



LANDSCAPES WINTER 2005

Peninsula Open Space Trust
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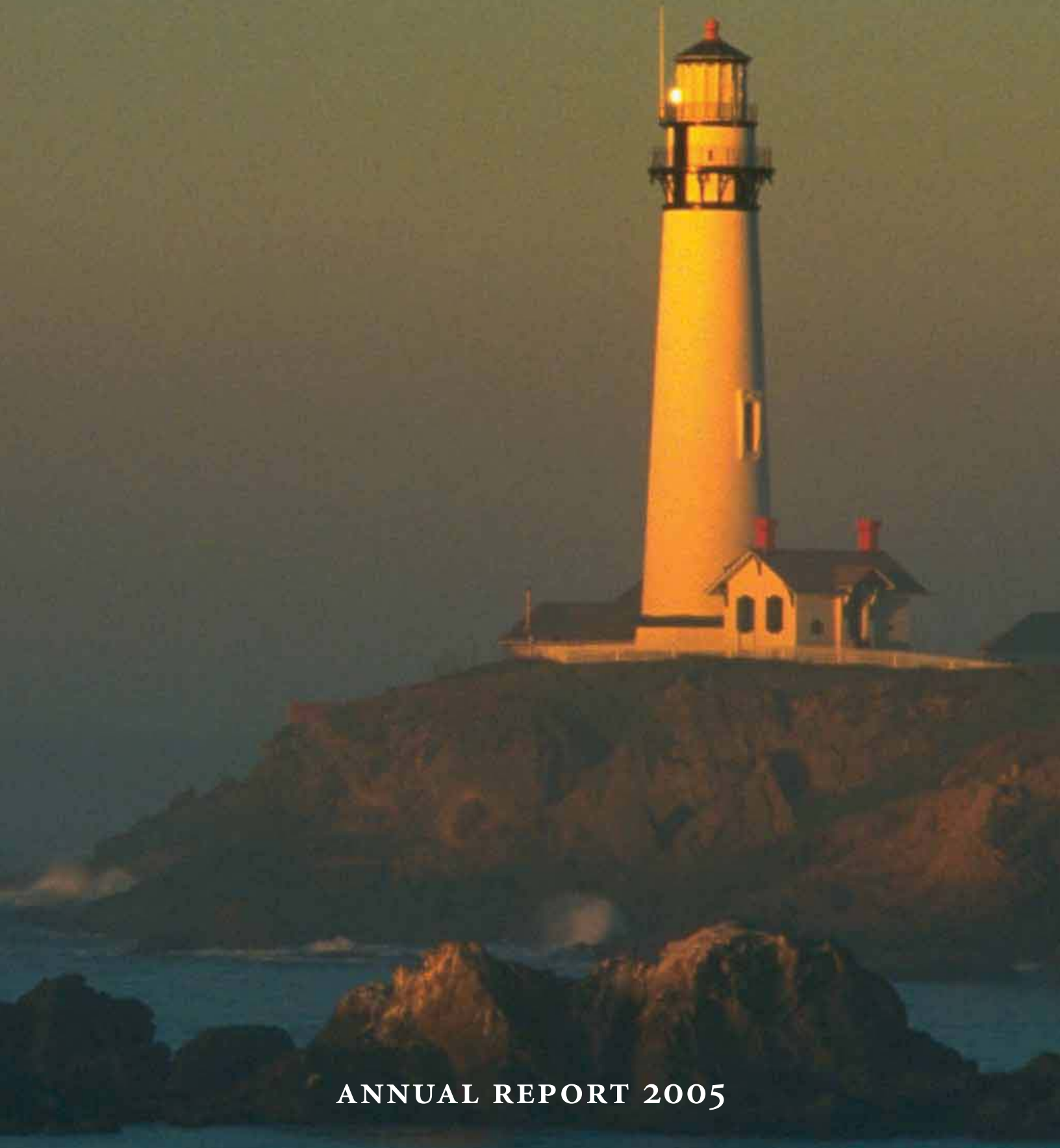
"To stand at the edge of the sea, to sense the ebb and the flow of the tides, to feel the breath of a mist moving over a great salt marsh, to watch the flight of shore birds that have swept up and down the surf lines of the continents for untold thousands of years, to see the running of the old eels and the young shad to the sea, is to have knowledge of things that are as nearly eternal as any earthly life can be."

