

2002.1

Pg. 2

Sonoma West Times & News

December 27-January 2, 2002

2002.1

Laguna...

(continued from front page)

students knew where to plant each tree by matching colored flags in the ground with the same color flag tied to the new plant.

Laguna docent Robert Evans treated the class to a history lesson of the wetlands preserve, telling them of the time when Native Americans hunted and fished in the area. When Evans finished the

story, he asked the students, "Are you ready to go back to work?"

"Yeah!" they all yelled.

The work day included the discovery of a garter snake near one of the holes for a new tree. Ashling McAnaney, a volunteer from the Marin Conservation Corps, held the snake up so the students could all get a look.

The planting day was part of STRAW — Students and Teachers Restoring A Watershed — a project which supports

wetlands restoration and education in Marin and Sonoma Counties. The STRAW program is part of The Bay Institute of San Francisco, which funded the Thursday planting project.

Students participate in a year-long watershed education program in their classrooms, and then complete an outdoors restoration project like the Laguna tree planting, said George Snyder, The Bay Institute's communications director.