

Peninsula Open Space Trust

LANDSCAPES

SUMMER 2010



*Connecting
Skyline to the Sea*

Putting the Pieces in Place

POST Transfers Lobitos Ridge to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

POST staff love puzzles. On any given day, you can see at least one jigsaw puzzle going in the office. Solving puzzles can be a slow process, daunting even, but once the larger image begins to emerge, people work together to find solutions. Once the last pieces are in place, the final picture stands as a testament to the collective effort it took to get there.

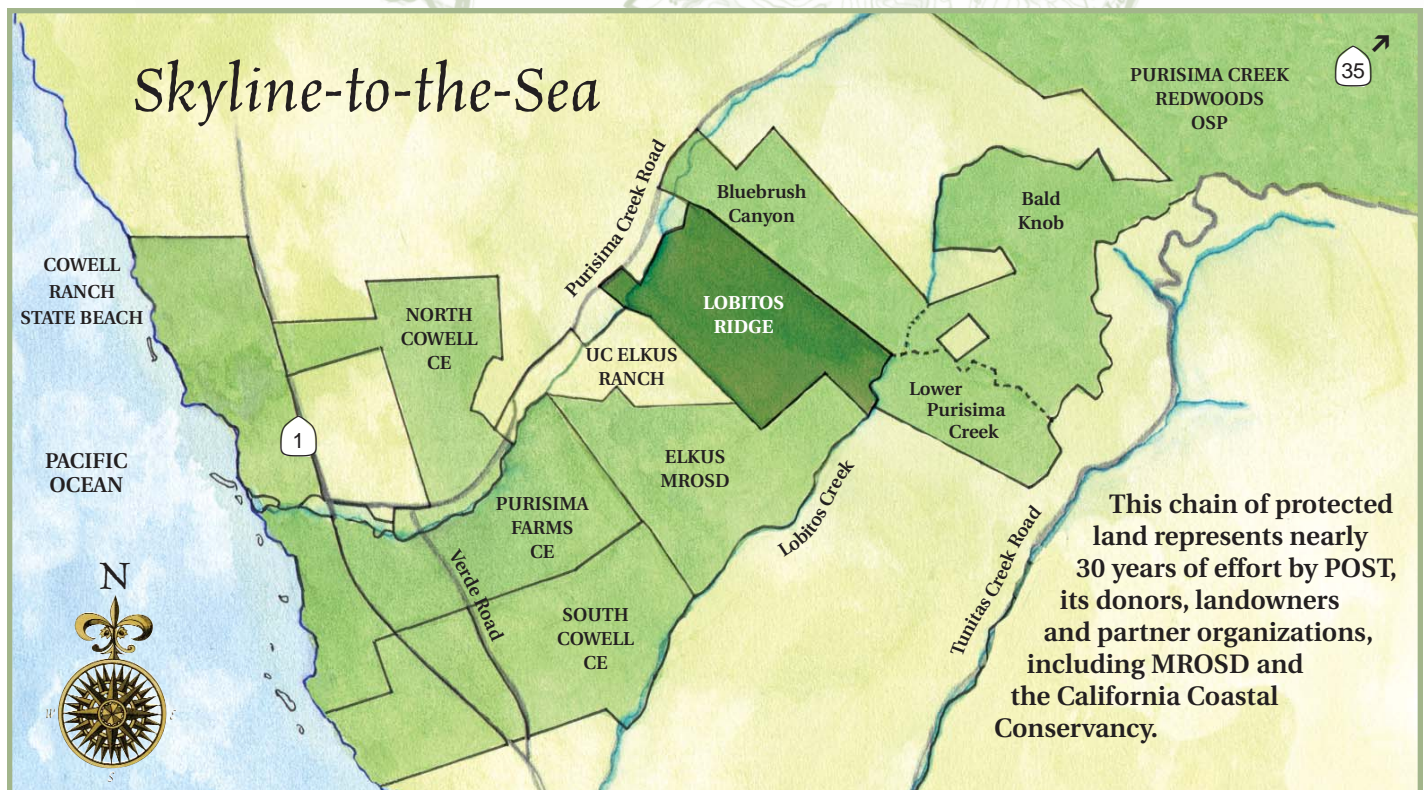
Protecting land is a lot like solving puzzles. It takes many hands to put together the pieces, and it takes tremendous resources of time, patience and funding to save land for future generations to enjoy. In

March, POST helped complete a magnificent picture of connected open space with its transfer of the 340-acre Lobitos Ridge property south of Half Moon Bay to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) for \$3 million.