RACHEL CARSON, *The Sea Around Us*



Landscapes

Peninsula Open Space Trust



ANNUAL REPORT 2005

Dear Friends,

It hardly seems possible that, as 2005 comes to a close, we are approaching the end of our monumental \$200 million fund-raising campaign to save the San Mateo Coast. Four years ago, POST launched *Saving the Endangered Coast* to address an urgent, unmet need on our home turf—the preservation of the spectacular but threatened coastal landscapes that make the San Francisco Peninsula such a remarkable place to live and visit. Now we are in sight of the end, and by the time you get this, we may well be craning our necks toward the finish line. Thank you for allowing us to dream big and act big.

At POST, we strive to achieve the permanent protection of the beauty, character and diversity of our local landscape. While the campaign raises funds for land acquisition, the need continues for strong, reliable funding to preserve our open lands forever. This year, your annual gifts allowed POST to continue building on its track record of conservation leadership and accomplishment, supporting daily administrative tasks, lengthy (often years-long) negotiations with landowners, and strategic planning for future projects. As a POST donor, you play a vital role in this essential work. On behalf of everyone at POST, thank you for bringing our shared vision of safeguarded natural lands on the Peninsula that much closer to reality.

Audrey C. Rust

Audrey C. Rust
President, POST



© 2005 Elisabeth Fall



Arata Ranch © 2005 Paolo Vescia



Driscoll Ranch © 2001 Brian O'Neill

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



Dear POST Supporters,

POST is on the cusp of doing something truly extraordinary. At the time of this printing, our *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign total stands at \$196,664,755—just shy of our \$200 million goal. Thanks to everyone who got us this far! With this kind of support, we know an impressively strong finish is close at hand.

For POST, it's a race against time to save our open coastal lands. That's why earlier this year, the Kresge Foundation set aside a \$1.75 million challenge grant for POST that will top off our campaign—but only if we raise 99 percent of our fund-raising goal by December 31.

This summer, to help us meet the Kresge challenge, POST's Board of Directors and Coastal Campaign Advisory Council gave an additional \$1.75 million on top of their initial campaign pledges. This Leadership Fund has set the pace for the final months of the campaign, inspiring familiar faces and newcomers alike to give as much as they can to save our beautiful San Mateo coast. Their generosity, and the success of POST's "Under the Harvest Moon" event in September, which raised \$784,000 for the campaign, promises exciting results once all the numbers are tallied.

I know how much my family enjoys the wildlands and the recreational opportunities they provide so close to home. If you haven't already—and even if you have—I hope you will join us in ensuring that these beautiful and majestic lands remain so forever.

Susan Ford Dorsey
Chair, POST Board of Directors

experience

"It is in man's heart that the life of nature's spectacle exists; to see it, one must feel it."

JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU

A Beautiful Piece of History

In July, 200 POST donors attended two POST-led hikes at Stevens Canyon Ranch, which POST acquired last winter through its *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign. Guests marveled at the striking beauty of this historic 240-acre property protected by their generosity, where rustic ranch roads wind past weathered outbuildings, an old stone winery, and a picturesque orchard dating back to the late 1800s. More secluded trails led them past second-growth Douglas fir, madrone, bay, oak, tanoak trees, and an immense old-growth redwood forest near the creek.

Stevens Canyon Ranch lies within the foothills of the coastal Santa Cruz Mountain range near Cupertino, where thousands of acres are threatened by residential development. Surrounded by 6,640 acres of protected public lands, the ranch is a high priority for preservation and promises to become a key link in a future trail network through Stevens Canyon.



Stevens Canyon Ranch © 2005 Karl Kroeber

Magnificent Lands for the Future

What do you hope to see when you visit the Coast in the future? What do you hope will be there for your children, and their children?

Whaler's Cove near Pescadero is the perfect place to contemplate the magnificent natural legacy we all inherit as inhabitants of coastal California.

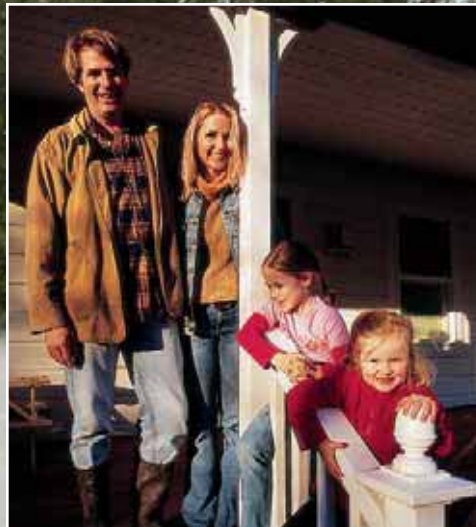
POST acquired Whaler's Cove through its *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign in 2000, tearing down a private nine-unit motel on this breathtaking 3-acre stretch of coastline now part of Pigeon Point Light



© 2005 Karl Kroeber

State Historic Park. This spring, POST transferred the property to California State Parks for permanent protection.

