

Spring has arrived in all it's beauty at Rodman Preserve. Photo by Angela De Palma-Dow **Reflections on spring by the LCLT's Executive Director** 

#### By Angela De Palma-Dow, LCLT Executive Director

Spring is here. The sights and smells of spring are here. The hills are green, the bright, tropical shaded buds of the oaks are bursting forth, and the mirage of yellow and purple pinpoints dotted along the landscape allude to the wildflowers that are blooming, blossoming, and beautiful in their wakefulness.



A brand new oak bud.

I love this part of the year. The mornings are still crisp and cold, but the afternoons are splendid in sunshine that tickle your bare legs, if you forgo socks or dust off those shorts. And yes, while fall is my most favorite season, spring is a close second, probably because of the promise of birth, renewal, and the life that is sprouting all around us, even after a cold hard foggy winter.

## New LCLT director welcomes spring

#### (Continued from page 1)

This year I am absorbing the sensations of spring a little more than usual, as I too, am enjoying a new phase of life, a rebirth and sprouting into a new role, with new rainbows of responsibilities as the Executive Director of the Lake County Land Trust.

My background is in science, and I have notoriously placed science on a mental pedestal, the ultimate drive for why and how I do things. But the art and poetry of nature is so much more full than the current understanding and human grasp of what science (*especially western science, ahem*) can provide. I am hopefully excited that through my new role at the Land Trust, and my immersion within the lands, waters and community, I can explore further into this understanding.

I want to both grab and cherish the beauty, the art, and magic of it all, and dedicate myself to this cause for this generation and all future generations. Of course, I am only here, and humbly able to want and witness such stunning natural architecture because of the dedicated and invested individuals that came before me, and all the past, present, and future supporters and contributors. What we have today is because of the native stewards that trusted, and were trusted with, the lands and waters for thousands of years before any of us and this. Thank you for paving this way for me to explore the science and art of the natural world and natural Lake County, and I aim to pave the way for others.

Today I leave you with a quote by a nature science poet, one you might have seen before, but in this context, we can overlap this literary picture on the borders of the before and after, the border of lands and waters, the changing of winter into spring, the transition between private and public spaces, on the old and new, and learn to move forward, together, and with each other, to protect what we value, whether we know it or not.

"Clearly a divide separates the disciplines of science and poetry... The divide is as real as a rift separating tectonic plates or a border separating nations. But a border is both a zone of exclusion and a zone of contact where we can exchange some aspects of our difference, and, like neighboring tribes who exchange seashells and obsidian, obtain something that is lacking in our own locality." —Alison Hawthorne Deming

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The Lake County Land Trust welcomes Angela De Palma-Dow as our new Executive Director. Angela comes to the Land Trust with an impressive background in science and environmental work. To read more about her, go to <u>www.lakecountylandtrust.org</u> and click on About Us.

## Lake County Land Trust supporters are longtime residents and local farmers

#### By Roberta Lyons

Broc and Sharron Zoller are among the earliest of the Lake County Land Trust's supporters. They have lived in Lake County since 1978 and operate a 13 acre farm in Kelseyville's Big Valley. The Zollers, who have been long time advocates of agriculture and preserving open space in Lake County, see an obvious connection between their beliefs and the goals of the Land Trust. "We have shared values," noted Sharron.

Sharron and Broc are graduates of UC Davis where they met. Broc holds a Ph.D in Plant Pathology and has been known here in Lake County as the "Pear Doctor." Sharron majored in Ag science and minored in English and US History. She was teaching high school in Yuba City and Broc was doing agricultural consulting here in 2



Sharron and Broc at recent Pear Festival event.

Lake County when they decided to move here. So, along with two young children, they came and bought their 13 acre now walnut farm near Kelseyville.

