



OPEN SPACES

Volume 18, Number 1

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

First Quarter, 2006

2006 A Year of Change

2006 is a year of change for our community and for the Conservancy. Building on the major open space acquisition that was completed in December, the community will begin developing a plan for the future of the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve. Trail uses, public access, and linkage of natural areas will be key issues to be resolved by the public in a process to begin this year.

The Conservancy is also changing. The acres for which we have stewardship and management responsibilities will more than triple—from about 350 acres in 2005 to over 1300 acres in 2006.

In the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve we expect to restore and enhance the habitat on five acres per year, and we'll continue our restoration activities at the Chandler and White Point Preserves. We've already begun growing seedlings to be planted in 2006.

Thanks to financial assistance provided by the Alcoa Foundation, our education program will also expand in 2006, serving 18 schools in Palos Verdes, San Pedro, Lomita and Torrance.

These increased responsibilities mean we'll need to expand our staff and create new opportunities for volunteers. Increased staffing means we'll need to continue to depend on the generosity of those in the community who share a love for the open space.

The Conservancy is also evolving its leadership, with Bill Ailor stepping down as president (Bill has served as president since the organization's founding in 1988) and Henry Jurgens is "taking the reigns" beginning this year. Bill will remain on the Board as President Emeritus and will continue to provide guidance on many issues.

"Serving as president all these years has truly been an honor for me," said Ailor who founded the Conservancy in 1987 when he and his wife Barb realized that the land they loved to hike was zoned for development. "I've met so many



President Emeritus Bill Ailor talks with new PVPLC President Henry Jurgens.

great people in the community, and it's been exciting to watch open space preservation really take hold. I am very proud of what this community has accomplished, and I am very pleased that Barb and I were able to play a part. I look forward to great things under Henry's leadership."

"It is an honor to be elected President, and following Bill is indeed a privilege," said Jurgens. "Bill has been the visionary that has propelled the organization to where we are today, and I feel very humbled to

continue his legacy."

A former banker, Jurgens has been a member of the PVPLC board since 2002, and has served as Finance Committee Chair and Executive Vice President. Henry is also an active volunteer at the Cabrillo Aquarium, where he has been an education docent and whale watch leader. In 2004 he co-chaired the Grunion Gala and was named Cabrillo Docent of the Year. An Annapolis graduate, Henry has also been active with the Peninsula Navy League.

The Conservancy and our community are sharing a very exciting time. We have preserved a significant amount of open space. It is now time to go forward, and together we will succeed in *Fulfilling the Dream*.

DO YOU HAVE A VISION FOR RPV?

The first public workshop about the use of public land in Rancho Palos Verdes will be held on June 3rd, hosted by the PVPLC and City of RPV. Participants will have an opportunity to contribute their concepts for future uses of coastal and open space lands in the City (see the article on page 3 for more details). We encourage you to come and share in this exciting process.

Saturday, June 3 9 am - noon

Ridgecrest Intermediate School

28915 Northbay Road, Rancho Palos Verdes

President's Remarks



New Horizons

I feel very humbled as I step forward to accept the task of continuing Bill Ailor's legacy, and I am very pleased that he will stay on the board as President Emeritus. We will continue to need his vision and knowledge of the organization's history as we move forward. I look forward to building on the strong foundation that Bill has already laid and to guiding the organization toward a new level of stewardship for the Peninsula's open space resources.

Before I share my thoughts about our future, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I have been a Peninsula resident for 24 years. My wife Laura Hines-Jurgens and I moved to Palos Verdes in 1982. We raised two children, a daughter and a son, and have lived in the same house for all that time. My wife is a professional artist who specializes in oil on canvas paintings. She has had numerous shows on the Peninsula and beyond, including the LACMA Sales and Rental Gallery and the Orange County Contemporary Center for Art. I am very proud of her and her work. I first became interested in the Conservancy's work over 12 years ago because we live in the Monaco area overlooking the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve. The beauty of the area was so striking that I felt compelled to take an active role in its preservation.

I am excited by the challenges and opportunities that are ahead of us. The Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve will be a total of 1200 acres, ranging from the restored habitat at Oceanfront Estates to the tidepools of Abalone Cove to the slopes of the Switchbacks. As long-term managers of the Preserve, the Land Conservancy now has added responsibilities to develop the Public Use Master Plan for the Preserve, to engage in more extensive monitoring of endangered plant and wildlife species and to expand habitat restoration activities as required by the NCCP. All of this will require the dedication of resources - not just financial, but resources of community involvement. I know that many of you have volunteered in the past on our workdays and we look forward to your significant ongoing support. Together, we can fulfill our role as responsible stewards and insure that our open space preserves continue to be a source of scenic beauty, and a resource for inspiration, recreation, and continuing discovery about our natural world.

