
contorted, bent
in weird ways,
and they're still
beautiful."
~ Alice Walker





SUMMER CAMPS

2019



Yes, summer is just around the bend. What better way for a child to spend a part of the summer vacation than at camp. We have all sort of camps for many age groups: day camps, overnight camps, wilderness backpacking, wolves, hiking, rock-climbing, raptors... Below is a list of our camps plus a short description. For more details on the camp and how to register, please visit our webpage: <https://hikeandlearn.org/programs-and-events/category/camps/#.XlbbhLhMHIU>.

DISCOVERY CAMP 2019 (1ST-2ND GRADE)

Spend five days exploring the wonders of the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center- River and Mountain Park Campuses! June 17 - 21, 2019

RAPTOR CAMP 2019 (4TH-6TH GRADE)

Wild about birds of prey? Spend a week among these magnificent creatures. Experience what it takes to operate a wildlife rehabilitation facility. This premier camp is very popular and limited to 9 participants so register early!

June 17 - 21, 2019

MISSION: WOLF OVERNIGHT 2019 (6TH-9TH GRADE)

Spend time with the resident wolves of the Mission: Wolf Sanctuary, volunteer to support this wonderful organization, and learn all about the role wolves play in ecosystems. Camp beneath the stars as the wolves gently sing us to sleep near the majestic Sangre De Cristo Mountain Range! June 25 - 27, 2019

GREENHORN WILDERNESS OVERNIGHT CAMP 2019 (7TH-10TH GRADE): Backpack through San Isabel National Forest with the goal of reaching the summit of Greenhorn Mountain, the highest summit in the Wet Mountain Range! Learn survival skills, backpacking basics, and Leave No Trace Principles. July 8 - 11, 2019



CRITTER CAMP 2019 (ENTERING KINDERGARTEN)

Back by popular demand, lil' critters will participate in gentle hikes, music, games, and exploration of nature! A great way to introduce your children to the wonders of the outdoors! July 15 - 19, 2019

WATER & WILDLIFE CAMP 2019 (3RD-4TH GRADE)

Let's have fun in the sun exploring along the Arkansas River banks, to the Mountain Park ponds and creeks in search of local wildlife! July 22 - 26, 2019

RAPTOR NATURALIST CAMP 2019 (6TH-12TH GRADE)

This camp takes our Raptor Camp to the next level. Campers are specially trained to handle a bird of prey and present its unique story. The camp is concluded with presentations by our new Raptor Junior Naturalists. This premier camp is very popular and is limited to 8 participants July 22 - 26, 2019

ADVENTURE CAMP 2019 (5TH-6TH GRADE)

During this high adventure day camp, campers will experience the thrills of archery, SUP-ing on Lake Pueblo, hiking and rock climbing. July 29 - August 2, 2019