“Lobitos Ridge is a key link in a chain of protected lands that runs from the entrance of Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve on Skyline Boulevard, down to the sea,” says POST President Audrey Rust. “Preserving this stretch of park and open space will provide superb hiking for Bay Area residents and visitors. More immediately, it

protects critical watershed and agricultural lands, and keeps wildlife migration pathways intact as a hedge against shifts in habitat resulting from climate change.”

This transfer represents nearly 30 years of persistence on the part of POST, its donors and partner organizations (see timeline on pages 4-5). It also brings the dream of another Skyline-to-the-Sea hiking trail one step closer to reality. Other POST-protected properties along the route include the historic Cowell Ranch to the west and Bluebrush Canyon and Lower Purisima Creek to the east.





View from the top – Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve looking west. Lobitos Ridge is on the left.

Lobitos Ridge

POST first acquired Lobitos Ridge from the Beffa family in 2004. Dominated by a wide, grassy ridge-line with spectacular views of the

San Mateo County coastline, the property is ideally situated near other open space lands. Since the 1800s, Lobitos Ridge has been used primarily for dairy and cattle grazing. The Beffa family bought the property in 1952, using it for more than half a century to raise dairy and beef cattle and to farm hay and artichokes. Charlie Beffa passed his portion of the ranch onto his son, Clyde, Sr., who in turn passed it to his children, Clyde, Jr. and Chris Glynn. Sharing their father's interest in preserving the character of the land, the siblings chose to permanently protect Lobitos Ridge by selling it to POST.

"We knew POST was interested in creating a walking trail, and our ranch was one of the missing pieces of the puzzle," says Clyde Beffa, Jr. Since acquiring the property, POST has made a point of continuing grazing operations there, as will MROSD. The land is part of the Purisima and Lobitos Creek watersheds and provides important habitat

and spawning areas for a variety of fish and the federally threatened California red-legged frog.

Critical Connections

Thanks to forward-thinking landowners like the Beffas, POST was able to add a crucial link in a chain of open space, but the story of this nearly 30-year effort has its beginning high along the Santa Cruz crest. In 1982, MROSD and Save-the-Redwoods League combined forces to preserve Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (OSP), a hushed world of redwoods, Douglas-fir, tanoak and madrone. The 3,360-acre preserve is home to the threatened marbled murrelet, a seagoing bird that makes its nest in old-growth trees.

Purisima is Spanish for "most pure" and dates back to the original 1838 Mexican land grant in the area, called Rancho Cañada de Verde y Arroyo de la Purisima, which stretches from Purisima to Tunitas creeks.



© Karl Gohl, courtesy MROSD

Hikers pause on the Purisima Creek Trail.



Fog approaches Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve.

Lumber mills sprang up in Purisima Canyon in the mid-19th and early 20th centuries as demand for the massive coast redwoods grew. Small teams of oxen hauled the giant trees down the hill along “skid roads” to the mills below until the animals were replaced with steam-powered engines. The highest point in the preserve, 2,102-foot Bald Knob, was acquired by POST through a donation in 1993. Four years later, POST transferred the 480-acre property, which was once heavily logged, to MROSD.

