Landscapes

The POST Challenge: Completing the Vision
The Michigan-based Kresge Foundation has issued POST and its supporters a $1 million Challenge for the Completing the Vision Campaign, our three-year, $28.5 million land-saving initiative.

The Foundation will contribute one million dollars to the Campaign if POST can raise a total of $27.5 million by December 1999. To date, POST donors have contributed $24 million, which means that we must raise $3.5 million in new gifts in the next sixteen months to qualify for the challenge funds.

“We have been so fortunate to have both generous and committed supporters and volunteers who have contributed to the Campaign,” said Christy Holloway, POST Board Member and Campaign Chair. “Without their involvement, we would not have been in the position to merit this important challenge grant. We will continue to need their help as we seek to meet the December 1999 deadline.”

The Kresge Foundation grant will be specifically allocated to help complete the acquisition of the $2.6 million Johnston Ranch, a 647-acre Half Moon Bay property which POST reached an agreement to purchase in March 1998.
The Gabilan Foundation to Help
POST “Rise to the Challenge”

To help POST meet the Kresge Challenge, The Gabilan Foundation will contribute up to one million dollars in matching funds for Campaign gifts of $1,000 to $50,000.

Gifts of $1,000 to $4,999 will be matched dollar for dollar, and gifts of $5,000 to $50,000 will be matched two for one. This means that your gift of $1,000 will be doubled to $2,000, and your gift of $10,000 will be tripled to equal $30,000!

POST thanks The Gabilan Foundation for sharing our vision of saving essential open space, and partnering with us so that we can meet the Kresge Challenge.

Your Help is Needed to Meet the Challenge

For the last two years you have heard about Completing the Vision: The Campaign to Save Essential Open Space. Now your help is needed to make this vision a reality.

POST hopes you will contribute as generously as you can. We are so close to meeting our goal! With the $24 million in Campaign funds already contributed, we have been able to protect more than 10,000 acres of land. With your help, we will meet the Challenge and save more essential open space.

To make a challenge gift, please use the envelope contained in this newsletter. For further information, please contact Daphne Stewart, Campaign Director, at (650) 854-7696, extension 17.

Thank you for your support!
POST People: Vince and Jane Garrod

Vince and Jane Garrod care about the future of their community. So it wasn’t surprising when they recently made a “bargain sale” to POST of 40 acres in the Santa Cruz Mountains. POST plans to transfer the land to the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District as an addition to the Long Ridge Open Space Preserve to be used by future hikers and equestrians.

By selling the land to POST at substantially less than its appraised value, the Garrods are sharing the appreciation on the property with POST and making an important gift to Completing the Vision: The Campaign to Save Essential Open Space. At the same time, the “bargain sale” has enabled them to realize a fair return on their original investment and to obtain a valuable income tax deduction.

Born in Saratoga 79 years ago, Vince Garrod manages the family property which was once a remote hillside ranch. His grandfather, David Garrod, purchased the property in 1893, cleared the land and planted it with apricot and prune trees before the time when tractors and Model T’s puffed their way into Santa Clara County’s lifestyle. ‘Cot’s, prunes, firewood, and many other ranch products produced enough income over the years to pay off mortgages and support an increasing number of family members.

By the 1950’s, however, it became clear that falling fruit prices meant a new source of income would have to be found or the family farm would have to be sold. Looking ahead, Vince, Jane, and other family members decided that horse boarding and riding would serve a growing and increasingly affluent population. It was no secret where the potential customers would come from. From the ranch itself they could be seen moving closer and closer to the Garrod homestead as the valley’s white orchard blooms were replaced by sparkling glints from glass windows — presaging the future of what was then called the “Valley of the Heart’s Delight.”

Today Garrod Farms houses a thriving equestrian center with some 200 horses fed with alfalfa, oats and grass hay produced on a 1,500-acre

“This kind of transaction is mutually beneficial. We get a charitable tax deduction and POST gets to preserve more Peninsula open space for future Garrods, and other people too,” Vince said with a twinkle in his eye.
family ranch in Lassen County. On the 120-acre Saratoga ranch, surrounding the buildings and paddocks, are vineyards that produce grapes for the award-winning wines of Cooper-Garrod Vineyards.

While family farming is renowned for requiring many hours of work, Vince finds enough time for his favorite hobby: meetings. Vince was one of the founders of Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District and the Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department where he continues to serve today. He also serves as a member of the board of governors for the Farmers Insurance Exchange, and of course, as a board member for POST. Vince was also the first President of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts and served as an elected member of the Saratoga school board for 23 years.