MOUNTAIN PARK TRAILS: OLD & NEW

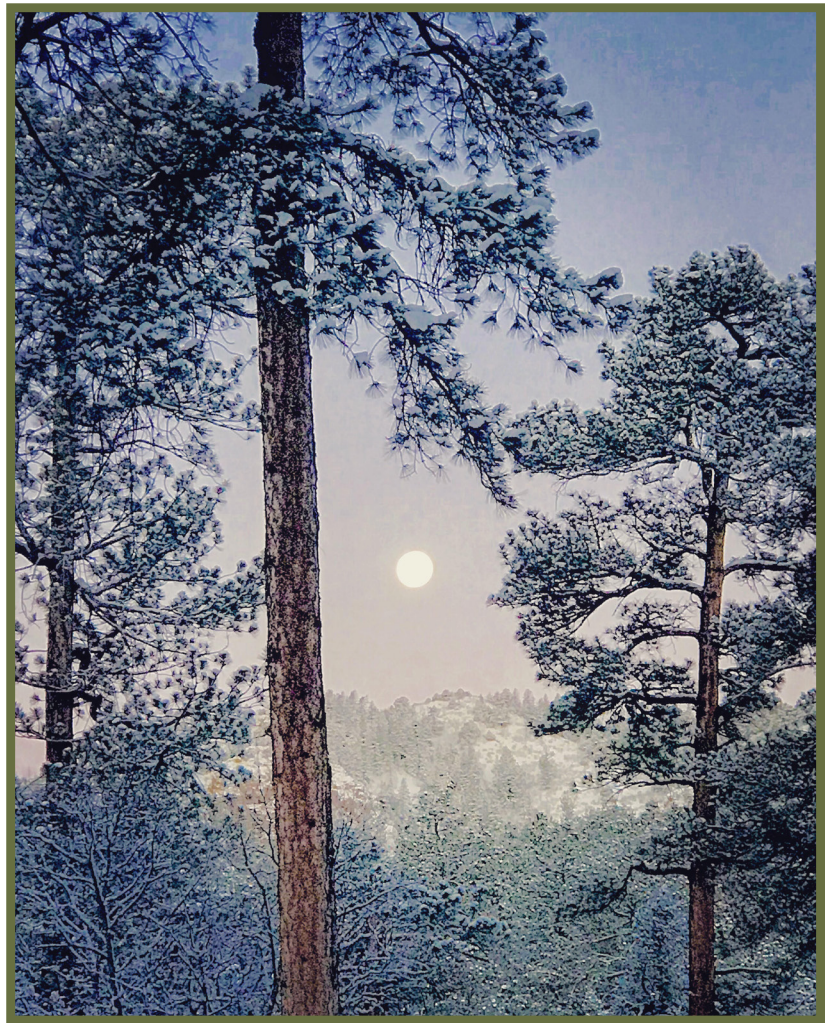
by David Anthony Martin (AKA Ranger Pine)

On January 15, 1920, the San Isabel Public Recreation Association convinced the City of Pueblo to purchase for \$6,000 the land that would become Pueblo Mountain Park. The vision was for the park to be used in concert with the nearby San Isabel National Forest that had recently been designated as the first Forest Service land in the United States to be developed for education and recreation.

Ever since the building of the park, its scenic roads, iconic picnic sites and the beauty of its interconnected trail system has made the park a destination for families, couples and solo explorers who found everything from relaxation and recreation to adventure and discovery of its nooks and crannies, its flora and fauna. The park covers 611 acres of land, a small portion of which is dedicated to picnic sites, leaving the rest to trails and undiscovered places lacing the diverse environment of forest and canyon, ridges with vistas of the valley, hilltops with views of Pikes Peak and the prairies to the east, as well as the quiet shade of evergreen filled draws.

For some who have discovered this gem of a park, it has been the all-miraculous and proverbial “medicine for what ails you,” as the natural, wild and quiet spirit of the place subtly allows one to release the stress of the work week, and to find a solace that is greatly missing from the daily drama of life.

Some of the park’s most popular and notable features are the trails that lead visitors through



the territory and invite the experience of these external discoveries and internal recoveries. On the various trails one can seek out and find both a ruggedness that can render release, and the peace of quiet places that can soothe one’s soul into the joy that comes from an immersion in beauty. All the trails in the park are best accessed from March through October and are open solely to foot and horse traffic (no motorized or man-powered vehicles allowed), except for the newly created Carhart Trail which is being specifically designed for mountain biking.

NEW! CARHART TRAIL (1.4 MILES)

Named after Arthur Carhart, the 27-year old visionary “recreation engineer” who inspired the Pueblo citizens to create the park, this new trail was specifically designed and built by the Southern Colorado Trail Builders to provide mountain biking access to the San Isabel National Forest trail system in the wild areas adjacent to the park. This trail has been carefully crafted to move trail users through some of the Mountain Park’s least known regions. The best parking for this trail will be at the park’s lower entrance, from whence one will be able to walk on foot through the old wooden Archery Range gate and up the road to where it levels out at a small picnic shelter. Although signage is still pending on this newly built trail, which is still in the final process of its crafting, it can be accessed by following the fence line that moves away from the picnic shelter north across the lower end of the upper field toward the boundary of the park.

