



Lake County Land Trust

LCLT Newsletter • PO Box 711, Lower Lake, CA 95457 • (707)262-0707 • Summer 2009

Lake County recognized at recent Land Trust conference in Fortuna

The California Northern Region Steering Committee (CNRSC), an organization of land trusts from Lake and Mendocino Counties, north to the California border, recognized the outstanding conservation achievement of Lake County at the organization's conference in June. The county was honored for its efforts to preserve Mt. Konocti.

Lake County supervisor, Denise Rushing, traveled to the conference to accept the award on behalf of the county. The award recognizes the Lake County Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Lake County for their role in "Making the Dream a Reality," explained Lake County Land Trust's executive director, Susanne Scholz. The Lake County Land Trust sponsored the award and all of the land trusts involved with the CNRSC agreed to present the Outstanding Conservation Achievement Award to Lake County.

Currently a series of workshops are being held to collect input on the Mt. Konocti Master Plan which will govern the new park's use, conservation and preservation. The



Lake County Land Trust executive director, Susanne Scholz (r), presented the Outstanding Conservation Achievement Award to Lake County Supervisor, Denise Rushing, at the Fortuna conference held in June.

County has committed to the purchase of over 1700 acres on the top and sides of Mt. Konocti, the signature landmark for Lake County.

The California Northern Region Steering Committee is an organization the Lake County Land Trust has been involved with for over three years. It is a group of land

trusts moving towards the goal of forming a regional council of land trusts for Northern California.

Right now, there are several regional councils of land trusts in California. They are beneficial because members are able to interact

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Letter from the President



Pete McGee

Bicycling in Lake County is a challenge **because there are very few routes that don't** take you back onto a busy highway. However, I have my favorite roads. I like High Valley Road above Clearlake Oaks, and Elk Mountain Road out of Upper Lake. Hill Road and George Street are great rides near Lakeport. I like the ride on Westlake Road from Rodman Nature Center to Upper Lake. Bernie Butcher (Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Café) and I both would like to see the development of a bike trail along the old levies that would connect Upper Lake to Lakeport via the back roads. That would be one heck of a good bike ride.

Because I live near Middletown, my favorite ride is out to Langtry / Quenoc winery. The pastures on both sides of Butts Canyon Road are home to cattle and horses. Native grasses thrive along the roadside. (A big thanks to Brent Siemer, new head of Public Works and Lake County Roads Department for stopping the roadside spraying program.) Egrets and herons are common in the spring in the vernal pools that dot these pastures. Acorn woodpeckers thrive in the huge oak trees. The crown jewel of this bike ride is the Detert Reservoir; geese and ducks in spring, and white pelicans in late summer.

When I get to Langtry, I have a favorite place to rest before heading back to town. There is a new sign for the winery that sits on a small rock wall. Next to this sign is a new pond that is quickly becoming naturalized with native aquatic plant life. A little green heron hangs out here. To the south there is another small pond with a levee, which separates it from the main reservoir. The scene is so wild and beautiful that you could imagine it being Montana or Idaho. When the wind is blowing there is no finer place to sit in all of Lake County than the base of the Langtry sign, looking east and south.

If I could make a wish for all of the people who I love it would be that they all could have a favorite place to sit and enjoy nature. I think the American deck has evolved to meet some of that need. When I was a kid growing up close to nature, most people had a porch of some kind. Certainly Lake County has probably more great views from decks and porches than most other places on Planet Earth. However, there is something to be said for having a place **that you walk to that is away from the house... a place where you go to watch the sunset, or the sunrise. A place to gather your thoughts. A place to feel at peace in this world.**

We would like your email addresses!!!

If you are a member of the Lake County Land Trust Rookery Membership Club and would like to receive notices about our upcoming events, and, eventually receive your Land Trust newsletter via email, please let us know what your email address is.

You can do this by simply emailing your email address to membership chair, Roberta Lyons, at roberta.lyons@att.net or call her at (707) 994-2024. The goal is to start sending the newsletter electronically to save on postage and paper, as well as to let our Rookery Club Members know about Land Trust events.