## **Meet the Zollers**

(Continued from page 2)

"In order to be a first-generation farmer, you have to have another job," Sharron explained; so while teaching at Kelseyville High School she got a master's degree in administration. She then spent years in education, from being a principal and superintendent for schools as far flung as Potter Valley, Willits and Calistoga. She retired as principal at Calistoga High school and that is when her Ag advocacy really began. She became more active in the California Women in Agriculture (CWA), both the local organization and the statewide organization. As president of the Lake County CWA chapter, started attending the statewide meetings and was invited to run for president of the State organization. Over all she served for six years as president elect, president, and past president. She noted with pride that Lake County has one of the larger CWA chapters in the State. "For a small county, we have a lot of members. Lots of interesting people and it is a good mix," she noted. "A member doesn't have to be directly involved in agriculture, just interested in the mission to preserve, promote and educate folks about the importance of agriculture in everyone's daily life. Our motto is, 'If you wear clothes and eat food, you are involved in agriculture!"

Her involvement in education is a perfect fit for her support for agriculture. "Many people don't really know where their food comes from! It's important to educate consumers and the decision makers. We need to communicate with governmental officials and advocate for policies that support a vibrant agriculture community," she noted. She believes it is important to advocate for processes that support passing farms to the next generation. "We are first generation farmers and hope our children will continue farming. Farmers are only 1% of the population and they are growing our sustainable food supply in an environmentally safe manner. If we don't facilitate passing down a farm, the existence of local farming is at risk. We need to support our farmers."

The Land Trust and Ag interests share the common goal of keeping urban sprawl in check and recognizing the need for open space, she stressed. Zoller, who is serving on the General Plan Advisory Committee for updating Lake County's general plan, said we need to be mindful of the areas that should be protected. "We need to work on sustainability."

"I was always an advocate," she states. "But I didn't have time when I was working full time and the mom of three kids. So, when I retired it opened up an opportunity to become more active. I've done advocacy for education, so doing advocacy for Ag seemed like a logical transition."



Sharron Zoller was guest speaker at the 2024 annual Land Trust dinner; pictured with Congressman Mike Thompson and LCLT president, Val Nixon.



Broc Zoller a few years ago at the Rodman Preserve nature center with granddaughter Ella.

She explained that when she was working for the schools, there was little in the curriculum about agriculture, except for the FFA program. As CWA state president she started a program called "Ag Bites," factoids about agriculture that would be sent weekly to legislatures and other leaders.

Sharron has been awarded several prestigious awards, including the Common Threads recognition where six women from counties from San Joaquin north are recognized for their contribution to agriculture and the Leaven Award from American Agri Women for her outstanding leadership and mentorship,

Broc is well known and respected throughout Northern California for his expertise in advising pear, wine grape and walnut farmers about agricultural practices and pest issues employing integrated pest management practices. He is also involved in research working with UC Extension and the California Pear Advisory Board on a variety of projects.

Both Broc and Sharron are assets to the County of Lake and to the Lake County Land Trust. Sharron shared her expertise as keynote speaker at the LCLT's 2024 Annual Dinner. We appreciate them, and their contributions to both the County and to our organization.

# LCLT 2024 Supporters

It's because we all share a love for our beautiful wild land and the life that it sustains that we come together to protect it. It's because of your support that we are able to protect and preserve Lake County's wildlands in perpetuity. Thank you all for the support that you give us to do this vital work.

#### Golden Eagle (\$1000+)

**AES** Corporation Angela & Richard Birk Barbara Bruner Barry Brown and Joy Roades-Brown Brad & Kathy Barnwell Broc & Sharron Zoller Charlotte Griswold Darlene K. Hecomovich David and Merry Jo Velasquez Deborah & David Vaughan **Denise Rushing** Dennis Rollins & Cindy Ustrud **Elodie Weeks** Eric & Deborah C Woychik Holly Harris and Chuck Lamb Jeff Long Jim & Sue Herrmann John Sheridan & Andrea Duflon John Wise & Evelyn Wachtel Judith Rae Mullens Juliana Vidich and Paul Marchand Kim and Olga Clymire Lake County Winegrape Commission Larry & Kathy Jansen Linda & Milan Cornett Martha Fiorito Olga & Jim Steele Richmond Kelly & Heather Conlin Rick & Wendy Reynolds Robert & Cheryl Todd Robert R Warner Roberta and Harry Lyons Russ & RJ Stager Sharon Weeks Sara Elizabeth Shaver (In Honor of Bernie and Lynne Butcher) Sierra Club Lake Group

## Legacy supporters recognized

The Lake County Land Trust would like to acknowledge people who have provided special support through pledges, life estates or legacy donations. We sincerely appreciate every contribution, large and small, while also recognizing supporters who are able to give at a higher level. It is because of the encouragement of our mostly local donors that the Lake County Land Trust has accomplished so many of our goals.