Vince Garrod follows in the footsteps of his father’s commitment to community. His father — R.V., as he was known — is considered the father of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California at Davis for having successfully lobbied the legislature to fund the school. He is also credited for having prompted the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors to buy Stevens Creek County Park — one of the first parks on the west side of the valley. Jane also has more than her share of energy. A registered nurse with degrees from U.C. Berkeley and Stanford, mother of six children and two foster children, she enjoys an avocation as a talented watercolorist.

For POST, the Garrods’ 40 acres is an important part of a strategy to acquire undeveloped inholdings in already protected open space areas. The Garrod property is one of nearly four dozen lots created and sold during the 60’s and 70’s in the Portola Park Heights subdivision located between the Long Ridge Open Space Preserve and Portola State Park.

“In his 79 years, Vince has seen a lot of change but he’s remained solidly committed to his community and has a deep understanding of the importance of open lands to the urban as well as the rural way of life,” said Audrey Rust, executive director of POST. “Vince and Jane’s sale of their land to POST will extend that commitment to many future generations.”

Vince and Jane met in grammar school in Saratoga, married in 1941, and recently celebrated their 80th birthdays together; they were born just 4 days apart. Happy Birthday Vince and Jane!
Bill and Jean Lane are known both locally by their neighbors and friends on the Peninsula, and internationally for their numerous contributions to humanity. To supporters of POST, they are also known for their enduring commitment to the preservation of the beauty, character, and diversity of the Peninsula’s open space lands.

Like many POST supporters, the Lanes’ inspiration comes in large part from knowing that they are helping to save land for future generations so that people will continue to have the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the Peninsula’s extraordinary natural gifts and historic character. Bill and Jean recognize that POST’s remarkable success in the land-saving business comes with the responsibility to ensure that the future needs of the lands that we are protecting will be met. Naturally, they were receptive when POST approached them with the idea of making a leadership gift to help POST create a long-term land stewardship fund to safeguard these lands forever.

Because POST’s efforts have always been, and continue to be, focused on acquiring targeted properties for protection as open space, our fundraising has been focused on raising capital that can be used immediately to take advantage of the best land-saving opportunities available. POST will use the Lanes’ gift to begin to develop a stewardship fund that will support the creation and administration of new mechanisms for long-term stewardship and management of protected land without diminishing our ability to acquire land in the short-term.

Longtime POST supporters and founding sponsors of POST’s annual Wallace Stegner Lecture Series, the Lanes’ dedication to protecting our magnificent local lands has been a life-long commitment. The creation of the Ambassador L.W. and Mrs. Jean Lane Stewardship Fund will extend their protective influence and continue to safeguard the land that they have worked to protect during their lifetimes long after they are gone.

If you would like to learn more about the Land Stewardship Fund and how including POST in your will, or other estate plans, can help ensure the future of the lands that you are helping to protect today, please contact André La Fleur at (650) 854-7696 extension 22.
“We believe, just as private resources, creative thinking, and experimental actions have made such a difference in the land-acquisition arena, that this type of attention will also help to create and administer new mechanisms for long-term stewardship and management of protected lands.”

Ambassador Bill Lane
left to right: Ward Paine, Bruce Babbitt, Mel Lane, Tom Ford, and Audrey Rust.

Mountain Meadow Scrapbook

Groucho, Bruce Babbitt, Groucho, and Groucho.

Ward Paine

Mountain Meadow

Gordon Moore and Anna Eshoo

An Evening in the Meadow Meadow photos by Gil Davis.
In June, at the home of Gordon and Betty Moore, POST held “An Evening in the Meadow” in honor of Tom Ford, Mel Lane, and Ward Paine for their outstanding leadership in land conservation.

More than 450 friends and supporters enjoyed a reception on the Woodside grounds of Mountain Meadow, dined under a grand tent, and heard thoughtful and humorous presentations about the three honorees by Gordon Moore, Reid Dennis and Doug Wheeler, California Secretary of Natural Resources. Tom, Mel, and Ward then entertained the audience with their own playful antics! A splendid time was had by all.

Surprise guest Bruce Babbitt, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, made a short speech in which he commended POST’s tremendous success and promised to do whatever he could to help POST secure the federal funding needed to complete the purchase of Bair Island. Other distinguished guests included U. S. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo and Bob Augsburger, founding Executive Director of POST.

POST extends its gratitude and appreciation to Gordon and Betty Moore for graciously hosting “An Evening in the Meadow” at their home, and a special thanks to Karie Thomson, Event Chair and POST Board Member, and to the volunteer committee; they did a superb job of organizing all the details of the evening.