Where the motel once stood, walking trails and a special seating area built by POST will grace the bluff top, restoring public access and landmark views to the shore. Mel's Lane, a portion of the California Coastal Trail honoring conservationist Melvin B. Lane, invites the public to explore this rugged coastline at continent's edge. Nearby, the Council Circle seating area will recognize special donors to POST's coastal campaign, providing a place of respite for hikers, daytrippers and schoolchildren. With its dazzling views, it is a lasting reminder of what individuals can accomplish when they work together on behalf of our local natural lands.



Redgate Ranch © 2004 Paolo Vescei

In November 2004, Greg and Amanda Jones offered a bargain sale to POST of a conservation easement and pledged to donate a trail easement over Redgate Ranch in San Gregorio.

Connecting with Nature

Nothing invites spiritual balance and peace of mind like standing under the canopy of a silent redwood grove, scanning a dramatic sweep of wave-pounded coastline, or cresting a windswept knoll. Well-planned hiking trails allow us to venture beyond the urban environment and explore our natural surroundings.

POST has expanded opportunities to experience nature up close by protecting lands for trail connections from Skyline Ridge to the sea. With the November 2004 purchase of a conservation easement and pledge of a trail easement over 624-acre Redgate Ranch in San Gregorio, POST hopes to expand a trail system connecting through neighboring Driscoll Ranch, another campaign property. These easements protect signature views from nearby Highway 84; preserve Redgate's open grasslands, coastal scrub and oak-draped hills; and ensure that one day hikers will have access to this breathtaking expanse of open space along a public recreational trail corridor.



Pigeon Point © Robert Buelteman

"In all things of nature, there is something of the marvelous."

ARISTOTLE



© 2005 Kellyx Nelson

California Academy of Science interns spend a day removing Scotch broom on POST's Johnston Ranch.

Restoring the Wild

POST's land stewardship program ensures that biodiversity can flourish on the wild and rural properties we protect. To date, POST has eliminated more than 1.5 million invasive pampas grass plants on its properties. Dedicated volunteers have done much of this natural habitat restoration work along the San Mateo Coast. Program support from the Bella Vista Foundation has enabled POST to keep invasive exotics in check.

At Pillar Point Bluff, a 119-acre property near Moss Beach that POST acquired in August 2004, a dense infestation of non- native pampas grass had taken over the bluff top. The invasive exotic, originally from South America, had established a "monoculture" of a single dominant species crowding out

native plants and animals and obscuring the property's sweeping ocean views.

This summer, POST sent in contractors with excavators and hand tools to pull out each tufted clump of pampas grass by the roots, making room for native species like sticky monkey flower, coyote brush and *Juncus* plants to reestablish themselves on the bluff top. With the area's biodiversity and viewshed restored, visitors can now experience more unobstructed views of the ocean from Pillar Point Bluff.



Courtesy USFWS
© Gary Nafis

The San Francisco garter snake and the California red-legged frog are just two of the rare and unique species that face extinction due to habitat loss along the San Mateo Coast.



Courtesy USFWS © Mark Jennings

Saving a Living Eden

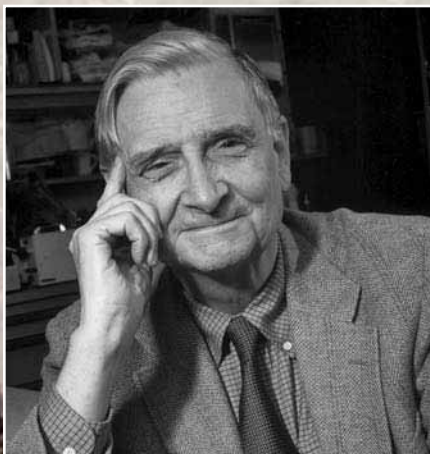
From tide pools to sand dunes, coastal terrace prairie to redwood forests and oak woodlands, the San Mateo Coast contains some of the most rare and varied habitats

found on earth. But today, these extraordinary places and the species they support face extreme threat from urban development.

Scientists have identified our Coast as one of the planet's 25 conservation "hot spots" where rapid habitat loss is leading to the permanent extinction of species. Renowned biologist E. O. Wilson, a featured speaker in POST's Wallace Stegner Lecture Series, sums up what's at stake when he says, "We are talking about saving the Creation. Once you lose species, they will not return. It is ethically impermissible to let this happen on our watch."