Last year was an amazing example of what the people of this Peninsula can do. I can't wait to see what we can achieve in 2006.

PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACES: A STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, public-benefit corporation that preserves undeveloped land in perpetuity as open space for historical, educational, ecological, recreational and scenic purposes.

A diverse group of volunteers from the South Bay makes up the PVPLC's managing Board of Directors. These private citizens have been drawn together by their belief that open space is crucial to the well-being of the community.

Land acquisition by the PVPLC is through purchase and gift. In addition to the good will engendered by others who donate land or funds to the PVPLC may realize significant tax benefits.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

Board of Directors

- Bill Ailor, President Emeritus
- Henry Jurgens, President
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- Nely Gonzalez, Nursery Technician
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- Mary Lopes, Volunteer Coordinator

Education Program Director

John Nieto

George F Canyon Nature Center

- Loretta Rose, Naturalist
- Faith Bilyeu, Assistant Naturalist

OPEN SPACES

A Newsletter Published by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
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LAND CONSERVANCY RECEIVES TWO MAJOR GRANTS

Annenberg Foundation Awards Planning Grant

The Annenberg Foundation has made another significant contribution to the quality of life on the Palos Verdes Peninsula by awarding a grant to PVPLC to coordinate what is being called a "Vision Plan" for the remaining open spaces in Rancho Palos Verdes. The process will be led by Melani Smith, a landscape architect and planner with the firm Melendrez, which has done previous work with the Foundation.

Melani comments, "Our objective is to describe a scenario in which the new NCCP Preserve areas, together with key City sites including the Upper and Lower Pt. Vicente properties, the Active Recreation area, the Lowe property, the lighthouse — all 1,500+ acres of planning area — can be linked in a single, contiguous 'grand vision' of interesting and unique public resources."

Our first task is to bring the City and public stakeholders together to develop an overarching vision for the planning area. With this vision in hand, Melendrez will develop plan alternatives, and ultimately produce the Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) for the Preserve and an RPV Vision Plan for the planning area, with the City and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy serving as partners in the project design team.

The PUMP for the Preserve will identify trails as well as key access, parking and circulation points. It also will address program, design and linkage ideas for:

- ✓ improved overlooks on the Preserve, including Del Cerro Park;
- ✓ the 25-acre Active Recreation Area;
- ✓ the Upper and Lower Pt Vicente areas and the Lighthouse site, building on existing planning done by the City to date;
- ✓ the California Coastal Trail, including the entire length of the trail route within the City.

The first public workshop on the Vision Plan and the PUMP will be held from 9 am to 1 pm on June 3rd, at Ridgecrest Intermediate School. This will be a great opportunity for the community to develop a plan for the City's open spaces.

Department of Fish and Game Awards Grant for Monitoring

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, to be implemented by the Land Conservancy.

The goal of the funding is to augment and update biological information and to develop a long-term management plan for the habitat preserve that will be established as part of the

RPV Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) Subarea Plan.

The Land Conservancy has the obligation under the plan to conduct annual preserve monitoring, habitat restoration and reporting. However, in order to develop the first management plan for the preserve, DFG determined that it would be valuable to have additional information about the locations of the

gnatcatchers, cactus wrens and rare plants within the new preserve. So monitoring will begin immediately. The grant will allow the development of standardized methods and protocols for recording information, and provide assistance with mapping and reporting. When the work is complete, the Land Conservancy will know much more about the land we will be managing.

These two grants enable us to leverage the community's donations to accomplish much more than we otherwise could. As a result of these grants, every dollar donated by the community produces at least two dollars in grant income. Even more important, these grants allow us to manage the preserve in a way that will directly benefit the community. So it's a win every way for the Peninsula.

– Barbara Dye



Progress Updates

*Bee on lupine at
Chandler Preserve.*



Linden H. Chandler Preserve

With mitigation funding received last summer from Cal State Dominguez Hills, one acre of native grassland has been restored at the Chandler Preserve. This included the planting of thousands of grass plugs and container plants that will augment the diminishing statewide grassland acreage. The PVPLC would like to thank Spencer Hirahara from Troop 860 Hermosa Beach for managing the grassland planting as part of his Eagle Scout Project.



Ashley Endo, of Silver Spur Elementary, displays her presentation on the Palos Verdes blue butterfly.