Many thanks to: Michael Edgerton Revocable Trust, Donald Tripp, Bernie and Lynne Butcher, Richard and Angela Birk, Charlotte Griswold, Sarah Shaver, John Sheridan and Andrea Duflon, Richard and Judy McCann, the Keeling-Barnes Family Foundation, the Pitzer Family Foundation, the Rose Foundation, the Roy E. Crummer Foundation, the 1997 Gibbs Family Trust, Maryann and Peter Schmid, Susan Morton, Sharon Weeks, Steve and Carol Schepper Family Foundation, Reynolds Systems, AES Corporation, Elodie Weeks, Susan King, Paul Pennington.

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**Osprey (\$500- \$999)** In honor of Jim Alderson

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(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued on page 6)

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Chestnut-backed Chickadee spotted at the Eastern Channel.

## Winter species and resident birds frequent the Land Trust's Kuulanapo Wetland Preserve

#### By Roberta Lyons with observations and photos by Dave Woodward

David Woodward, the Lake County Land Trusts's volunteer steward and observer at the Kuulanapo Preserve near Lakeport visited the preserve 16 times during the winter months of 2024/25. Flocks of Goldencrowned Kinglets, a new species to the list, were seen on several of his visits bringing the 40-month total of the period he has been observing there to 188 species of which 182 are native birds.

#### **Clear Lake**

Dave reports that because there was no open shoreline, due to the rising lake, numbers of shorebirds were down. Numbers for pelicans, herons and gulls also remained low. Shorebirds were limited to a few Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe and Greater Yellowlegs. Numbers of Aechmophorus grebes and cormorants were also low which suggests that fish were easier to catch elsewhere in the lake.

Among nine species of ducks, Ruddy Ducks, Buffleheads, Canvasbacks, Ring-necked Ducks and Mallards were the most numerous. There were many flyovers of Canada Geese, and on one occasion they were accompanied by two Cackling Geese. One American Bittern was seen in flight and a Sora Rail was heard.

#### **Eastern Channel**

There were six warbler species late in fall; Common Yellowthroats which probably nested at the preserve along with migrating Yellow, Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped. A few Yellow-rumped and one Orange-crowned lingered through January. Flocks of Golden-crowned Kinglets and Chestnut-backed Chickadees (Continued on page 7)



Cedar Waxwings were seen in willows trees with mistletoe, feasting on berries.



Flocks of Golden-crowned Kinglets visiting the Preserve were noted.

## **Birds at Kuulanapo**

#### (Continued from page 6)

(ca. 10 of each) were present from late October through December, often mixed with Ruby-crowned Kinglets and resident birds.

A male Phainopepla, Western Bluebirds and Cedar Waxwings were seen on multiple dates in willows with mistletoe. The Phainopepla was present from late November through January. Fox Sparrows and Hermit Thrushes were in the brush on multiple dates along with sparrows, towhees, wrens and Wrentits. Water birds included between 10 and 20 Wood Ducks on most dates between early October and late November. A few remained until late December. Other species included Hooded Mergansers, Buffleheads, Ruddy Ducks, Mallards, shovelers, kingfishers, herons, egrets and many coots. Virginia Rails were heard on several dates.

#### Other forested areas

The Eucalyptus and the trees with brushy or swampy undergrowth near the second and third gates were also used by the warblers, sparrows and mixed flocks mentioned above. There were also Red-breasted Sapsucker, a Downy Woodpecker, an Anna's Hummingbird, a Brown Creeper and a Hermit Thrush on one or two dates each in these trees.