POST's *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign gives us a chance to protect this landscape and its inhabitants forever. Our campaign goal is to preserve 20,000 rural coastal acres; to date, we have protected 20 properties totaling 14,259 acres. If we act now, we can save the Coast not just for ourselves, but for future generations.

*Edward O. Wilson, Featured Speaker,
2005 Wallace Stegner Lecture Series*



© Jim Harrison



Lobitos Creek © Dan Quinn



Bobcat © Dan Quinn

Clean Streams, Healthy Wildlife

Lobitos Ridge and Lower Purisima Creek, two properties POST has protected through its coastal campaign, lie adjacent to one another just south of Half Moon Bay. Here wooded valleys, scrub-covered knolls and bright meadows spill down to winding, willow-lined Lobitos Creek, a lush riparian corridor that is a wellspring of life for many species, including fish, insects, amphibians and other animals.

The creek is reported to provide important habitat and spawning grounds for threatened steelhead trout, whose numbers in California in the last 30 years have been reduced by more than 50 percent, due to a loss of freshwater habitat caused by blocked access to spawning areas and increased sediment and debris deposited into creeks. With POST-protected lands straddling part of this critical waterway, native steelhead habitat is assured continued protection.

protect

"We need to learn to listen to the land, hear what the long haul; what, especially in the west, it shows we have to have access to natural wild land."

Preserving a Way of Life

At the gateway to the Pomponio Creek Valley, brothers John and Clarence Arata have worked portions of their 1,312-acre San Gregorio ranch for more than 60 years. Homes have cropped up nearby, and developers have taken a keen interest in the Aratas' land, which boasts 360-degree views of the entire coastal landscape. To save the area's agricultural character and maintain their way of life, the Aratas decided last year to enter into a conservation agreement with POST. The resulting conservation easement prevents subdivision and limits development on the property's high ridgelines and verdant hay fields, knolls and cow pastures. Now the Aratas are able to continue living, farming and grazing on their ranch while preserving the serene, secluded nature of their beautiful corner of the world.



Diamond H Ranch © 2005 Paolo Vescia

One Step Ahead

Real estate market trends have a huge impact on POST's land-saving work. As real estate prices, especially on the Coast, continue to skyrocket to record highs, the pressure intensifies for us to stay one step ahead of the game.

In the past year, the median home price on the Coast rose by more than 16 percent, to \$755,000. Such rapid increases, coupled with a housing inventory shortage, make it absolutely essential that POST have the necessary funds in hand to negotiate land deals as quickly and effectively as possible.



Arata Ranch © 2005 John Green

*it says, understand what it can and can't do over
ld not be asked to do. To learn such things,*

WALLACE STEGNER,
The Gift of Wilderness

That's why POST's *Saving the Endangered Coast* initiative is so important. Campaign contributions position POST to continue to protect threatened coastal lands from development into sprawling private estates that could mar scenic ridgelines and bluff tops. We can't afford to wait. Once open space is gone, it is gone for good. Protecting our open space is the best defense against the permanent loss of natural open lands on the San Francisco Peninsula.



Gary Holtum maintains an equestrian operation on POST's Diamond H Ranch.

Diamond H Ranch © 2004 Paolo Vesica



Rapley Ranch © MROSD

Open Space in Our Own Backyard

Just half a mile off Skyline Boulevard in the Santa Cruz Mountains, 151-acre Rapley Ranch is home to a remarkable edge habitat where hilltop grasslands meet forested slopes. Here, majestic coast range views are framed by oak woodlands, which are increasingly under threat from development in the area. When POST acquired Rapley Ranch for protection in the summer of 2004, it had the potential to be developed into eight luxury estates. Today, this former beef and dairy cattle ranch supports extensive plant and wildlife and has tremendous recreation potential as a future extension of the adjacent Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, owned by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. A loop trail system from Rapley to Russian Ridge would make this rich landscape forever accessible to all those who treasure fresh air, stirring vistas, and wondrous woodlands, all just a few minutes' drive from the hectic valley below.

Saving the Endangered Coast Campaign Update

The Time is Now ...

Make Your Gift Today!

\$200,000,000
CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$1,750,000
KRESGE CHALLENGE

\$1,585,245
TO BE RAISED BY DECEMBER 31

\$196,664,755
RAISED TO DATE*

*AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005

A Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity

By the time this issue of *Landscapes* reaches you, we will be only days away from a critical deadline for the fund-raising portion of POST's historic *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign.