Our newsletter will be available at our website: www.lakecountylandtrust.org. Also, hard paper copies of the newsletter will continue to be sent to those members who prefer that format.

Roberta Lyons
Membership Chair

Please make note
of the new
Lake County
Land Trust
phone number:
(707)262-0707

Please save this date and...

Join the Board and Volunteers at the

LAKE COUNTY LAND TRUST *Annual Dinner*

Saturday, October 10th, 2009

*At the
Clearlake
Community
Senior Center,
3245 Bowers
Lane, Clearlake,
CA 95457*



Tickets

\$50

Each

- Delicious dinner includes appetizers and dessert
- Local wines *included* with dinner
- Silent auction • Live music
- **Lake County Land Trust “Supporter of the Year” honored**

Event starts at 6 pm * Dinner served at 7 pm

Dinner includes Lake County wines on the table, appetizer, dessert & coffee

*For sponsorship or more information
call (707)994-2024*



Hike leader and Lake County Land Trust board member, Brad Barnwell, is pictured explaining some interesting wildlife facts to Rodman Slough Preserve visitors. Walks are held every Saturday morning at the preserve, located at 6350 Westlake Road on the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off between Lakeport and Upper Lake. Walks start at 8 a.m. June through August and 9 a.m. September through May.



A group of folks enjoyed a summer hike at Rodman Slough Preserve, including a visitor from Ireland. From left: Chris Twohy, Forrest Moore, Ireland; Kate Lyons, and Kathy Barnwell.

Check out our new website!

The Lake County Land Trust is excited about its new website. Check it out at www.lakecountylandtrust.org. The site has been totally revamped and expanded, with lots of photos and more content.

The site covers the history of the Land Trust, including accomplishments and projects. It also features pictures of volunteers and supporters of the Land Trust, as well as some beautiful scenic and wildlife photos.

Directions to the Rodman Slough Preserve & Nature Education Center

The Rodman Slough Preserve and Nature Education Center is located at 6350 Westlake Rd. Upper Lake, 95485. Take the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off off of Highway 29, between Lakeport and Upper Lake. Turn east onto the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off, then left on to Westlake Road. The preserve entry is to the immediate right after turning on to Westlake. The preserve is owned and operated by the Lake County Land Trust and this is the area where walks and events are held. The Rodman Slough Park, further down the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off near the bridge that goes over Rodman Slough is the County Park.

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with other members of the land trust community in the state; councils also work with the California Council of Land Trusts (CCLT) an important land trust and land conservation group that has a strong presence in Sacramento.

Both CCLT and the CNRSC present training conferences to educate land trust board members about the basics of land trust operations, including best business practices, new legislation and laws affecting land trusts, funding opportunities, and how to reach out to constituents. At the June conference in Fortuna, CCLT leader, Darla Guenzler updated everyone on the California State budget and the efforts being made by CCLT to preserve some funding for state parks and for land conservation.



A number of State officials attended the June Fortuna training conference sponsored by the California Northern Region Steering Committee, of which the Lake County Land Trust is a member. Pictured from left: Darla Guenzler, director for the California Council of Land Trusts; Bridgett Luther, Director of Conservation for the State of California; Liz Mirgiah, with Representative **Mike Thompson's office**, and **Denise Rushing**, supervisor from Lake County.

Who We Are

The Lake County Land Trust is a local, 501 (c) (3) charitable nonprofit organization directly involved in protecting important land resources. These include: wetlands, wildlife habitats, parks, forests, watersheds, riparian stream corridors, lakeside areas, and trails. The trust is also concerned with property that has unique scenic, cultural, agricultural, educational, or historical value.