#### Grassland

Mixed flocks of crowned, Savannah, Lincoln's and Song Sparrows aggregated in the upright vegetation from the corral to the isolated oak 30 yards to the north and also near the two viewing platforms. Meadowlarks and one Say's Phoebe were observed on almost all (Continued on page 8)



American Robin. Woodward observed 188 species at the Preserve over a period of 40 months.



Meadowlarks were observed at the grassland.



Cooper's Hawk seen in December.

## Birds observed at the LCLT's Kuulanapo Wetland Preserve

#### (Continued from page 7)

dates. A large flock of American Goldfinches fed on thistle seeds in fall, but their numbers dwindled in winter. Lesser Goldfinches, House Finches and Red-winged Blackbirds were regularly seen. Eighteen American Pipits landed near the berm on October 18. Migrating or returning Tree Swallows were seen on 3 of 4 dates in January.

#### **Raptors and Owls**

One or two adult White-tailed Kites were seen on 11 dates that spanned the entire four-month interval. The adults associated with two immature kites that were observed on just four dates, all in November. This once again suggests the possibility that kites nested on or near the preserve. As many as three Red-shouldered and one Red-tailed Hawk were commonly observed. A Northern Harrier was seen in flight seven times between October 9 and December 20 and Bald Eagles flew over on December 12 and January 23. A Cooper's Hawk was photographed on December 2. One or two American Kestrels were present on seven dates and a Merlin was seen four times. A Great Horned Owl called from the *Eucalyptus during daylight hours on January 31*.

#### **Other species**

There were three River Otters on a peninsula in the eastern channel on October 22. A coyote found its way onto the same peninsula on November 11. A Blacktailed Jackrabbit was in the grassland on October 27. Mule Deer and Western Gray Squirrels were commonly observed at multiple locations. Join us for the annual Lake County Land Trust



Please join the Lake County Land Trust Sunday, June 8, 2025

> 3-5 pm, for our Spring Celebration

Hosted by Rajvi and Amar Alapati in the courtyard of the **Blue Wing Saloon Restaurant and Tallman Hotel** in Upper Lake.

Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and live music.

Tickets are \$50 per person with all funds going to support the Lake County Land Trust

TICKET INFORMATION:

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED** 

To purchase tickets online, visit

http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org

& click on Spring Celebration Tickets on the home page.

Or call (707)262-0707

email LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org

Or send payment to LCLT

#### PO Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453.

Payment in advance is requested.

Looking forward to seeing you!



Spider Wasp (Entypus).



Blue-steel cricket hunter wasp.

## Woodward is now monitoring insects at the Kuulanapo Preserve near Lakeport

Story by Roberta Lyons Observations and photographs by David Woodward

#### Wasps

David Woodward, a retired entomologist and stellar Land Trust volunteer was not content with only monitoring birds at the Kuulanapo Preserve but is now also monitoring the insects. He is reporting that two large and showy species of wasps have often been observed there.

One of the wasps is the Steel-blue Cricket Hunter, *Chlorion aerarium* (Family Sphecidae), previously known by the common name Green Cricket Hunter. Adults of both sexes feed on flower nectar. Neither sex is aggressive, but females can inflict a painful sting. Females dig a burrow in the soil before they paralyze a cricket or grasshopper by stinging them. The living paralyzed prey is dragged into the burrow by the female who may provision the cell with multiple crickets or grasshoppers before she lays an egg on one of them. She then closes the cell, digs a new burrow, and repeats the process. After hatching the larva eats the paralyzed crickets or grasshoppers. The mature larva pupates in the cell, emerging as an adult the following summer.

The second wasp, *Entypus unifasciatus* ssp. *californicus* (Family Pompilidae) was not an easy identification, Dave reports. This wasp does not have a good common name other than the family level name of Spider Wasp, but it is closely related to the even larger Tarantula-hawk Wasp. Both sexes are black with orange wings and antennae. The orange is a warning color to predators due to the extremely painful sting that can be inflicted by females. The life cycle is similar to that of the Steel-blue Cricket Hunter in many respects, only stinging and paralyzing spiders, rather than crickets, but carrying out the same routine for their young to feed on the bodies.