We have \$1,585,245 to go to qualify for the \$1.75 million Kresge Foundation challenge grant and finish the campaign by December 31.

These funds are essential to complete the protection of 20,000 acres of rural land that we have identified as the highest priorities for protection along the San Mateo Coast, one of the world's most vulnerable conservation "hot spots."

As of press time, POST had entered into agreements to protect 20 properties covering 14,259 acres—an area more than three times the size of Yosemite Valley.

We must raise 99 percent of our fund-raising goal by December 31 to receive the Kresge grant. What is at stake are the stunning natural lands that make the San Francisco Peninsula such a remarkable place to live and visit. Your gift today can help us meet the Kresge challenge and save these extraordinary lands forever.

Saving the Endangered Coast will have a lasting impact on the quality of life on the Peninsula. We must save the special places close to home for ourselves and for future generations. If we don't do it, nobody else will.

Thanks to all who have given to the campaign, key pieces of the coastal landscape puzzle are in place. We need your help to complete the picture. We are on target with 25 percent of our 20,000-acre goal remaining to complete the land protection portion of the campaign. We need the money in hand to act quickly when key properties become available.

This campaign is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save the San Mateo Coast from inappropriate development. Your gifts will result in an enduring legacy of unparalleled natural splendor for all to enjoy. This is our last chance. Please make your gift today!



(From left to right) POST President Audrey Rust and Mel and Joan Lane at the Mel's Lane trail site next to Pigeon Point Light Station.

Under the Harvest Moon Raises \$784,000 for Campaign

The *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign made a huge leap forward on September 17, when POST supporters gathered under a giant white tent at Runnymede Farm in Woodside for a celebration dubbed *Under the Harvest Moon*. The festive evening—which honored the families of Gordon and Betty Moore, David and Lucile Packard, and generations of POST supporters—drew more than 500 guests and raised \$784,000 for the campaign. TV host Doug McConnell emceed the event and featured performer Joan Baez serenaded the crowd.



© 2005 Elisabeth Fall

(above) From left to right: Donna Dubinsky, Leonard Shustek, Ned Barnholt and Jimi Barnholt at Under the Harvest Moon.

Mel's Lane Open to Public

After years of planning, Mel's Lane and the surrounding walking trails at Whaler's Cove are now open to the public. The cove, a 3-acre site now part of Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park near Pescadero, was the first property POST acquired for protection through the *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign and is the place where POST "deconstructed" a private motel in 2001.

At the Council Circle, a ring of stone benches being constructed at Mel's Lane, donors of \$100,000 and more to the campaign will be permanently recognized. The Mel's Lane segment of the California Coastal Trail honors conservationist Melvin B. Lane, the first chair of the California Coastal Commission and a co-founder of POST. We invite you to visit this stunning stretch of coastline overlooking Whaler's Cove and see for yourself what your gifts to the campaign are helping to accomplish.



(left) From left to right: Robert Stephens, POST Board member Charlene Kabcenell, Julie Packard, Alison Elliott, Steve Blank, and Derry Kabcenell at Under the Harvest Moon.



Arlene Blum THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Arlene Blum has played a groundbreaking role in women's mountaineering. She is best known for leading the first American, and all-women's, ascent of Annapurna I, considered one of the world's most dangerous and difficult mountains.

Annapurna: A Woman's Place, written by Blum, has inspired readers for over the past 25 years. *National Geographic Adventure* magazine included it in their "hundred best adventure books of all time."

Her new book, *Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*, is an unforgettable account of the trails Blum pioneered, not only in mountaineering, but in science.

Blum holds a doctorate in biophysical chemistry. Her research was instrumental in banning several cancer-causing chemicals and pesticides. She plans to continue this research to help protect our health and environment.

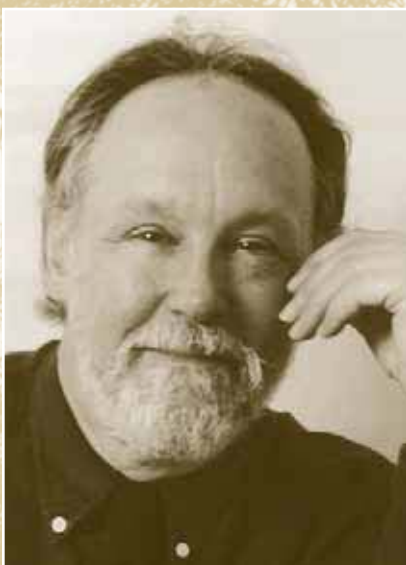
LECTURE SPONSOR: Sand Hill Advisors

Mark Bittner TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006

From an early age, Mark Bittner was intent on becoming a poet-singer-songwriter. Living in southwest Washington State, Bittner saw San Francisco as the place to realize his dream. He finally made it to the Bay Area, but the dream proved — disastrously — to be a fantasy. Mark spent the next 15 years trying to put himself back together through spiritual search while eking out a living on the streets of San Francisco. In 1990, he spotted something on