POST Board Member Vince Garrod of Cooper-Garrod Vineyards supplied the wine and Bofors, Inc. printed the invitations. These generous donations helped POST surpass its fund-raising goal for the evening, raising more than $150,000 in net revenue. Proceeds from the event will benefit Completing the Vision: The Campaign to Save Essential Open Space. Like all successful fundraising events, we hope the evening sparked the enthusiasm of those who attended and that the Campaign will continue to benefit from their generosity.

POST is deeply indebted to Tom, Mel, and Ward. Their vision, perseverance, and generosity have enabled POST to permanently protect more than 35,000 acres of land on the Peninsula.

Footnote: Mountain Meadow was part of the historic Phleger estate, which POST purchased in 1991. The surrounding lands have since been added to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area as part of the National Park System.


**An Evening In The Meadow**

**Honorary Co-Chairs**

Gordon and Betty Moore

**Chair**

Karie Thomson

**Committee**

Allan F. Brown
Connie Cox
Janet Curtis
Christina A. Holloway
Anne Kasten
Sandra Levison
Jacqueline Mayer
Janet Morris

Mary P. Paine
Joan Parker
Carolyn Reller
Gayle L. Rimerman
Alexander H. Schilling, Jr.
Fritz Snideman
Daphne Stewart
Anne M. Westerfield
In early June, POST was surprised and dismayed to learn of extensive damage inflicted upon Gazos Creek; and it wasn’t caused by El Niño!

Gazos Creek, which forms the southern boundary of POST’s Cloverdale Coastal Ranch property, provides critical habitat for the endangered red-legged frog and two threatened fish species: coho salmon and steelhead trout. The Creek has been designated by the National Marine Fisheries Service as one of the critical streams which provide natural habitat for these species; it is, or was, perhaps the most productive coho salmon stream south of San Francisco.

In mid-May, the San Mateo County Department of Public Works (DPW), without the notification or permission of landowners including POST, Sempervirens Fund, and California State Parks, entered the properties along several miles of Gazos Creek to clear logjams and woody debris from the creekbed. The work was done during a critical hatching period for the endangered salmon, without proper permits, and without appropriate environmental review. In addition, the County DPW removed and sold redwood logs, and used the proceeds to reimburse itself for the costs that it incurred.

The work caused the channelization and sedimentation of portions of Gazos Creek and thus the destruction of vital pool habitat for the salmon. County officials have stated that the “clean-up” work was done to prevent erosion to Gazos Creek Road which parallels the Creek. They also claim that the DPW was working under emergency permits stemming from February 1998 storms. However, volunteers who monitor the Creek and the salmon said that there were no logjams endangering the public road.

After preliminary investigations, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determined that San Mateo County violated the Clean Water Act in at least twenty-two sites on Gazos Creek. The EPA issued an Administrative Order requiring the County to develop a plan to complete emergency restoration work by October 15th (before next winter’s rains and spawning season), and follow up with a program for long-term recovery of the stream. County officials are cooperating with the EPA and have begun the process to restore the creek.
Bob Kirkwood Is On-Board!

POST is proud to announce the addition of a new member to our Board of Directors, Robert C. Kirkwood. A native of San Francisco, Bob has a long history of civic involvement on the Peninsula. Prior to joining the Board, he served on POST’s Advisory Council since 1979.

As an attorney, Bob specialized in real estate, land development and land use planning issues. Currently, he is Director of Government and Education Affairs for Hewlett-Packard Company in Palo Alto. He also serves on several Boards of Directors including the Peninsula Community Foundation and chairs the California State Coastal Conservancy.

POST is grateful for Bob’s expertise and delighted to have him on the Board as we move forward to protect additional open space lands on the Peninsula.

Stock Gifts to POST

Making your gift to POST with stock is better than cash: you avoid the capital gains tax and receive a charitable deduction for the full value of the stock, regardless of appreciation. POST can then sell the stock tax-free and use 100% of the proceeds to protect open space.

It’s easy – contact:
NationsBanc Montgomery Securities, Inc.
600 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
Attn.: Kelly Lawson @ (415) 627-2191

Relevant information for a transfer of stock:
Account Name: Peninsula Open Space Trust #1 Land Purchases
Account #: 110-66982
DTC #: 773
Tax ID #: 94-2392007

Your gift is fully tax-deductible. Please notify POST directly of your gift to ensure that it is recorded accurately.

Thank you for your support!
Peninsula Open Space Trust
3000 Sand Hill Road, Bldg. 4, Suite 135
Menlo Park, CA 94025

A land conservancy for the
San Francisco Peninsula

Address Service Requested

Above photograph by Robert Buelteman, cover photograph by Dewitt Jones

Recycled Paper/Soy Ink