**Mylitta Crescent** 

#### **Butterflies**

Twenty-two species of butterflies were photographed at the preserve during 2024. The diversity of the plant communities available for caterpillar development was an important factor that led to the presence of such a large and diverse group of butterflies. Western Tiger Swallowtails, Lorquin's Admirals, California Sisters, and Mournful Duskywings develop in oaks, willows or other trees. Orange Sulphur, Acmon Blue, Purplish (Continued on page 10)

## Insects at Kuulanapo Preserve

#### (Continued from page 9)

Copper and Mylitta Crescent were among the species whose caterpillars eat annual broadleaf plants including legumes, thistles and nettles. Species that develop on grasses included Ox-eyed Satyr, California Ringlet and Fiery and Woodland Skippers. Some of the butterflies on the list including Monarchs, Painted Ladies and Red Admirals were most likely migrants which stopped to feed on flower nectar as they passed through the area.

#### **Dragonflies and Damselflies**

Lakes, marshes, sloughs, slow streams and temporary pools are all important habitats for development of immature dragonflies and damselflies and all are present at the preserve. Most of the thirteen species of dragonflies and two damselflies photographed in 2024 were common or abundant and likely developed right at the preserve. Immatures and adults are important in food webs, both by eating mosquitoes, gnats and other insects and by providing food for fish and birds. The largest and most colorful dragonflies were darners (California, Blue-eyed and Common Green Darners) and skimmers (Black Saddlebags, Blue Dasher, Common Whitetail, Twelve-spotted Skimmer and Eightspotted Skimmer). They were seen most anywhere on the preserve, either along shorelines or patrolling the grassland. Both of the damselflies (Tule Bluet and Pacific Forktail) were abundant from spring through fall. They were easy to see along most any shoreline.



Common Whitetail dragonfly.



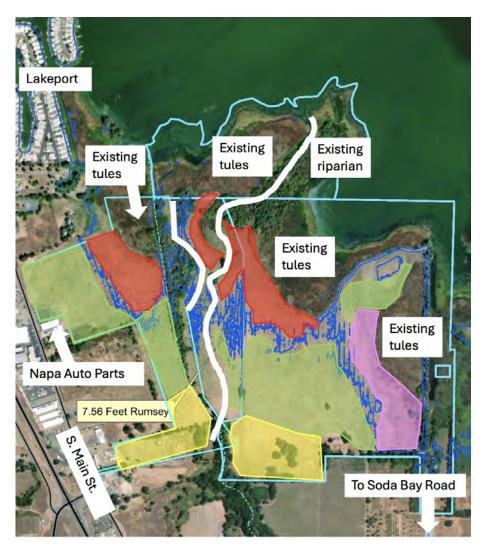
Pacific Forktail (Male) Damselfly.



Lorquin's Admiral Butterfly.



Western Tiger Swallowtail.



#### Restoration planning begins at Kuulanapo Wetland Preserve

#### Highlighted in green:

areas targeted for invasive plant suppression and native grass/ wildflower expansion. **Red zones:** tule planting sites, restoring wetland vegetation. **Pink:** tules planted in the past winter by County, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance, and CDFW/California Conservation Corps.

**Yellow:** two stands of oaks serving as acorn sources for oak woodland expansion.

White: historic meandering paths of Manning Creek, slated for restoration to improve fish migration.

Riparian planting will take place where needed to protect migrating fish from predation.

## Restoration planning has begun at Kuulanapo

Work has begun on Kuulanapo Wetland Preserve restoration planning. After a major assist in obtaining California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) funding, FlowWest has been engaged to create the engineered restoration plans. There are ongoing meetings of FlowWest with the Land Trust Executive Director, Angela DePalma-Dow, Land Trust volunteers, and Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians' Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Ron Montez, and Environmental Director, Sarah Ryan. Parallel meetings to initiate the restoration permitting process are also taking place.

An important component of the restoration will be suppressing invasive plants while expanding the native grasses and wildflowers on the preserve (green). To plan this component of the upland restoration, we need to know what is growing there now. The initial plant survey done by Northwest Biosurvey was in 2021, near the conclusion of our historic drought. Funding from the California Council of Land Trusts has enabled an update of the survey, which is needed due to the chang-12 es brought about by three years of significant rainfall.