NOTE: If you are a veteran and have hiked the trails or used the Mountain Park we'd love to talk to you about your park experience and how time spent in the park impacts your life and the value it has for you. This will be research for an upcoming article. Contact Dave Martin: earthstudies@hikeandlearn.org



From there the trail moves through the absolutely stunning ponderosa pine ecosystem along the field before moving through some more rugged oak terrain. The trail traverses steep forested hillsides as it descends into the Squirrel Creek watershed where it connects to the Squirrel Creek Trail. Traditional access to this trail from Squirrel Creek Road has been restricted by private property for over a decade, but the Carhart Trail bypasses this legal issue and has now made this trail open to the public, allowing mountain bikers and hikers to once again access Squirrel Creek Trail and further into the San Isabel trail system to the old Davenport Campground.

TOWER TRAIL (1.06 MILES)

Tower Trail starts in the ponderosa pine ecosystem but quickly moves west south-west up the hot, dry and rocky south facing slopes of mountain shrubland ecosystem and then longer stretches of cool, shady Douglas and white fir forests, on its way up to an old fire lookout tower. It's lower and upper sections intersect at Mace and Ranger Trail along a ridge with lovely views of the valley. Nice maps and signage let you know where you are and how to proceed. Taking the upper trail section of Tower Trail brings you to

the old fire lookout tower. Although it was never actually used as a fire lookout tower, the tower's top landing treats the brave to views of Pikes Peak, Pueblo and its reservoir, the eastern prairie and the gently curving horizon of our planet.

RANGER TRAIL (0.2 MILE)

This short trail branches from the intersection of Tower and Mace trails and connects with the San Isabel National Forest trail system, by which South Creek Trail may be accessed. The South Creek Trail provides access to more remote parts of the National Forest, including the Squirrel Creek Trail and Davenport Campground (via the Connector Trail that moves roughly north and south between the South Creek and Squirrel Creek Trails

MACE TRAIL (1.0 MILE)

This trail rises through a diverse mixture of ponderosa pine, mountain shrubland and Douglas fir ecosystems. Two-thirds of a mile in hikers will arrive at the intersection with the Lookout Point Trail, a short trail and scenic side trip that sits atop the east side of Devil's Canyon. A short distance further takes you to the intersection with the southwest end of the Devil's Canyon Trail. The remainder of the Mace Trail runs along a ridge with great views of the valley and a perfect place to catch the sunrise or moonrise. As it meets up with the hill which is home to the old fire watch tower, it passes the Ranger Trail before intersecting with the lower and upper stretches of Tower Trail.

LOOKOUT POINT TRAIL (0.1 MILE)

This short trail, accessed via Mace Trail, takes one northeastward up to a lovely picnic knoll overlooking Devil's Canyon. Over this knoll, a short section of trail descends a steep rocky path to an old steel railing on a rock outcropping giving those not faint of heart a breathtaking view of the canyon. Small children should be supervised closely on this short trail to the railing as well as at Lookout Point itself. What appear to be trails descending into the rocky canyon from this railing are in fact not trails and one should not venture any lower than the steel railing guards of Lookout Point.

DEVIL'S CANYON TRAIL (0.95 MILE)

The park's most popular and well-traveled trails and is a relatively easy trail, with relatively little elevation gain or drop. Northridge and Archery Range trails can be accessed via this trail. The trail meanders through cool, shady Douglas fir ecosystem roughly southwest, leading to a jumble of stone where the drainage narrows to meet the steep granite walls of the canyon. The southwestern most end of this trail is accessible nearly year-round but can be entirely impassable during the spring snowmelt run-off. The southwestern section of this trail intersects with the end of Northridge Trail, before it loops back up some steep switchbacks to connects to Mace Trail near Lookout Point Trail.