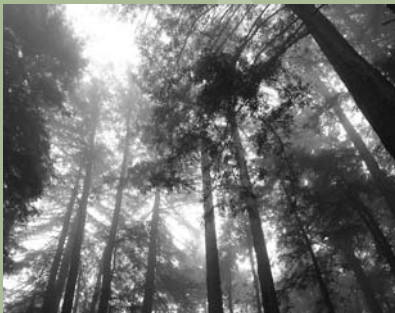
In 2006, Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP was expanded by another 183 acres, when POST sold its Lower Purisima Creek parcel acquired in 2005 to MROSD. Rising between Lobitos and Tunitas creeks, the property extends across scrub-covered knolls, verdant meadows, redwood groves and eucalyptus stands. The land is hunting grounds

WHAT IT TAKES:

A Brief History of Land Protection

1982

MROSD and Save-the-Redwoods League protect 3,360-acre Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP. **Protected:** *old-growth redwoods, creekside habitat, threatened marbled murrelet habitat, 21 miles of public trails.*



Purisima Creek Redwoods



Purisima Farms

1987

POST purchases 1,268-acre historic Cowell Ranch for \$4.26 million. **Protected:** *coyote brush, dock, wild radish, harbor seal breeding grounds, 1.2 mile public trail to spectacular beach.*

1993

POST acquires 480-acre Bald Knob through donation, transfers parcel to MROSD in 1997 for addition to Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP. **Protected:** *mixed hardwoods, scenic vistas, public trail.*



Lobitos Ridge

1998

POST purchases 534-acre Purisima Farms for \$3.9 million. **Protected:** *prime agricultural land, scenic vistas, 1 mile of beach, public trail.*

2004

POST acquires 340-acre Lobitos Ridge for \$3 million from Beffa family. **Protected:** *threatened California red-legged frog habitat, spawning ground for steelhead trout in Lobitos Creek, valuable grazing land.*

for birds of prey including red-tailed hawks and golden eagles.

The canopy of trees and scrub-land of the higher elevations gives way to stunning views of the Pacific and the rounded, grassy slopes of Lobitos Ridge. It's easy to envision a hiking trail some years in the future winding its way down the ridge with 180-degree views of the coastline. On one side is Purisima Creek and prime agricultural land, which is used today for vegetable and flower farming. The area's pastoral history dates back to the mid-1800s, when returning forty-niners began to bring in cattle for small home dairies and farms.

Southwest of Lobitos Ridge towards the sea is Elkus Ranch. In 2009, MROSD purchased the upland portion of the ranch from the University of California, which retained ownership of the lower portion, where it operates a center for

environmental education. On sunny days, along the ridgeline, one can hear the laughter of children wafting up from the center below. The gentle slopes of Elkus finally level out to meet the rich agricultural lands of another POST-protected property, Purisima Farms, which POST sold to longtime Coastside farmer John Giusti in 2006. To keep crops in the field protected, the future trail route will skirt along the edge of this property and conclude at a small staging area near the coast.

Collaborating for Sustainability

"POST has been an essential and tireless partner in making our shared vision of Purisima-to-the-Sea a reality," says MROSD General Manager Steve Abbors. "We celebrate their accomplishments on this project and look forward to managing the land

into the future for agriculture, grazing, environmental protection, and the greater public good." MROSD is now working to add one final property along the route in 2011 before beginning long-term plans for the use and management of the land, including eventual public access and recreation.

When finished, this cascade of open space will offer plentiful opportunities for outdoor recreation. Meanwhile, it provides critical connections for wildlife habitat as well as uninterrupted expanses of breathtaking scenery that preserve the natural features and rural character of the Coastside.

Says Rust, "Lobitos Ridge is an excellent example of how POST, with the support of our donors, works with local partners to create a sustainable system that is much greater than the sum of its parts." ■

along Lobitos Ridge Route

2005

POST purchases 183-acre Lower Purisima Creek for \$2.25 million. In 2006, POST sells and transfers property to MROSD. **Protected:** *creekside habitat, old-growth redwoods, coastal scrub and grassland, public trails.*



Elkus Ranch

2009

POST sells Bluebrush Canyon to MROSD for permanent protection, added to Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP.



Bluebrush Canyon

2006

POST purchases 260-acre Bluebrush Canyon from de Cesare family for \$3.2 million. **Protected:** *25 acres of redwoods, endangered San Francisco garter snake and threatened California red-legged frog habitat.*



Lobitos Ridge

2009

MROSD purchases 450-acre upland portion of Elkus Ranch, southwest of Lobitos Ridge, from the University of California. Remainder of property operated by UC as environmental youth education facility. **Protected:** *critical connection in future Skyline-to-Sea trail.*

2006

POST sells Purisima Farms to farming family John and Maureen Giusti. POST retains conservation and trail easements on upland portion for future recreational use.