Tules will be planted in all red areas as part of Preserve restoration. The tules planted in the past winter by the County, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance, and CDFW/California Conservation Corps are shown in pink. Two stands of Oaks will be used as a source of acorns to expand the oak woodland at the highest elevations of the Preserve (yellow).

Shown in white are the historic meandering paths of Manning Creek, which will be restored. Path restoration will circumvent an existing waterfall that can be a fish migration barrier, depending on lake height. Riparian plants, mainly trees to protect migrating fish from predation, will be planted where needed along the creek paths.

Once the engineered planning and initial permitting are complete, the Land Trust and FlowWest will partner with the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians on funding requests to carry out the restoration. We hope to be at this stage in about 18 months.

## Mid-year Appeal will be in the mail to you soon

The Lake County Land Trust's mid-year appeal will be delivered to you soon. We hope you enjoy the photographs and updates about our activities and projects.

The Lake County Land Trust sends two "appeals," every year – our "Mid-year Appeal," and our annual, or "Holiday Appeal." If you give to either, or both, you are considered a "supporter" of the Lake County Land Trust; or, of course, if you donate any other time during the year, you are a supporter. If you have already donated, or plan to, many thanks!

You may send a check to: Lake County Land Trust, P.O. Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453. To donate online, go to <u>www.lakecountylandtrust.org</u> and click on the "donate" button at the top right of the home page.



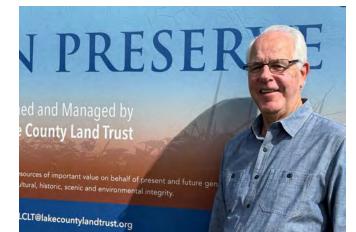


#### Lake County Land Trust

Financial Report for 2024

Kuulanapo Preserv		Awarded
Grant name	Grants Source & Timeline	Amount
		Big Valley Wetlands Land Aquisition Kuulanapo Wright Platforms Rabbit Hill Water Towe Rodman Education Grant Advance Operating Other Designated
Funds available	for Operations Fund Breakdown	\$306,10
Total Designate	d Funds	\$293,76
	Grant Advance	19,29
	Rodman Education	10,91
	Rabbit Hill Water Towers	12,00
	Wright Platforms	42,75
	Kuulanapo	105,15
	Easement Stewardships	9,05
	Boggs	2,75
1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Big Valley Wetlands Land Aquisition	15,84 75,98
Designated Fun	ds	
Funds Balances		\$599,86
Net Funding	Monetary Assets	\$183,419
Total		\$155,347
	Professional Services	33,509
	Other Operating Expenses	42,501
	Staff	31,980
	Event Expenses	21,466
Expenditures	Repair and Maintenance	\$25,891
Total		\$338,766
	Other Income	2,596
	Grant Income	19,297
	Event Revenue	35,199
	Donations for Designated Funds	44,000
	Donations	\$237,674
	Donations	5237.674

Grant name	Source & Timeline	Amount Awarded
Kuulanapo Preserve Planning Grant	California Department of Fish & Wildlife 2025-2027	\$1,118,867
Project Advancement Grant	California Council of Land Trusts 2024-2025	\$60,816
Capacity Building	California Council of Land Trusts 2024-2026	\$97,250
Total Awarded Funds Starting in 2024		\$1,276,933



**Bernie Butcher** 



Kate Schmidt-Hopper



**Lynne Bruner** 14

## Land Trust welcomes three new members of its board of directors

The Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) is pleased to announce the addition of three new members of its board of directors. Along with its new Executive Director, Angela De Palma-Dow, current LCLT board members are happy to welcome Lynne Bruner, a retired CPA; Kate Schmidt-Hopper, a member of the Resource Conservation District and environmental champion; and Bernie Butcher, former businessman, teacher, and the recent owner of the Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Café in Upper Lake.

In keeping with this year's theme of "Moving Forward," the Land Trust is excited to greet all of these individuals and looks forward to working together to forward the mission of the Lake County Land Trust to protect and preserve the beautiful natural resources of Lake County.