Defense Fuel Supply Point and Nursery

Two acres of Palos Verdes blue butterfly/California gnatcatcher habitat have been planted along Gaffey St. in an effort to expand the butterfly's current range within the DFSP. The wild butterfly population itself has begun to fly and survey transects are being performed to gauge the health of the 2006 population.

Education Program

The Third Grade Education program is underway at all 18 schools. Students will enjoy a walk to natural open space near their schools after the four in-class lessons on local plants, animals and history. This year the Alcoa Foundation provided a significant grant to the program. The company, which was ranked as one of the most environmentally sensitive in the country, will assist with implementing the program at its two partner schools in Carson and Torrance.

Forrestal Nature Preserve

The past months have seen many improvements to the trail system at Forrestal. The PVPLC, along with the California Conservation Corps, have enhanced more than half of the preserve's trail system, providing safe and sustainable routes through the 160-acre parcel. Trail markers are now in place, displaying the trail name, distance, and altitude gain of each segment.

Volunteer support has remained impressive in the past few months. Two volunteer days, one sponsored by Giant Bicycle and one by REI, generated more than 350 hours of volunteer time, improving the Preserve's trail system and restoring its habitat.



A power wheelbarrow is used to reconstruct trails at Forrestal Preserve.



George F Canyon trail

George F Canyon Preserve

Restoration work continues on the riparian and upland portions of the canyon. Non-native palms have been removed and efforts to control the extremely invasive Algerian ivy have started. Planning has also commenced on the native plantings that will take place this fall.

Lunada Canyon Preserve

Volunteers performed essential trail work to improve the safety and maintenance of the two trails in Lunada Canyon. Habitat restoration performed by scouts in 2004 and by the Peninsula High School in 2003 is flourishing and has increased the habitat value of the Conservancy's first property.

Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve

Land Conservancy staff are working to complete the baseline documentation of the Preserve. They have visited all of its major habitat areas to record the type of vegetation, geology, and topography, and note any rare plants, birds or other creatures. This information will be very valuable for Preserve management. The effort is also noting locations for the Targeted Exotic Removal Program (TERP), which will identify twenty sites where the removal of invasive plants will have a major impact on the quality of the Preserve's habitat.

Progress Updates



Max Benjamin (far right) and members of Scout Troop 2 of Santa Monica

White Point Nature Preserve

In June 2005, Max Benjamin, a Santa Monica teen, offered to create an Eagle Scout project to benefit the White Point Nature Preserve. “Max really wanted to do something in line with the community’s needs,” explained Project Manager Andrea Vona. “The idea of transforming a piece of property from military use to a nature preserve really appealed to me,” said Benjamin.

After a site tour and discussion of possible projects, Vona and Benjamin jointly decided that a beautification project to improve the look of the site’s historic buildings would be a win for both Benjamin and the surrounding community.

Enthusiased about the project, Advisory Board member Terry Miller, approached local painter, Frank Fasullo, owner of **Point Paints**, and Fasullo agreed to provide paint, supplies, and his expertise. On January 28th, Fasullo and Benjamin, worked together, painting both the Warhead Room and the Assembly Building, adding two new shades of green to the Preserve.

Local neighbors all agree that this project enhanced the evolving beautification of the Preserve and are very appreciative of Benjamin’s and Fasullo’s commitment to the area. As an added benefit, this project also provided the needed matching funds to support the installation of stone columns at each of the Preserve’s entrances.

The Land Conservancy thanks Max and Scout Troop 2 for the great job they’ve done.

Coastal Gnatcatcher Returns to White Point

In September 2004, at least three California gnatcatchers (*Poliophtila californica*) were observed as new additions to the White Point Nature Preserve. The new gnatcatchers most likely came from either Forrestral Nature Preserve or Trump National Golf Course. They remained through the 2005 breeding season, producing at least one juvenile. These newcomers are noteworthy because as this insect-eating bird population expands throughout the Preserve, the regional population gains greater stability. The return of the gnatcatcher is a major success for our habitat restoration program.

What is a coastal California gnatcatcher?

The coastal California gnatcatcher is one of three subspecies of the California gnatcatcher. This insectivorous bird has a mostly black tail, with narrow white edges showing from below. Blue-gray upper parts and gray under parts and a white-eye ring characterize the species. Males have a black cap in the summer but when the cap is absent the sexes look alike. The voice rises and falls with a kitten-like “meeyew”.