2010

POST transfers Lobitos Ridge to MROSD for permanent protection for \$3 million.

JEAN RUSMORE: Why Trails Matter

The urge to reach the sea is as old as the sea itself. Even for people like Jean Rusmore, who has walked and re-walked every trail between San Francisco and the San Benito County line, including miles of trail on the east side of the bay, the possibility of walking from Skyline Ridge to the sea is exciting.

Jean is the lead author of three popular trail guides—*Peninsula Trails: Hiking & Biking Trails on the San Francisco Peninsula*; *South Bay Trails: Outdoor Adventures in & Around Santa Clara Valley*; and *Bay Area Ridge Trail: The Official Guide for Hikers, Mountain Bikers, and Equestrians*. Jean and her co-authors—the late Frances Spangle, the late Betsy Crowder and her current collaborator, Sue LaTourrette, began describing the region's trails in the late 1970s. Since 1982, when the first edition of *Peninsula Trails* was published, they have stayed busy editing new editions. "If I could choose to add a trail segment anywhere, I would add the

link between Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve and the Cowell Ranch on the coast," she says. "From Skyline you can see the ocean shimmering in the distance, inviting you to try to get there. Besides, it is downhill all the way!"

At 90, Jean's enthusiasm for getting out on the land is undiminished. She walks every day and learned to love the outdoors early in life. "I grew up in Anaheim, California, before Disneyland, when orange groves hemmed in the city," she says.

Today, Jean writes about trails to help people feel the joy of being outdoors. "I want to make it easy for people to get out on the land," she says. "Trails help people get connected to the land, to each other, to the region. Such experience motivates them to protect our expanses of open space. It is the green space that distinguishes the Bay Area from every other metropolis, and there's no better way to see it than on a trail." ■



Jean Rusmore on the trail.



© 2006 Robert Buelteman

You're Invited!

Please join us for an exclusive tour of 340-acre Lobitos Ridge with senior POST staff on August 24. Take this opportunity to visit a signature Coastside property with sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean. The first 20 people to respond will be our guests for this unique tour. RSVP to Ann Duwe at (650) 854-7696 x316 or aduwe@openspacetrust.org.

Trails to the Sea

POST is working with partner organizations to create several new routes from Skyline Blvd. to the sea. While some trails are years away from completion, others are open to the public now.



Volunteering at POST

POST staff are abundantly grateful for the 2,000 hours land volunteers devote to documenting, preserving and restoring POST land. The work requires training and attracts people who volunteer consistently each year. Our land volunteers fit into three categories:

Conservation Easement Monitors

They begin early in the morning and bring a lunch. They might be casual hikers if it weren't for the GPS units, cameras and paperwork they bring along. In teams of three or four, they walk properties over which POST holds conservation easements to report on whether the conditions of the easement are being met. POST is legally responsible for monitoring easements annually.

Open Space Guardians

Armed with cameras, teams of Open Space Guardians walk POST-owned properties at least four times annually. They make certain the features that made the land important for conservation are in good condition. Volunteers see to it that fences, roads and buildings are in good repair and that no illegal dumping or trespassing is taking place.

Stewardship Teams

While driving along Highway 1 on the Coastsides, you might see a team of people, casually dressed, swinging weed wrenches and carrying sprayer packs. Chances are they are a POST stewardship team removing Pampas grass or other invasive, non-native plants on our lands. They also help repair erosion gullies. Stewardship teams report a high level of satisfaction with their work, and the teams stay together for years.

To learn more about becoming a land volunteer, contact Conservation Project Manager Heather Nagy at (650) 854-7696 x334 or hnagy@openspacetrust.org. ■



Volunteers Marilyn Walter, Ted Vian and John Chamberlain take a well-deserved lunch break with Conservation Project Manager Jeff Powers.

POST Honors Frank Crossman

Congratulations to Frank Crossman of Palo Alto, who was named POST's 2010 Volunteer of the Year at an event in March at Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards in Saratoga. He was chosen from among more than 180 volunteers who were honored at the event.