To read more about the new board members, go to the Land Trust website: <u>www.lakecountylandtrust.org</u>.



# President's Message <sup>By</sup><sub>Val</sub><sub>Nixon</sub>



As we move into spring, I love getting out my kayak and exploring the waters of Clear Lake. This year with a full lake and even fuller creeks it has been fabulous. Every trip is filled with the songs of birds and lush greenery and colorful wildflowers in their glory on the creek banks. What good fortune to be living in a place

**Val Meyer Nixon** to be living in a p where we cherish our open spaces and watersheds.

The Lake County Land Trust's mission focusses on conservation and restoration of our precious natural resources not just so I can have a beautiful adventure but also for the health of all life that depends on them. As we move forward with our acquisition and restoration processes, we find oak tree seedlings on land that hasn't had a surviving tree sprout for many years, 100's of bird species are being counted, and wetlands are being restored. Slowly but surely the public is getting access to lands that have been held in private hands for many years. As you read articles in this newsletter you will find that the wisdom of the local tribes, is being merged with modern scientific techniques to restore lands where all species can be healthy and prosper. We continue to work with the the local agriculture and business community to create an environment where farms and businesses can thrive while protecting the natural resources, we all depend on.

The vision and tasks before the Land Trust require money, resolve and ingenuity and cannot be done by the Land Trust alone. They require an engaged community and coalitions between other government and nonprofit agencies, businesses and all the residents of our beautiful county,

Our attitude toward the natural world is critically important. The challenge we face is to repair damage that has been done and prove that we can be an example to the world of how business, agriculture, tribes and the conservation community are not separate but can work together to create a healthy environment for all to thrive. It is with a grateful heart that I thank all of you for supporting the Lake County Land Trust. I hope you are out and about enjoying the beauty of spring.



Annual Dinner Saturday, Oct. 11 2025 Details to be announced!



### You can choose to receive your newsletter by email

You can opt to receive your LCLT newsletter via email, postal mail, or both! Please let us know which you prefer.

**Contact us at:** <u>LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org</u> if you would like anything changed in the way you receive your newsletter. Thank You!





Board member Eric Woychik visits with Susan King, Karyn Rasmussen and Broc Zoller.



Brad and Kathy Barnwell are long time Land Trust supporters.

## Land Trust supporters enjoy annual coffee

Every year the Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) holds this special event for supporters who contribute \$100 or more to the Land Trust on a yearly basis. The Annual Coffee is held at the Nature Center on the beautiful Rodman Preserve.

Visitors sip freshly brewed coffee and eat delicious sweet and savory goodies all while mingling with other LCLT supporters. Everyone met the Land Trust's new Executive Director and other staff and listened to President, Val Nixon and Vice-president, Merry Jo Velasquez give updates on Lake County Land Trust restoration projects on its Kuulanapo Preserve near Lakeport.

This year the Annual Coffee was held on April 5. It was a little chilly, but everyone enjoyed gathering on the back porch despite the sometimes cool temps.

# LCLT Annual Coffee



Val Nixon and Merry Jo Velasquez update the crowd on the latest restoration project at the Kuulanapo Preserve.



LCLT volunteer Hallie Holmes (L) has been a great help with Land Trust events and restoration projects at the Rodman Preserve. She is visiting with Lynne Butcher.



Meg Harper, Administrative Coordinator, checks in supporter Jackie Farley.



Kathee Toy and Sue Morton.



Attendees enjoyed the back porch at the Rodman Preserve for the April 5 "State of the Land Trust " coffee.

# Gifts of stock are a great way to support the LCLT, and provide savings on capital gains

There can be significant tax advantages for giving appreciated stock or mutual funds as a contribution to the Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) and we have the ability to accept stock and mutual fund donations. The tax on the gain from the appreciated value will be avoided if a stock or mutual fund is contributed to the LCLT since the Land Trust is a 501 c (3) qualified organization. The full value of the stock on the date of contribution can be used as a charitable deduction on your Federal income tax. As with all similar transactions we recommend that you consult your tax advisor if you have questions or concerns.

