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## Monarch Butterflies at Ellwood

*by Nicole Cerra*

From November to February, you can enjoy wintering Monarch butterflies in the Eucalyptus trees at Ellwood Mesa, an open space area at the southwestern corner of the Devereux Watershed. Unlike other insects, Monarchs spend the summer in higher latitudes, and the winters in lower latitudes. Monarchs that spend summers in the eastern United States migrate to the mountains of Mexico in the winter. Those butterflies that spend their summers west of the Rocky Mountains



migrate to California during the winter. Monarchs migrate up to 3,000 miles round trip each year. They are the only known species of butterfly to conduct such a journey. Safe wintering spots are critical to the life cycles of Monarch butterflies. Thankfully, Ellwood has remained open space and can provide this wintering habitat. In 2007, the City of Goleta implemented a docent program to answer the public's questions about Monarchs, and to maintain the well-being of the Monarchs. To get involved contact City Hall at 961-7500. ■

## Experiences of an Intern

*by Eric Stevens*

Upon completion of my bachelor's degree at UCSB, I embarked on a 'journey of discovery.' I lived in Nicaragua and worked in an orphanage and explored the beaches of its Pacific Coast, I volunteered with the Peace Corps in Costa Rica, I worked with a non-profit organization in San Diego, and I even worked construction in Tahoe. However, I always missed the perfect Santa Barbara weather, the friendly people, and our amazing coastline. So I came back to Santa Barbara to pursue a master's degree in Coastal Marine Resources Management with the Bren School at UCSB.

If you have never visited Coal Oil Point Reserve, it is something that everyone in the Santa Barbara area should do. I have lived in Santa Barbara off and on for the past 9 years and Coal Oil Point has always been one of my favorite places for its beautiful sunsets, pristine beaches, and abundant wildlife viewing opportunities. When I heard about

an internship at Coal Oil Point doing outreach for the non-profit Shorelines and Watersheds I jumped at the chance.

It has been a wonderful experience spending a few hours a week in the small Coal Oil Point office, looking out the window at the Pacific Ocean and working to protect and enhance the Devereux Slough. The slough has been rated as one of the top 10 birding locations in the Western United States, but now more than ever it needs to be cherished and protected from increasing development pressures in nearby areas.

My co-intern, Alicia Glasco, and I were busy during the six month internship with Shorelines and Watersheds. We immersed ourselves in research about the Devereux Slough, looking at history, cultural significance, current threats, and ecological factors. Then we used all this important information to create a tour of the slough for local schools and community members, began creating a website that promotes the Devereux Slough Monitoring Program, and built a scale model of the Devereux Watershed for educational purposes. I learned a lot as a 'Slough Intern' and would recommend the experience highly to anyone interested in getting involved with a worthwhile project and organization in the Santa Barbara area. ■

## World Ocean Day Festival

*by Julia Vraspir*

We got inspired, got involved, and celebrated the sea at the World Ocean Day Festival on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Ty Warner Sea Center in downtown Santa

Barbara! In addition to seeing the cool exhibits at the Sea Center, it was an opportunity to meet community groups that are taking action to conserve our ocean resources for future generations. The ocean is a vital part of our watershed, and everything that we do to our water and the ground starting in the mountains and traveling to the ocean impacts the water quality and marine life. There were a number of really interesting booths and activities, and if you weren't able to stop by this year, we hope that you can make it next year! ■

We are in need of **new board members** as are old friends are leaving town. If you are interested in finding out more about being a board member of Shorelines and Watersheds, please let us know by emailing [contact@shorelinesandwatersheds.org](mailto:contact@shorelinesandwatersheds.org) and we'll get in touch with you soon!

## Upcoming Events

- **Tours of Coal Oil Point Reserve** are the first Saturday of each month from 2:00pm – 4:15pm. Reservations for tours are required. Please contact the Program Coordinator Leeza Charleboix at (805) 893-5092.
  - Sat. July 11, August 1, and Sept. 5
- **Lecture Series** are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.
  - Visit our website for up to date information on dates, times and speakers! Feel free to email as well.