Ann Duwe © 2010 POST

Frank has been invaluable advising POST staff and land volunteers about GPS (Global Positioning System) technology. The equipment is used in mapping and monitoring POST-owned land as well as private land over which POST holds conservation easements. With his wife, Donna, Frank converted stacks of paper easement records into electronic form. In addition, he leads three conservation easement monitoring teams and helps with special events.

Frank, who moved to Palo Alto in 1966 from Connecticut, became a POST land volunteer in 2007. "Initially I volunteered for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, but as I made the connection between having public land and understanding how that land is acquired, I found POST and became steadily more involved," he says. The Crossmans have been generous donors to POST since 2002 and are members of POST's Skyline Society.

As part of Frank's responsibilities, he monitors an unusually complex set of easements covering Bolsa Point Ranches. In 2009, when POST secured an easement over 493 acres at Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve, Frank led the team that prepared the first conservation easement monitoring report.

Says Frank, "Working with the POST staff and volunteers, especially those volunteers who have been with POST for many years, is a great privilege." ■

(right) John Chamberlain and Ted Vian



(left) Peter and Sue LaTourrette



(right) POST Executive Vice President Walter T. Moore and Carmen Maddock



POST Toasts Volunteers

As the skies cleared and the air turned balmy, March 14 seemed like the first day of spring and a perfect day to honor POST's Volunteer of the Year, Frank Crossman. POST volunteers and staff gathered at historic Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards to recognize our hard-working volunteers, including Conservation Easement Monitors, Open Space Guardians, Stewardship Volunteers, pro bono attorneys, Skyline and Development committees, photographers and others who contributed their considerable time and talents over the past year.

POST Board Member Jan Garrod and his wife, Betsy, hosted the afternoon wine-and-cheese tasting at their picturesque family vineyard and stables in the hills above Saratoga. Helping welcome guests were Jan's parents, Vince and Jane Garrod. Vince himself is a distinguished POST volunteer, having served on our Board of Directors for 22 years (1983-2005). Thank you to the Garrods and to our amazing volunteers for all they do for the land and for POST! ■

Patti Price Challenges Fellow Easement Monitors to Fund Initiative

POST thanks volunteer Patti Price for her generous \$50,000 matching gift in support of our Conservation Easement Initiative. Patti is an easement volunteer on the Cinnabar Vineyards property monitoring team.

Just \$100,000 more is needed to reach the \$3 million goal for this initiative. Patti has challenged fellow volunteers to raise the remaining \$50,000 by offering to double their gifts.

"With intelligence and foresight, POST has set up a special fund for the protection of conservation easements. I hope that others will share in donating what they can to help protect the open space in our area," says Patti.

A conservation easement is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and a qualified

organization such as POST that restricts development while enabling the landowner to retain use of and title to a property. These agreements are tied directly to the land in perpetuity, meaning they remain effective forever, even if a property changes hands.

With its Conservation Easement Initiative, POST recognizes the need to ensure the future of this powerful and cost-effective land conservation tool. Gifts to the Initiative will help POST increase our capacity to monitor easements and defend possible challenges to easements that may arise. If you would like more information about the Initiative, please contact Senior Gifts Officer Daphne Muehle at (650) 854-7696, x317 or dmuehle@openspacetrust.org. ■

Ralph Waldo Emerson once famously wrote, “The earth laughs in flowers,” and one who knows that intimately is photographer Judy Kramer, whose close-up images capture the arresting beauty of our region’s wildflowers.

“I celebrate the colors, the experience,” says Judy, whose book *Wildflower Madness* was self-published in 2009. “I love being out there, surrounded by beauty. Flowers have their own agenda. We get the side benefit of their beauty.”

Judy and her husband, Tony, have been POST donors since 1981 and Tony a volunteer since 1994. Judy has made her bountiful photo archive of local wildflowers available for POST use. She specializes in close-ups, which help educate novice and experienced nature lovers about the tremendous variety of flora found underfoot in every season.

“From the freeway you might see a few poppies or lupine, but if you are content with that, you’ll never see the range of color and form found elsewhere,” she says. “If we didn’t have remote locations and preserved open spaces, we wouldn’t have many wildflowers. Thanks to POST we have many places where the full wildflower palette can be seen by those who take a close look.”