NORTHRIDGE TRAIL (1.53 MILE)

A great choice for winter hikers seeking some cardio! This trail can be accessed either via Devils Canyon Trail or the Archery Range Trail, and moves up a steep, rocky south facing slope. Much of this trail receives lots of sun and is usually free of snow or ice. The second leg of this trail takes one down into a steep, shady draw which connects to the Devils Canyon Trail a short distance above the canyon proper. This section, being quite shady and deep, is often quite cool and holds onto snow and ice well into spring. Although once a very pastoral and smooth trail, recent flooding events have washed away much of its soil, revealing the rocks below and making it less suitable for trail running, as one should be cautious of loose rock and footing.

ARCHERY RANGE TRAIL (.2 MILE)

A short section of trail, actually an old road used to quarry stone from the lower part of Devil's Canyon, moves down through the middle of the Archery Range to connect to the rough parking space at the Mountain Park's lower entrance. This short bit of overgrown road at the south end of the Archery Range fields connects the Devils Canyon, Northridge and Carhart Trails.

POND TRAIL (.2 MILE)

A favorite for parents with toddlers wanting the most bang for their buck with a short Nature hike. This trail can be accessed from the west side of the main parking lot in front of the Horseshoe Lodge, with its loose trailhead beginning just left (south) of the amphitheater. This short trail moves through short oaks and pines, past the U.S. Weather Service Station, and down a set of wide stone steps to the largest of the park's ponds. Although flooding events had filled the pond with sediment and debris and damaged its outlet, the park with the aid of the City of Pueblo has recently dredged and repaired the pond. The pond is home to the Southern Redbelly Dace, an indigenous, but endangered species of small minnow which has been reintroduced to South Creek in recent years.

“Keep close to
Nature's heart...
and break clear
away, once in
awhile, and climb
a mountain or
spend a week in
the woods. Wash
your spirit clean.”

~ John Muir

A COUPLE OF CHANGES TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past winter, we got to say good-bye to one Board member, and welcome to a new Board member. Joshua Wilcoxson, who works as an independent financial advisor with Commonwealth Financial in downtown Pueblo, served as the Chair of the first NWDC Board of Directors since the birth of NWDC at the start of 2018. Prior to that, he served on the Board of the Mountain Park Environmental Center. We offer Josh a huge thank you for his willingness to serve during NWDC's very tumultuous first year. We wish Josh nothing but the best in all his future pursuits.

We welcome Teresa Valenti as our new NWDC Board Chair. We thank Teresa and all other current members Corinne Brown, Heather Dewey, Warren Nolan, Peg Rooney, Michael Spahr, Lamar Trant and Mark Trevithick. Teresa brings to our organization a wealth of experience and passion for our mission. Teresa also volunteers her time at the Raptor Center and at the Mountain Campus.

PROGRAMS & GUIDED HIKES

at the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center



For all the details, pricing, and to register for these programs, go to www.hikeandlearn.org and click on PROGRAMS. If you need assistance with registering online, or if you do not have access to a computer, please call 719-485-4444. Also, note the different locations for each of the programs listed. Some are at the River Campus, some at the Raptor Center, and some at the Mountain Park. Note that there is \$5 day pass fee required for all River Campus and Raptor Center programs. Donations are always appreciated.

	Weekend Raptor Talks	Every Saturday & Sunday, 11:30am
	Nature Toddlers with Ranger Dave	Mondays at 10am April 8th, other dates TBA
	NEW! Nature Time with Ranger Pine	Fridays from 1-3pm April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24
	Celebrate the Earth Hike	Sunday, April 14, 10am
	2019 Earth Day Dinner	Thursday, April 25 6-9pm
	AVAS 4th Saturday Bird Walk	Saturdays at 9am April 27, May 25, June 22
	Spring Wildflower Hike	Saturday, May 4, 9am
	Full Flower Moon Hike	Saturday, May 18, 7-9pm
	SCAS Public Night at the Observatory	Fridays from 8-10pm, May 31, June 28
	Birding Hike	Sunday, June 2, 8am
	NEW! Nature Immersion Walk	Saturday, June 8, 9am
	Full Strawberry Moon Hike	Monday, June 17, 7-9pm
	Summer Solstice Drum Circle	Friday, June 21 6:30-8pm



“Every spring is the only spring, a perpetual astonishment.” ~ Ellis Peters

RAPTOR CENTER NEWS

By Diana Miller

Yeah March! The magical month when spring arrives and for a moment, life slows just a bit at our Raptor Center. The warming days allow us to send wintering patients back to the wild. Just yesterday volunteers returned a beautiful Northern Harrier to its home on the southern edge of Fort Carson. The surfer of the grasslands collided with a car and suffered a concussion. After a few weeks of care, the staff enjoyed watching the bird soar away and vanish in the horizon.

