

Center for Native and Urban Wildlife

Founded January 2000

Awards and Accomplishments

- Designed and built the Greenhouse/Vivarium, outdoor Propagation Yard and Toad Hall.
- Enhanced the Wildlife Demonstration Garden with additional plants, educational signage and desert wildflower display.
- As of March 2008 CNUW has provided an educational experience for over 8,300 elementary students, and hundreds of college students enrolled in various Biology courses at Scottsdale Community College.
- Successfully reared the threatened Ramsey Canyon Leopard Frog.
- Became a repository for two endangered fish species, the Desert Pupfish and the Gila Top Minnow.
- Created a teacher education packet with curriculum targeting one-third of the Arizona State Science Standards.
- Retained a consultant to design and implement an evaluation plan for the Center's education program, to assess the program's achievements and to provide data for improvement.
- Initiated the restoration of Brown's Ranch; planted over 200 desert trees, enlisted over 100 volunteers.
- December 1999: received a large grant from the Nina Mason Pulliam Trust, \$92,000 of which was used for greenhouse construction.
- Received additional funding from Salt River Project (for the Outdoor Propagation Yard), Central Arizona Project (for learning boxes), and the Heritage Fund (for plant walk/native landscaping/wildlife demonstration gardens).
- Completed a five-year strategic plan in 2000.
- Innovation of the Year Award, 2001 from the League for Innovation in the Community College.
- Graduated 10 community volunteers from the first docent training program.
- Established "Club CNUW" as a campus-based club, with 13 SCC student members.
- Created CNUW web site: <http://www.scottsdalecc.edu/cnuw>
- Consulted with environmental boards, commissions, and organizations; becoming a "voice for conservation."
- Embarked on a \$2.5 million endowment campaign "*Restoring Deserts, Expanding Minds*".
- Professors Roy Barnes and Dr. John Weser received NISOD *National Excellence in Teaching Awards* from the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development at the University of Texas, Austin.
- October 2006: received a \$12,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for environmental education.
- April 2007: presented at the Global Sustainability Conference at MCCD district office.

- April 2007: organized Earth Day event at Scottsdale Community College.
- June 2007: joined the Sustainability Committee at Scottsdale Community College and assisted in revitalizing the Environmental Club.
- September 2007: exhibited at the Annual Teachers' Resource Fair at the Arizona Science Center.
- October 2007: co-sponsored (along with the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy) a lecture series held at the SCC Biology Department entitled "What the Experts Say".
- October 2007: exhibited at the "Cookout at the Ranch" (Old McDonald Ranch) fundraising event, organized by the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy to raise money for conservation in Arizona.
- December 2007 and March 2008: participated as consultants in a task-force workshop for the planned future "Desert Discovery Center at the McDowell Sonoran Preserve."
- December 2007 and January 2008: CNUW was featured in two consecutive episodes of *Maricopa Now!* "Schwartzlow's Sojourns", documenting research work at Brown's Ranch in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.
- January 2008: became a member of the Children and Nature Network, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Coalition.
- January 2008: launched the "No Child Left Inside: Connecting Kids with Nature" fundraising campaign.
- February 2008: participated in the Region 8 Workshop of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI), and became a member of NAI.
- May 2008: CNUW has hosted 9,000 students from Valley schools (tour of facilities at SCC campus).