Need help identifying a wildflower on the trail? Let Judy’s memorable images be your guide!

For more images, visit Judy’s website, www.earthwitnessphoto.com. ■

TIPS FROM A PRO:

How to Get the Best Wildflower Photos

Judy Kramer has been a serious wildflower photographer for five years. She suggests three basic principles:

1. Get close. Compose with your whole self. Get on your knees or lie down on the ground. Find a special angle, and move around your subjects, being careful not to trample them!
2. Look for backgrounds that are not distracting.
3. If your camera has single-area or spot focus, use it; otherwise your camera chooses what will be in focus and what will be visible. The camera automatically picks what works for most people most of the time rather than the single flower of interest.

Know Your



Butterfly Mariposa Lily
Calochortus venustus



Wavy-leaved Soap Plant
Chlorogalum pomeridianum

Wildflowers!



Ground Iris
Iris macrosiphon



Cream Cup
Platystemon californicus



Red Maid
Calandrinia ciliata



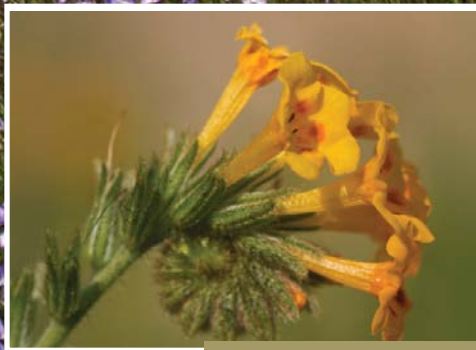
Chick Lupine
Lupinus microcarpus



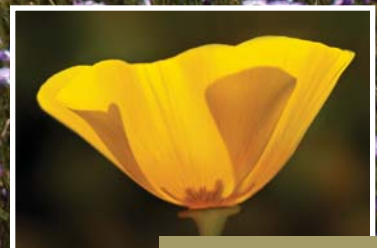
Indian Warrior
Pedicularis densiflora



Common Linanthus
Linanthus parviflorus



Common Fiddleneck
Amsinckia menziesii



California Poppy
Eschscholzia californica

POST Backs “YES for State Parks” Campaign

This past fall, POST joined a statewide effort to create a 2010 ballot measure protecting the future of our state parks. Twice in the past two years, the parks have been threatened with total closure. Now, because of drastic budget cuts, operating hours for nearly 60 of the 278 parks will be significantly reduced, curtailing public access. The parks are also falling severely behind in much-needed maintenance and repairs, with the accumulated costs at \$1 billion and growing.

The new ballot measure, known as the California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010, avoids more closures and reductions by ensuring a stable, reliable and adequate source of funding for state parks. Funds would come from an \$18 annual State Parks Access Pass surcharge on most California vehicles, entitling them to free, year-round admission to all California State Parks.

POST is one of a handful of conservation groups who provided early support for this effort. In mid-April, organizers submitted signatures to the state for the measure to qualify for the November ballot. As we went to press, it was anticipated the measure would have the 477,000 valid names needed to qualify for the ballot.

“California State Parks capture the history of our state as well as its essential beauty, and losing any of them would be like losing part of the soul of California,” says POST Board Chair Mark Wan. ■



Judy Kramer signs “YES for State Parks” petition circulated by POST volunteer Don Savant.

© 2010 Courtesy Don Savant

Help Save Our State Parks

LEARN MORE For more information about this effort, visit www.yesforstateparks.com and www.calparks.org/takeaction.

SPEAK OUT Go to www.calparks.org/takeaction to endorse this effort as an individual or organization.

ENJOY OUR PARKS Show your support by visiting our state parks! To find the park nearest you, go to www.parks.ca.gov.

Little Basin Update: Day-use hiking only

Due to the high expense of operations and the ongoing delay in being able to transfer the property to California State Parks, Little Basin will be open for **day-use hiking only** for POST and Sempervirens donors and volunteers. Overnight camping will no longer be available. To ensure the gate to the property is open and to arrange parking, please contact

POST at least 24 hours in advance of your visit by calling Land Assistant Catherine Waterston at (650) 854-7696 x308.