Also in our care are two bald eagles. Both have suffered traumatic injuries to their shoulders. The healing process will be long, and the odds of flight again for either of them is quite low. Only time and care will tell. And tell it does.

A few months ago, a very large and fierce female great horned owl was admitted with a very serious humerus fracture near the shoulder. Our veterinarian, Dr Germeroth, performed the surgery and gave the owl an even chance of regaining her flight because of the extent of the damage. The bone was slow to heal, and the owl spent more than a month in our I.C.U. Despite having her wing immobilized for such a long time, she was a force to be reckoned with. Great care had to be taken just moving past her enclosure because

talons shot out through the bars to grab you if you were too close. This fierce girl earned the name "Morgana" after the powerful enchantress in the Arthurian legend. After 5 weeks in the ICU, Morgana moved outside to a 12- foot long enclosure to start stretching her wings. We saw great progress with her extension and after 10 days moved her into a 30-foot enclosure. She has been in that enclosure for the past month. A couple of days ago we decided Morgana was ready for the big flight. When we released her into the enclosure, we figured she would struggle with the new distance and height. To our surprise and delight, Morgana easily flew the 120 feet and effortlessly lifted up to the 16- foot perch. This girl is planning to beat the odds!

Successes like Morgana's are due in part to a great team! Staff, volunteers and supporters, you made it happen. Thanks!



Both of these Bald Eagles suffered traumatic injuries to their shoulders. The healing process will be long, and the odds of flight for either of them is quite low. Only time and care will tell.

YES! I want to be a member of Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center and be a part of an organization that brings people to Nature for education and recreation, and cares for injured wildlife. Note that we are still in the process of developing our new membership package, but here's what a membership comes with for now: the perks listed at <https://natureandraptor.org/become-a-member/>, and you will receive free access to guided hikes at the Mountain Park, discounts on other educational programs, and discounts in the Mountain Park gift shop and on overnight stays in the Horseshoe Lodge. Plus the knowledge that you are supporting the great work that the NWDC does!

Name(s) _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

_____ Senior (over age 70) x \$10 = _____ # _____ Senior (over age 55) x \$30 = _____
_____ Handicapped / Student / Military (w/valid ID) x \$30 = _____ # _____ Individual: \$40 = _____
_____ Additional Pass, Limit 1 (w/current Membership) x \$10 = _____ # _____ Family: \$55 = _____
_____ Sustaining Member (monthly recurring payment, \$15.00 min) _____ /month (provide credit card info below)

Community Leader Membership Levels (please indicate the number of passes needed):

Business / Civic Group Name _____

_____ Cottonwood \$100 _____ (/3 passes) # _____ Hawk \$1,000 _____ (/8 passes)
_____ Bobcat \$250 _____ (/4 passes) # _____ Rock Canyon \$2,500 _____ (/10 passes)
_____ Trout \$500 _____ (/5 passes) _____ I decline to receive any additional gifts offered.

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____ Date: _____
Mail to: NWDC PO Box 99 Beulah, CO 81023

Visa/MC/Discover Card # _____ Expiration _____ V-Code _____



Membership

April 25, 2019 at the Olde Towne Carriage House

EARTH DAY DINNER *with Brenda Porter*

Please get your registration in early for the *2019 Earth Day Dinner*. Brenda Porter, a Pueblo native, will share her fascinating wilderness guide stories from around the world in her presentation, Nature around the World. April 25, 2019 at the Olde Towne Carriage house from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$75. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please call us at 719-485-4444 or register online at <https://hikeandlearn.org>

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