Population

In the mid-1940’s, the coastal California gnatcatcher was considered locally common, but widespread destruction of its habitat, the coastal sage scrub plant community, resulted in significant population declines. Since this bird does not fly long distances, habitat destruction and the resulting isolation of pairs were detrimental to the species. In 1992 the Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that only 30 pairs of this species were residing in Los Angeles County, and the species was granted “threatened” status under the Endangered Species Act.

What type of Habitat does the coastal California gnatcatcher need?

This active songbird species is a habitat specialist which means that it is restricted to a specific vegetation type known as coastal sage scrub. As a general vegetation type, coastal sage scrub is dominated by aromatic waist-high, drought-deciduous plants such as California sagebrush, black sage, purple sage, bush sunflower, and California buckwheat. Most California gnatcatchers prefer nesting in California sagebrush plants and the Land Conservancy is working hard to increase the habitat for gnatcatchers and other local wildlife at White Point.



Have You Seen These Nature Notables?

Here are a few of the birds and other wildlife that have been recently sighted in Peninsula Preserves.

California gnatcatcher at White Point Nature Preserve, Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve, (Barkentine, Forrestral, and Switchbacks), Abalone Cove, Point Vicente

Cactus Wren at Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve (Barkentine and Forrestral), Point Vicente

Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly at the DFSP

Western Dichondra (*Dichondra occidentalis*) at Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve (Barkentine and Forrestral)

California Matchweed (*Gutierrezia californica*) at Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve (Barkentine)

Membership News

One Mission Accomplished, Another Begins

About this time last year, the Land Conservancy and the community faced a daunting challenge. Could we raise \$4 million dollars to acquire 450 acres and create the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve—an action that would *Fulfill The Dream* our community has had for many years?

Of course, we now know the answer from the community. This land is now at the heart of a spectacular 1200-acre expanse of coastal open space that will never be built on and will belong to all of us, forever.

So that's it then? Mission accomplished, right?

Well, not quite — not yet. Yes, the creation of the Preserve was a remarkable achievement, but more realistically it is a hugely important milestone on our way to making this land the inviting, well-maintained and environmentally significant preserve we all expect.

With the larger preserve come expanded opportunities to volunteer and help clear land, plant seedlings and maintain trails, and individuals and groups are enthusiastically renewing

their commitments for the coming year. You can find our calendar of work days and volunteer opportunities at www.pvplc.org, so bring your co-workers and friends and experience the fun and satisfaction of working outdoors as you leave a living legacy on this community treasure.



View from Peacock Flat

Of course, financial contributions from our supporters will remain the lifeblood of the organization, enabling us to move forward with our stewardship and educational responsibilities.

Perhaps just as importantly, your contributions demonstrate tangible community support and help us compete for grants and funds from government agencies and foundations.

We invite you to renew your annual membership with your important contribution. To join the organization or renew your membership, please return the enclosed envelope with your donation. We also cordially invite you to join our special recognition programs shown below. To learn about recognition and planned giving programs please contact:

Bob Ford, Director of Development
(310) 541-7613 X 202 rford@pvplc.org

Recognition Programs

There are two programs which recognize the high level of commitment from members whose annual contributions support the ongoing operation of the Land Conservancy and whose leadership inspires many more to join this important community effort.

The Mariposa Circle recognizes members who contribute \$1000 or more a year. Mariposa Circle members enjoy these privileges:

- ✓ Invitations to special Mariposa Circle events
- ✓ Updates on Conservancy progress
- ✓ A private nature walk for family or friends led by a Land Conservancy naturalist
- ✓ Distinctive Mariposa Circle Pin

The Legacy Circle recognizes families who pledge to contribute \$5,000 annually for a three-year period in support of the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve. Legacy Circle families enjoy all privileges of the Mariposa Circle as well as:

- ✓ Personalized photo album of the Preserve
- ✓ Individual wine and cheese reception on the Preserve
- ✓ Legacy Circle pin

One Time Opportunity

Families who join the Legacy Circle in 2006 will have their Community Campaign contribution of one-eighth acre (\$4,625), or more, count toward the first year of their three-year commitment. They attain Legacy Circle recognition by pledging contributions of \$5,000 in 2006 and 2007.

Founding Family of the Legacy Circle

The first 37 families to become Legacy Circle members in 2006 will be designated as Founding Families of the Legacy Circle. They will enjoy these additional privileges:

- ✓ Permanent recognition at the Del Cerro Park site
- ✓ A numbered limited-edition print of a commissioned painting of the Preserve by Dan Pinkham, a renowned local artist.