This change in access, which took effect in March, was made necessary due to the continuing California budget crisis, which has caused a crippling lack of funding for State Parks and prevented the agency from being able to take

ownership of the land from POST and Sempervirens Fund. The two groups acquired the property, located near Boulder Creek, from Hewlett Packard in 2007.

We encourage anyone who wishes to accelerate the State Parks acquisition process to support the “YES for State Parks” campaign. To learn more about this effort, please visit www.yesforstateparks.com. ■

POST Welcomes Diane B. Greene to the Board

Ask Diane Greene how she came to know POST-protected land and you might get an unexpected answer: from the water. A competitive sailor and windsurfer, Diane was one of the first people ever to windsurf the San Mateo Coastline in the late 1970s. “People thought we were crazy, but we loved it,” Diane says.

Decades later, and with several successful start-ups behind her, Diane Greene is ready to give back to the beautiful lands and coastline she loves by becoming a member of POST’s Board of Directors. Diane was drawn to POST, she says, by its “nimble, creative and open-minded approach to preserving open space and the plants and animals that depend on it.”

A co-founder, president and chief executive officer of VMware Inc. for the company’s first 11 years, she took it to \$1.9 billion in annual revenues. VMware created the market for desktop and server virtualization.

Before co-founding VMware in 1998, Diane held engineering and leadership positions at Silicon Graphics Inc., Tandem Computers Inc. and Sybase Inc. She also co-founded VXtreme, a streaming media company purchased by Microsoft in 1997, and served as its chief executive officer.

Diane serves on the board of Intuit Inc., Unity3d and the advisory board of the Stanford School of Engineering. A graduate of MIT, she is a member of The MIT Corporation. Former board positions include VMware Inc. and West Marine Inc.

Raised in Annapolis, Md., Diane grew up sailing. She was the women’s national double-handed dinghy champion in 1976 and has won numerous windsurfing competitions. She also enjoys hiking and biking on the Peninsula’s open spaces.

Says Diane, “It will be a privilege to support POST, which is so effective and does work with long-term benefits for everyone.” ■



© Sunny Scott

New Board Member Diane B. Greene

POST Buys Land Near Sierra Azul

In April, POST took its latest step in protecting open space along the Santa Cruz Mountains ridgeline by purchasing a 153-acre property in southern Santa Clara County. Purchased from private owners for \$250,000, the land is adjacent to Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve and poised to become a future addition to the preserve.

POST purchased the property to preserve land surrounding Alamitos Creek above Almaden Reservoir, keep local wildlife habitat connected, and make potential future trail linkages possible between Sierra Azul OSP, Almaden Quicksilver County Park, and POST-protected Rancho Cañada del Oro OSP. With three other recent projects completed nearby, including Rancho San Vicente near Almaden Valley, POST continues to build on its success in creating a lasting greenbelt of open land in southern Santa Clara County. ■

New Study Shows Conservation Does Not Reduce Housing

A study, conducted by Stanford’s Bill Lane Center for the American West, found that land-saving efforts have not, as some have argued, reduced the housing supply in Silicon Valley because most of the land protected has been rural, rugged

areas unsuitable for dense housing developments.

For more about the study and a Q&A with the center’s executive director, Jon Christensen, please go to www.openspacetrust.org/study.

MAKING WAVES AT WAVECREST:

Plan Considers Future Uses of Coastside Treasure

The future of Wavecrest is coming into sharper focus thanks to a concept plan developed for POST to facilitate future use and management of the 206-acre property in Half Moon Bay.

POST saved Wavecrest from the threat of extensive development when it bought the coastal property from private owners in 2008.

Connected to both natural and urban areas, it is an important open space resource serving residents and visitors to Half Moon Bay and surrounding communities.

Berkeley-based Design, Community & Environment (DCE) developed the planning document, which was funded by a generous grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The study imagines various usage scenarios

and new features for Wavecrest including a possible visitor center or pavilion, hiking trails with interpretative signage, organized sports on expanded ball fields, group camping sites, wildlife habitat protection and seasonal wetlands management, agriculture including a potential farm stand or community gardens, and facilities for youth activities.