Lake County Land Trust

Officers: President Pete McGee
Vice-President Tom Gilliam
Treasurer Kristine Groff
Secretary Roberta Lyons

Board Members: Tom Smythe, Michael Friel, Nina Marino, Brad Barnwell, Jon Ambrose, Susanne LaFaver and Christian Ahlmann

Executive Director:
Susanne Scholz

For info contact:
Lake County Land Trust, POB 711, Lower Lake, CA 95457 • (707)262-0707

www.lakecountylantrust.org

Tax I.D. No. 68-0332712

A sponsor member of the



Benefits of the Rookery Membership Club:

Snowy Egret: \$20-\$99

Acknowledgement on Land Trust website, updated annually

White Pelican: \$100-\$199

The Member Benefit listed above, plus:
Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust" Coffee
Annual recognition in the local media

Blue Heron: \$200-\$499

All of the Member Benefits listed above, plus:
Invitational reception at the Rodman Slough Preserve Nature Center

Osprey: \$500-\$999

All of the Member Benefits listed above, plus:
Guided hikes of Land Trust properties

Golden Eagle: \$1,000+

All of the Member Benefits listed above, plus:
Invitational wine tasting at local winery
Reserved seating at our Annual Benefit Dinner

Yes! I want to join the Rookery Membership Club:

- Golden Eagle: \$1,000+
- Osprey: \$500-\$999
- Blue Heron: \$200-\$499
- White Pelican: \$100-\$199
- Snowy Egret: \$20-\$99

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to: LCLT
Mail to: PO Box 711, Lower Lake, CA 95457
Federal ID Number# 68-0332712

I'd like to pay with my credit card:

Card Type: VISA MasterCard (circle one)

Card# _____

Expires ____/____ Security Code* _____

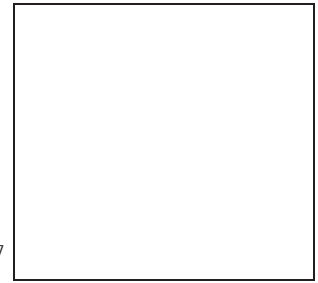
(*the 3 digit code on the back of your card)

Signature: _____



Lake County Land Trust

PO Box 711, Lower Lake, CA 95457 ~ Phone (707)262-0707



2009 Calendar of Local Events

The Lake County Land Trust shares a common goal with many other organizations in the County, the State and the Country, that of preserving and enhancing our environment and educating the public about the wonders of nature. Through our newsletter we are able to publicize other events, both locally and some out-of-county that we believe will interest our members. The public is cordially invited to all of the events listed here.

Every Saturday Walks at Rodman Slough Preserve – The Lake County Land Trust holds Saturday morning walks at the Rodman Slough Preserve. Walks start at 8 a.m. beginning June 6 and continuing through August; and 9 a.m. September through May. Participants are asked to meet at the new Nature Center at the Preserve on Westlake Road and the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off. No dogs, please. Heavy rain will cancel. Call Pamela Bordisso at (707) 279-0923 or Roberta Lyons at (707) 994-2024 for information.

Sept. 12 – Saturday – Sierra Club Lake Group hike. Hike from Calistoga up the Oat Hill Mine Trail and back down to Calistoga. Bring lots of water and a snack/lunch. Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Class H-12-B. Meet at 8 a.m. at Oat Hill Mine Trailhead in Calistoga. Leader Carol Magill. Reservation only: c.magill@mchsi.com. (707) 928-5423.

Sept. 12 – Saturday – Old Time Bluegrass Festival, Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, featuring Nina Gerber, Susie Glaze and the Hi Lonesome Band, Pat Ickes and Bound To Ride, the Konocti Fiddlers, Mighty Chiplings and many more. For more details and ticket info go to www.andersonmarsh.org.

Sept. 27 – Sunday – Sierra Club Lake Group will climb Mahnke Peak, south of Kelseyville. Bring water and a snack/lunch. Class H-6-B. Meet at the car pool parking lot at the corner of Live Oak Drive and Highway 29 in Kelseyville at 8:30 a.m. Leader Steve Devoto. Reservation only sdevoto@mchsi.com.