

Mark your Calendar:

- Winter Arts Festival
Saturday, December
6 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
In the Great Hall at
Pacifica



Pacifica: A Garden in the Siskiyou

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Weddings & Events:
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M i s s i o n :

Pacifica: A Garden in the Siskiyou is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation committed to establishing and maintaining a botanic garden, nature center and education facility that supports and promotes the conservation and study of plants and the environment, while providing space for a variety of community activities, services and needs.

Winter Arts Festival!

By Pat Street

What an exciting and full year we have all had! The crops are in, the election season is over and the earth is settling down for a long winters nap. But don't get too cozy just yet; it's time to gather with your friends, family, and community to enjoy the 2008 Winter Arts Festival at Pacifica. The festival will be held in the Great Hall at Pacifica Saturday, December 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This will be the 10th Winter Arts Festival in partnership with the Pacifica Arts Guild, and it promises to be an enjoyable experience for young and old. Lights will shine, swags and pine cones decorate the walls, peace and good will fill the air.

Please join us for a day of music, fine art and crafts and good home-cooked food. Local artisans will have their art on display and for sale, the music will be a treat for your ears and the food will be warm and tasty. There will also be a kid's craft room where future artists will have a chance to create their own artwork.

With Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All on our minds, and with a joyful smile we invite you to join us for a great celebration. Please come and bring those you want to share a great experience with.

2008 Pumpkin Patch A Huge Success!

By LouAnn Allen

Perfect autumn weather and color greeted the visitors to Pacifica's 2nd Pumpkin Patch this year.. The oranges, reds and yellows of the trees and plants paired with the beautiful blue sky created a "photo op" backdrop for kids, grown ups and lots and lots of good fun. We doubled our attendance this year, so we're thinking that everyone must be having a good time !

The Pumpkin Patch is a real community event with the support and



The Williams Fire Department volunteered their time to let junior firefighters experience what it was like to operate the hoses. Than You!

whole hearted participation of many generous local organizations, all of whom want to make this weekend a learning, growing, fun filled experience for kids and their families.

Once again, the Williams Brushriders provided horse back rides for the kids. The Williams Fire Department brought a pumper truck, junior fireman outfits and hats and let the kids 'man' the hoses as they pumped water out of the pond. The by-product rainbows they created were a show in themselves. The hay rides didn't stop all day nor did the fun activities on the Caterpillar or the costumed parades around the Salmon Tent. The petting zoo included goats, chickens and one very popular and hard working bunny.

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MORE PUMPKIN PATCH & GARDENER'S GABBLE !



2008 Pumpkin Patch

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All of the animals were extremely tame and gave some kids their first contact with animals other than dogs or cats. The Zoo's curator (Vanessa Martinez) took time with the kids to answer their questions and make this a valuable experience.

The Audubon Society shared bird identification tips, did bird coloring activities and showed birdhouses for specific species. The Siskiyou District Garden Clubs (well represented by the Grants Pass and Illinois Valley folks) helped visitors make leaf prints and gave them plant and tree identification information. All About Trees taught kids where paper comes from and how to make paper themselves. The Williams Watershed Council raffled off two humongous pumpkins, much to small children's delight. Volunteers guided pumpkin painters, helped make bracelets and necklaces from corn and arbutus berries and supervised apple bobbing. Martha and Simon Messinger paid a visit from the past, greeting guests with some living history. Vendors treated the adults with pottery, wine, clothing, jewelry and botanical art. Hungry visitors enjoyed hot dogs, chili, soup, pop corn and all kinds of thirst quenchers from Applegate and Sugar Loaf schools.

The Hidden Valley Equestrian Team and the Josephine County Sheriff's Posse (and their beautiful horses) kept traffic flowing and parking organized. And of course, we can't forget the corn maze and getting pumpkins.

It was a wonderful couple of days-made possible by all of the folks who pitched in with smiles and enthusiasm that was absolutely contagious.

If you didn't miss itthanks for coming and tell your friends and neighbors to add us to their harvest calendar in 2009. If you did miss it...how about marking your calendar right now for next year. We'll see you all October 24th and 25th, 2009!

Thank you to everyone who help us with the 2008 Pumpkin Patch, from those who planted the seeds in the

summer, to those who helped park cars and generally made the whole experience such a wonderful one for everyone involved. It was all great because of YOU!



Wagon rides around the corn maze!

Gardeners' Gabble By Peg Prag

On the trails right now you'll find the last of the fall color: grapes are bright red, likewise gooseberries and currants; most of the maples, oaks and Poplars have lost their yellow and red leaves but there are a still a few left.