With such a wide range of uses to consider, POST is carefully examining how these and other

potential ideas for Wavecrest might be combined, and how the property might best serve the community.

In the meantime, POST continues to raise funds to keep Wavecrest protected and to seek out the appropriate public agency partner for permanent ownership and management. To learn how you can help, please contact POST Senior Major Gifts Officer Daphne Muehle at (650) 854-7696, x317, or email her at dmuehle@openspacetrust.org. ■

Stay POSTed ...on what's going on at Wavecrest and other POST-protected lands by signing up for our free e-newsletter, "POST e-Tracks." Get all the latest news and property photos, plus invitations to exclusive hikes and special events. Just fill in the sign-up box at www.openspacetrust.org or send an email to post@openspacetrust.org with the word "e-Tracks" in the subject line.

TRIBUTES

January 1 – April 30, 2010

POST is grateful to receive gifts in honor or in memory of particular individuals. These gifts are a wonderful way to pay tribute to a person's love of outdoor places.

GIFTS IN HONOR OF

James and Mark Adler
Phil and Erika Bailey
Nancy Matthews Bayliss
Ruby Lee Black
Gordon C. Clark
Francine De Martini
Steve Duwe
Steven and Angela Gelber
Justin and Brendan Green
Mrs. Paul E. "Martha"
Hazelrig Sr.
Margaret and Buell Hollister
Jack and Ernie
Patti Kaspar
Ben and Carrie Maser
Boldwyn Tarter and Allan May
Marjorie Norton
Audrey C. Rust
Thomas Salmon

Margaret Sitko
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GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

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William and Evelyn Lee
Gary Letson
Ruth Brown Mitchell
Anita Mozley
Chick Porter
Ned Robinson
Jack Rutherford
Albert R. Santos
Walter Paul Smith
Alvin Susser
Jeff Wattenmaker

The mission of Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) is to give permanent protection to the beauty, character and diversity of the San Francisco Peninsula and Santa Cruz Mountain range. POST encourages the use of these lands for natural resource protection, wildlife habitat, public recreation and agriculture for people here now and for future generations.



Lobitos Ridge © 2008 Robert Buelteman

SUMMER OUTINGS: Hot Picks for Cool Hikes

When the temperature is rising, enjoy one of these short, shady hikes along Skyline Ridge. To stay cool, get up early and hit the trailhead by 8 a.m., when the air is cleaner, views are better and temperatures more moderate. If you think you'll be socked in by fog, think twice—summer hikes along Skyline often dazzle with otherworldly, above-the-fog views. Always bring a hat, sunscreen and plenty of water.

Purisima Creek Open Space Preserve — Redwood Trail

Built with a grant from POST, the specially surfaced 1/4-mile Redwood Trail is suitable for visitors of all physical abilities. Wind your way down the path and, after marveling at the redwoods, turn toward the ocean for views of Half Moon Bay. Then follow the trail to your picnic table for an alfresco breakfast!

Directions: From Highway 92, turn south on Skyline Blvd. (Hwy 35) and go 6 1/2 mi. to the 11-car parking area.

Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve — Lambert Creek

From Horseshoe Lake just west of the bridge, turn due south on a wide track. You'll descend the trail under oak, bay and fir trees that overarch the trail, making a nice, shady lane. Continue on the path, and you'll come to a clearing with a large fallen tree, perfect for relaxing. 1 1/2 miles, round trip.

Directions: Preserve entrance is about 1 mi. south of Skyline Blvd. and Page Mill/Alpine Rd. intersection.



© Karl Gohl, courtesy MROSD

Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve — Ancient Oaks Trail

When you get up early and keep it short, almost any hike is doable in summer. The Ancient Oaks Trail at Russian Ridge, a favorite of POST President Audrey Rust, winds 3/4 mile downhill through a forest of live oaks, California bay and madrone and connects to the Mindego Ridge Trail.

Directions: Main parking area is on northwest corner of Skyline Blvd. and Page Mill/Alpine Rd. intersection.



Audrey Rust © POST

SOURCES: Information courtesy *Peninsula Trails* by Jean Rusmore and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at www.openspace.org.



Landscapes

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