Membership News

Alcoa Foundation Partners on 3rd Grade Program

The Conservancy is reaching out to corporations that share our values and respect for the environment and who encourage community involvement. So we are delighted to have the Alcoa Corporation, rated as one of the Top Green Companies in the world by Business Week magazine, partner with us to support our Youth Education program this year. The Alcoa Foundation's generous donation of \$25,000 helps to fund the environmental education program which provides four in-class sessions and an ecology field trip in the local area to over 1600 third-graders in 18 schools.

Also, we have been expanding the third-grade program to surrounding communities in the South Bay, where our target



From left to right: Olivier Jarrault (President, USA Aerospace, Alcoa Fastening Systems), his wife Farah, Alice McCarvill, Human Resources Director, (USA Aerospace, Alcoa Fastening Systems) and her husband Michel Barabe.

schools are culturally and economically diverse. Alcoa's gift has enabled us to add Bonita Elementary School in Carson, which is in a neighborhood close to one of Alcoa's plants. The first session for this newest school in the program is being held in April.

This ecology program obviously benefits local kids who get an early introduction to the natural sciences. But, perhaps just as importantly, it provides

the opportunity for Alcoa employees and parents to get involved with a very worthwhile community activity.

Our sincere thanks to the Alcoa Foundation for their generosity and we look forward to partnering with Alcoa and other corporate environmental leaders to enhance the Land Conservancy's contribution to our community.

Metropolitan Water District Awards Sponsorship For White Point Demonstration Garden



The Land Conservancy has been awarded a \$12,260 sponsorship by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) to support development of the demonstration garden at White Point. In coordination with its 26 member agencies, the MWD created the Community Partnering Program in 1999 to provide sponsorships and selected activities for

community-based nonprofits.

The sponsorship will provide educational display panels and individual plant placards throughout the garden. This ties into the MWD's outreach efforts in conservation to encourage efficient irrigation and use of native plants.

The Land Conservancy will ultimately create a native plant demonstration garden in the heart of the Preserve featuring educational panels, meandering trails, and Native American inspired feature gardens. The garden will serve as an educational and inspirational experience for visitors to learn about the beauty and usefulness of native and drought-tolerant plants.

CORPORATIONS INCREASE DONATIONS WITH MATCHING GIFTS

We would like to acknowledge the following companies for their matching gifts, contributed to the Land Conservancy at the request of the donor employees. If your employer offers a matching gift program, please include your employer's matching gift form along with your next contribution to the Land Conservancy

Bank of America

Boeing

Employees Charity Organization (ECHO) of Northrop Grumman

Gartner, Inc.

American Express

J. P. Morgan Chase

May Department Stores

Nokia

Sony Pictures Entertainment

Sun Microsystems Foundation, Inc.

UBS Financial Services, Inc.

Western Asset Management

Membership News

New Leadership on the Land Conservancy Board

Jim Cheney, Jess Morton and Jim Staes were elected to the Land Conservancy Board of Directors at its January meeting. These individuals bring great skills and experience to the organization's governance, replacing Bob Ford, Wayne Sharp and Charmaine Williams.

Jim Cheney has a distinguished career in nonprofit management and banking. Since 1996, he has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Hathaway Children and Family Services, an 82-year old nonprofit that is Los Angeles County's largest private residential treatment facility for troubled and abused children and their families. His prior banking experience includes positions as President and CEO with Capital Bank of California, Mechanics National Bank and key executive positions with Community Bank and Security Pacific National Bank. Jim also serves on the board of many nonprofits in the Los Angeles area including the Palos Verdes Art Center, Friends of the Banning Museum, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association. He and his wife, Carolyn, a Broker Associate with Coldwell Banker, are long-time residents of Palos Verdes Estates.

Jess Morton is a respected member of the local environmental community and a former PVPLC board member in the early 1990's. He has served in many capacities for Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon, as founding President and current Treasurer. He currently is also Treasurer for the Endangered Habitats League, an organization dedicated to preserving habitat in Southern California. A tax preparer living in San Pedro, Jess is also an accomplished poet, with works included in many local and national publications.

Jim Staes, whose home overlooks the Lunada Canyon Preserve, enjoys having elementary students access the Preserve through his yard each spring. He is a former U.S. Navy Captain and retired banker currently serving as a bank director. He has also served as a past Trustee and Treasurer for Little Company of Mary Community Health Foundation, as President of the California Bankers Association and president and treasurer of his local church.

Departing Stewardship Director Dan Ryan (center) with co-workers Severino Huerta, Adrian Miramontes, Baltazar Gonzalez, Nely Gonzalez, Pedro Sernas and Jose Gonzalez



Assistant Naturalist Faith Bilyeu, Director of Development Bob Ford and Stewardship Associate Becky Harper.