## A donation from your IRA is a Qualified Charitable Distribution

Another opportunity to donate to the Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) is to donate some or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) or any other IRA withdrawals. You will pay no tax on that withdrawal of money. A donation from your RMD from your IRA (or any other funds from your IRA) is considered a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). Again, we recommend that you consult your tax advisor for the specifics of your situation, but please let us know if you would like to make a contribution of stock, mutual funds, or of some of your IRA distribution to the Lake County Land Trust. You can reach the Land Trust at (707) 262-0707 or contact Executive Director, Angela De Palma-Dow: executivedirector@lakecountylandtrust.org.

#### Become a supporter of The Lake County Land Trust Supporter Benefits Include:

#### Golden Eagle: \$1,000+

- □ Reserved seating at our Annual Benefit Dinner upon request.
- □ Invitation to special Land Trust events.
- □ Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust," coffee
- □ Acknowledgement on the Land Trust website, updated annually and our twice yearly newsletters.

#### Osprey: \$500-\$999

- □ Invitation to special Land Trust events.
- □ Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust" Coffee
- □ Acknowledgement on the Land Trust website, updated annually and in our twice yearly newsletters.

#### Blue Heron: \$100-\$499

- Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust" Coffee
- □ Acknowledgement on the Land Trust website, updated annually and in our twice yearly newsletters.

#### Snowy Egret: \$20-\$99

□ Acknowledgement on our Land Trust website, updated annually and in our twice yearly newsletters.

#### Your support is essential and you can make your donation really count by becoming a SUSTAINING SUPPORTER.

A SUSTAINING SUPPORTER makes a monthly donation automatically through their credit card. Monthly giving is an effective way to make a more manageable gift and helps provide stability to our day to day operations. "It is much easier to build our budget when we know your support is on its way each month."

## Here are a few ways to make your donation right now:



- Follow this QR Code directly to our donation page and select monthly frequency and \$ amount.
- Go to <u>http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org</u>. The website now takes Venmo and Paypal as payment options.
- If you receive this newsletter by mail, you are welcome to use the enclosed envelope for your donation if you prefer.





## Leave a lasting impact with a legacy gift

Some LCLT supporters have chosen to support our mission through planned giving—including LCLT in a will or trust—or making another kind of legacy gift. Their foresight and yours, should you choose to join them, ensures the strength and the sustainability of the Lake County Land Trust.

Your planned gift to LCLT will ensure that conservation efforts continue to preserve and enhance vital biodiversity, improve the health of our ancient lake, allow wildlife to flourish, and encourage sustainable economic growth.

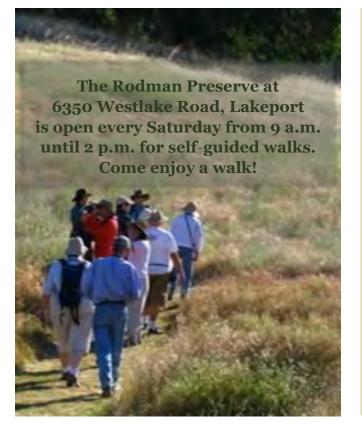
Whether you are taking those first important steps toward planning your estate or are in the process of updating your estate plan, please consider including the Lake County Land Trust in your plans. If you would like more

information about Legacy Giving opportunities, please contact Lake County Land Trust executive director,



## **Vision Statement**

Dedicated to preserving Lake County's natural resources through education, cooperation, restoration and conservation.



## 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.

Executive Director: Angela De Palma-Dow

Outreach Coordinator: Meg Harper Finance and bookkeeping: Nicola Selph

Officers: President Val Nixon Vice-President Merry Jo Velasquez Treasurer Lynn Bruner

Board Members: Roberta Lyons, Catherine Koehler, Eric Woychik, Bernard Butcher, and Kate Schmidt-Hopper For info contact: Lake County Land Trust, PO Box 1017, Lakeport CA 95453 • (707)262-0707

(email) lclt@lakecountylandtrust.org

www.lakecountylandtrust.org

Tax I.D. No. 68-0332712

#### A sponsor member of the



Lake County Land Trust

WINTER/SPRING 2025