The beginnings of the Western Native Plant Garden were planted last year. We haven't had the money to finish the land shaping but at least some of the plants are getting a head start...at least most of them...the rest will be getting deer protection this week!

Also, on this month's agenda is planting several pounds of wildflower seeds along the Water Gap Road fence. If all goes well (being that it's a garden we probably shouldn't count on that!), it should put on a nice show next spring into summer.

Wish List:

As Pacifica grows our needs grow. If you can donate any of these items or services please contact us: (541) 846-1100.

- Crafty stuff including tuna cans for the Arts Guild Winter Fest kids' craft area
- Someone to put together this newsletter
- Someone with an hour or two of time & medium-sized earth moving equipment
- Golf cart
- Lap top
- Paint for studio building

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- Help at the Winter Fest
- Weeding
- Trail work
- Mapping plantings

CATERPILLAR & BLUE SKYE !

Caterpillar

By Peg Prag

The Caterpillar's fall program, "I Can, (Toucan,) We ALL Can," has just begun. "Global warming" is a topic that involves every one and every thing and upon which everyone has an effect. The decisions we (soon to include today's students) make about how we use our resources, energy, etc., will be very important ones. Though a complex subject, students need to develop an understanding of some of the science behind it, as well as a positive feeling that they (we) can each make a difference.



The 2009 Caterpillar curriculum is introducing this subject in constructive and engaging ways. The program has four main stations. One is **Alternative Energy** with several hands-on experiments with wind mills, solar cars, solar houses and solar collectors. The second is **Endangered Animals**. The K-2 students will each "adopt" an endangered animal puppet and put on a show. The third, fourth and fifth grade groups will each pick an endangered animal file with information and photos about the animals and write facts about it. The third is **Reduce-Reuse-Recycle**, and the difference that eating local food can make. The students will each make a "**We-Can Bird**": one of the fortune-teller/catchers that kids have been making for years with things WE CAN do. And, the fourth is **Plants**: the carbon cycle (with a bit about global warming and the importance of plants), the plant cycle, and plant parts. In addition, the kids will each make a seed stick to take home and plant.

The program is exciting, with a lot of good information. To set up a Caterpillar visit for your group please call Vanessa at (541) 621-6278.

The Caterpillar crew will be selling food at the Winter Fest. It's a wonderful event so come on by December 6, enjoy yourself...and buy some soup! We will also have a variety of re-made, re-cycled things for sale (kids nature kits out of old jeans, trugs and mason bee homes out of old pallets, and lots more). We'll have several activities for kids, too: making bird feeders, making caterpillar draft-stoppers, and planting gift plants in yogurt containers. And, the fourth is **Plants**: the carbon cycle, the plant cycle, and plant parts. In addition, the kids will each make a seed stick to take home and plant.

A Special Thank You to:

Larry Jones for his wonderful creations for the Caterpillar, Bill and Mary Ann Kennedy for the circuit boards and woodworking and Rodger Miller and his friends for the vinyl installation work.

Blue Skye

Pacifica is rapidly approaching a significant milestone. In the next few months, excavation will begin on the Blue Skye reservoir. This is the first reservoir that Pacifica has added to the property's existing water system. It is also the first step in bringing Forestfarm nursery to the property. Peg and Ray Prag have pledged the nursery stock and business to the Pacifica project. While this generous gift will have a huge impact on Pacifica's revenues, the nursery will only occupy an approximate 15 acres. It is the key to our ability to financially sustain Pacifica's vision and to provide jobs for the community. The role of Blue Skye is essential to that out come. The Blue Skye reservoir is dedicated solely to the nursery. It will serve as a recycling repository of the entire greenhouse watering system run off.

Once contained, the water will be recycled back into the greenhouses, conserving water that would be lost in an ordinary operation. The reservoir also serves as a filtration system . This process not only conserves water, it also insures that any seepage into ground water reserves is free of contaminants and pathogens. The Blue Skye project is partially funded through grants from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Josephine County Economic Development Funds. It will serve as a demonstration project, carefully monitored and studied by conservation experts as a model for future agricultural projects.



Donations: As the end of the year approaches, please remember that Pacifica: A Garden in the Siskiyou is a 501(c)(3) and therefore any donations are tax deductible. Any contributions are greatly appreciated. Your donation will help us continue to move forward developing nature trails, offering a community gathering space and preserving a piece of history as we help educate future generations about nature science. For more information about donating please contact Pacifica: 541.846.1100

Weddings & Events

It's not too early to plan those important life events at Pacifica for 2009. Weddings, anniversary parties, and graduation parties! Please call LouAnn to book your special day now! 541.846.1100