New Staff join the Team

The Land Conservancy is very pleased to welcome three new staff members - Faith Bilyeu, Bob Ford and Becky Harper.

Faith will be working as the Assistant Naturalist at the George F. Canyon Nature Center. She has been an elementary school teacher for many years, and now works during the week at the Lomita Railroad Museum.

Bob Ford is departing from the Conservancy board to join our staff as Director of Development. A recent retiree from Xerox Corporation, he has brought his marketing, communications and program management skills to the Land Conservancy. He has also coached and managed many local sports teams, including soccer, ice hockey, roller hockey, volleyball and lacrosse. Bob is looking forward to helping the Conservancy meet its goals.

Becky Harper, our new Stewardship Associate, grew up in Palos Verdes and has just obtained a Masters degree in biology from Cal. State Los Angeles. She realized a life goal when she accepted her new position, saying that she wants to "bring balance back to disturbed areas in a manner that benefits both human and wildlife communities." She will assist with the baseline documentation for the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve, and will handle volunteer days every Saturday.

Farewells

Three members of the Board of Directors are retiring: Wayne Sharp, Bob Ford and Charmaine Williams. Wayne was Co-Chair and a key member of the Community Campaign, Bob was very involved in developing the Campaign materials, and Charmaine assisted with human resource issues. We thank them for their help!

Two staff members are moving on to new challenges. As Development Director for the past three years, Debbie DiBiase was a key member of the team that raised funds for the Portuguese Bend acquisition. Dan Ryan, who has served as Stewardship Director for the past three years, will be moving to North Carolina to take a position as a Land Planner for another land trust organization. We thank them both for their exemplary work and wish them well in their new enterprises.

PVPLC Presents

The Land Conservancy was invited to give a presentation on the successful Community Campaign to Preserve Portuguese Bend at the annual statewide conference for the newly-formed California Council of Land Trusts. The presentation was introduced as "a great story, with lessons we can all learn from, and a telling reminder that each of us has to be aware of what works in our community." Attendees from around the state commented that it was inspiring to see what a community can accomplish.



Admiral Risty's "Winning Fare" Benefits PVPLC

The Land Conservancy has, once again, benefited from the annual "Winning Fare" fundraising campaign sponsored by The Admiral Risty Restaurant. During the month of March, diners cast their ballots. The restaurant then donated five percent of every guest's check to the guest's favorite nonprofit organization. For many years, the Land Conservancy has been a recipient of generous contributions from this program. We wish to thank co-owners, Ralph and Risty Wood and Wayne Judah, for their commitment to the many nonprofits in our community.

In Celebration!

Remember family & friends with a gift to The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy.

Graduations Weddings Birthdays
Anniversaries Achievements

Recipients and donors will be specially recognized in upcoming issues of *Open Spaces*.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Ford at 541-7613, ext. 202 or rford@pvplc.org

Membership News

WE REMEMBER

- James Andersson Burns, M.D.** given by Elizabeth Burns
Peter Anderson given by League of Woman Voters of Palos Verdes/San Pedro
Betty M. Bair given by Barry S. Bair
Darcy and Chapin Field given by Betty Strauss and Winifred Rhodes
Frank Hagen given by Amy Hagen
Virginia Kalunian given by Patricia Anthony
Jack & Larry Kongo given by Donald and Mae Landauer
David J. Laurin given by Doug Laurin and Elisa Anhalt
Gregory John Lichina given by Emil and Barbara Lichina
Moses Lieb given by Barbara and Mark Lurie
David Liu given by Richard and Gail Effros
Edith Ostrom given by Helene and Mark Chinowsky
Lars Palsson's Father given by Carole Gray
Beverly Pernel given by Don and Mary Louise Crocker, John and Barbara Dye, George and Barbara Gleghorn
Ted Petersen given by Karin Petersen
Eli Reuben given by George and Dorothy Doane and James and Helen Wilde
Rose's Father given by David and Rose Hamm
Mr. and Mrs. S.C. Servadei given by Sandra Servadei London
Lois Meeker Spielman given by Diana Bailey and Alison Phillips
Sugarfoot given by Peggy Sawyer
Luke Wyckaert given by Veronica Wyckaert
Charles W. Zarsky given by Irene Zarsky and Anonymous

WE CELEBRATE

- Mr. and Mrs. B. Daniel, 'Their Whale Watching Dedication'** given by Laura and Ernest Weber
1st birthday of Ms. Yuki Deai given by Tony Kawasaki
The Wedding of Jim Hendrickson and Cathy Allen given by Spencer and Ginger Letts
Miss Pat Horan given by "Room 7 Friends", at Town and Country Nursery School
Bill Martin's Birthday given by George and June Romine
Moving to Rancho Palos Verdes given by Hideki and Yumiko Muto, new PVPLC members
"My Great Life" given by Susan Finney
Palos Verdes given by Stephanie Blakemore
Douglas and Viola Rawcliffe given by David, Kathie, Susan, Dick and Stan
Alan Zabel's Birthday given by Diane and Mark Rehfield

Volunteer News & Opportunities

Celebrate National Trails Day on June 3

June 3rd, 2006 is National Trails Day, traditionally held each year on the first Saturday in June to recognize the value of recreational trails and the importance of trail restoration! This is a great opportunity to celebrate and enjoy your favorite public trails. We invite you to join us and show appreciation for our beautiful peninsula trail system by volunteering at Abalone Cove from 9am to Noon. Projects will include trail maintenance/repair, beach cleanup, and invasive plant removal. We will meet in the upper parking lot (the parking fee will be waived), and go from there. If you would like more information or if you are bringing a group to participate, please contact Becky Harper at (310)541-7613 x207. We encourage you to bring your own gloves, water, gardening tools if you have them and sunscreen.

National Trails Day



June 3, 2006

We Welcome Your Involvement

We rely on volunteers to help us with many of the tasks we undertake from restoration work in the preserves to supporting our staff in the office. Here are just a few of the areas where we need your help.

- ✓ Office assistance - computer work, data entry, mailings, etc.
- ✓ Special Events - planning, staging, decorating, registering guests;
- ✓ Community Outreach - helping to staff a booth at a fair or community event;
- ✓ Writing/designing materials - developing publicity and brochures on our nature walks, use of native plants, background on the preserves;
- ✓ Habitat Restoration - weeding and planting on our preserves; (We'd like to set up a leaders program for experienced volunteers who can assist with groups.)
- ✓ George F Canyon Nature Center - staffing the Center on weekends, working with school groups, presenting StoryTime to young children;
- ✓ Professional help - designing signs, assisting with legal advice, surveying, mapping;
- ✓ Trail maintenance - repairing trails in the preserves;
- ✓ Plant propagation and seed collection - helping at our native plant nursery, transplanting seedlings, collecting seed from the preserves;
- ✓ Advisory Boards and committees - helping us manage our preserves, advising us on issues that affect the operation of the organization, putting your skills to work.



Volunteers from Waseda University help plant grasses at Forrestal Preserve.

If you are interested in getting involved, please call or e-mail our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Lopes at 541-7613 x206 or mlopes@pvplc.org. She'll be happy to call or send you an e-mail when our needs fit your interests and your schedule. Working closely with the community is a very important goal for us and we welcome your participation!



Members of National Charity League help prepare PVPLC newsletter mailings.

A Big Thank You to the NCL

We would like to recognize and thank the National Charity League, Palos Verdes Chapter, for all the hours they have so willingly volunteered to help with our various projects. They have shown such dedication and support to the Land Conservancy by volunteering in the office for many time-consuming tasks. We are so fortunate to work with such a wonderful organization and would like to express our gratitude.



**April 27 & 29
Las Candalistas 37th Annual
Walk On The Wild Side**

Come catch some beads and the Mardi Gras spirit at the 37th annual Walk On The Wild Side. This year's Walk theme is, **"Mardi Gras...Celebrate The Spirit Of New Orleans"**. The charity event hosted by the women of Las Candalistas takes place April 27th and 29th between 10am and 3pm at 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard on the grounds of Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall.

Enjoy a gourmet lunch and stroll through a New Orleans style marketplace filled with bright colors, zydeco music, gourmet foods, baked breads, homemade jams, hand crafted items, silent art auction, garden shop and quilt drawing. Tickets are \$35.00 and reservations are required. Children can attend on April 29th for \$5.00, and there will be a special lunch and activities for them.

All proceeds benefit South Bay organizations which support children and/or the environment. Las Candalistas has been a consistent supporter of our 3rd Grade Nature Walk program since its inception in 1995. We encourage you to come enjoy the day and support Las Candalistas! For reservations and information call 310-798-7499 or log onto www.lascandalistas.org.

Art Show Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for volunteers to help with the Art Show at the Opening Reception on Saturday, July 1 and at a special preview reception on Friday evening, June 30.

- If you'd like to help out at a fun special event, here are several opportunities to use your talents:
- Art gallery sales support - to record art purchases
 - Work at the registration table to welcome guests
 - Help set up the reception area and supervise clean-up crews after the event
 - Help with invitations and publicity before the event.

For more information, call or e-mail Mary Lopes at (310)541-7613 x206 or mlopes@pvplc.org.

Special Events

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, July 1

**FINE ART EXHIBITION & SALE
"A Day in Our Country"**



Morning at Sacred Cove by Tom Redfield

featuring

- PORTUGUESE BEND ARTIST COLONY MEMBERS
 RICK HUMPHREY • STEPHEN MIRICH
 DANIEL PINKHAM • VICKI PINKHAM
 KEVIN PRINCE • TOM REDFIELD • AMY SIDRANE

Opening Reception: 1pm to 4pm

New This Year

Saturday, July 1, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Jean Stern, Executive Director of the Irvine Museum will present a slide-illustrated look at our environment through paintings titled, "Then and Now".
 (limited to 50 guests, reservations required)

Saturday, July 15, 1pm - 3pm

Gallery Walking Tour conducted by Dan Pinkham, Rick Humphrey and Steven Mirich

For more information, call Bob Ford at 541-7613 x202 or e-mail rford@pvplc.org

April, May & June
StoryTime
 George F Canyon
 Nature Center
 Friday Mornings
 10am - 11am

Join us for nature story-telling, songs, puppets and crafts.

April 15 & June 3
Volunteer Workday
 Abalone Cove
 9am-Noon

Help us restore habitat and maintain trails in this beautiful location.

April 22, May 27 & June 24

Volunteer Workday
 White Point Preserve
 9am - Noon

Help us plant and weed last year's plantings. Park at the preserve, 1600 Paseo del Mar in San Pedro.



April 27, May 25 & June 29

Bird Walks
 George F Canyon
 4pm - 5pm

Watch birds come in to roost for the evening. Meet naturalist Loretta Rose at the Nature Center sign. Bring your own binoculars.

May 6, June 3 & July 1
Nature Walk
 George F Canyon
 9am & 1pm

See the canyon and learn fascinating facts about local plant and animal communities. \$3/person donation requested.

Spring Calendar

Join us for these exciting events and volunteer opportunities! For more information about Volunteer Workdays, call Stewardship Associate Becky Harper at 310/541-7613 x 207. For information on other volunteer opportunities, call Volunteer Coordinator Mary Lopes at 541-7613, ext. 206, or send an e-mail to mlopes@pvplc.org.



May 7 & June 4
Volunteer Workday
 DFSP 9am - Noon

Help us with plant propagation in our nursery on Gaffey St. in San Pedro. Due to security concerns, your contact information is required before entering the base.

May 12 & June 10
Night Hikes
 George F Canyon
 6pm - 7pm

Walk to the top of the canyon for a fantastic city lights view. Bring your flashlight. \$5/person donation requested. Reservations required, call 547-0862.

May 13
Nature Walk
 White Point Preserve
 9am - 11:30am

Admire ocean views and the coastal sage scrub and grasslands restoration work underway at this 100-acre preserve managed by the PVPLC.

May 13
Volunteer Workday
 Chandler Preserve
 9am - Noon

Help restore habitat for the Palos Verdes blue butterfly. Meet in the parking lot of the Rolling Hills Little League field off of PV Drive North.

May 20
Volunteer Workday
 George F Canyon
 9am - Noon

Help restore the riparian and coastal sage scrub habitat in the canyon. Meet in the gravel parking lot on Palos Verdes Dr. East.

June 10
Nature Walk
 Forrestal Preserve
 9am - Noon

Enjoy splendid views and extravagant wildflowers like the scarlet paintbrush and the elegant mariposa lily. Moderate with two very steep sections.

June 10
Volunteer Workday
 Forrestal Preserve
 9am - Noon

Help us restore habitat and maintain trails. Meet at end of Forrestal Dr. in RPV.

July 1 - July 29
Fine Art
Exhibition & Sale
 July 1, 1pm - 4pm
 Opening Reception

Featuring works by the Portuguese Bend Artist Colony. Malaga Cove Plaza Library.

July 8
Nature Walk
 West Bluff Preserve
 9am - 11am

See restored habitat on the bluffs of the golf course (possibly with gnatcatchers) and take a walk to the beach. Moderate.

For directions and more information about our nature walks, visit www.pvplc.org or call our office at 310/541-7613.



Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
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