Telegraph Hill that fascinated him: a flock of wild parrots. Three years later, Mark found himself immersed in a deep friendship with the birds. His love for them ultimately led to his writing the New York Times bestseller *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*. He also became the subject of a successful independent documentary film of the same title.

LECTURE SPONSOR: Chris and Carol Espinosa



Barry Lopez THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006

To read Barry Lopez is to commune with a deep thinker. His writings have frequently been compared to those of Henry David Thoreau, as he brings a depth of knowledge to the text by immersing himself in his surroundings, deftly integrating his environmental and humanitarian concerns. In his non-fiction, he often examines the relationship between human culture and physical landscape. In his fiction, he frequently addresses issues of intimacy, ethics, and identity.

Barry Lopez is best known as the author of *Arctic Dreams*, for which he received the National Book Award. Among his other non-fiction books is National Book Award finalist *Of Wolves and Men*. His recent work includes *Resistance* (2004), a book of interrelated stories written in response to the recent ideological changes in American society.

LECTURE CO-SPONSORS: Matteoni, O'Laughlin & Hechtman Lawyers & Duane and Ann Kalar



The Thirteenth Annual Wallace Stegner Lecture Series

SERIES SPONSORSHIP BY
AMBASSADOR BILL AND MRS. JEAN LANE

Inspired by the wild

Ambassador Bill and Mrs. Jean Lane invite you to join us for the 13th Annual Wallace Stegner Lecture Series and hear from people whose lives and work have been inspired by the wild. This year's lecturers will enlighten audiences with their individual experiences of wilderness, from summiting Annapurna to exploring the vast Arctic landscape to discovering the wild places that exist in our own backyard. All lectures will be held at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts beginning at 8:00 p.m.

A lecture series subscription at the Stegner Circle level of \$300 per season ticket or the Patron level of \$150 per season ticket will give you preferred seating at each of the lectures.

Your tax-deductible contribution will further benefit POST's land conservation work.

Series subscriptions for the three lectures will be available at \$60 and include one discounted ticket to each lecture.

You can order tickets by calling POST at (650) 854-7696 or by mailing in your order form when you receive your Lecture Series brochure in early January. Single tickets to the three lectures are \$22 each and can be ordered through the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts at (650) 903-6000. All proceeds from the series benefit POST's land-saving mission.

MEDIA SPONSOR: SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

financial summary

The following is a report of POST's revenues and expenses during the fiscal year from July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005.

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS	\$ 16,282,472
LAND CONTRIBUTED FOR CONSERVATION	\$ 750,000
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 4,419,542
RENTAL AND OTHER INCOME	\$ 951,661
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ 22,403,675

EXPENSES

PURCHASES OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS & GIFTS OF LAND TO PUBLIC AGENCIES	\$ 9,036,707
CONSERVATION PROGRAM	\$ 2,522,432
INTEREST PAID ON LAND TRANSACTIONS	\$ 82,622
TOTAL CONSERVATION EXPENSES	\$ 11,641,761
FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION	\$ 1,469,514
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 507,378
TOTAL FUNDRAISING AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 1,976,892
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 13,618,653

LAND PURCHASED WITH CAMPAIGN FUNDS	\$ 19,046,748
LAND IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 125,245
	\$ 19,171,993

Camissonia cheiranthifolia © 2004 Neal Kramer



Bolsa Point © 2000 Robert Buelteman

Annual Giving at POST

Preserving thousands of acres of rolling hills and forests. Saving pristine coastal bluffs and beaches from development. Rescuing fertile farmland from bulldozers. Stitching together trail corridors for the public to enjoy. None of this would be possible without the loyal generosity of annual donors to POST.

This year's annual support, on top of gifts made to POST's *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign, helped us pursue our day-to-day conservation work while we acquired threatened coastal lands. Annual contributions at all levels of giving help POST research properties, develop up-to-date maps, and keep the lights on. Annual contributions underwrite our partnerships with key public agencies, and support lengthy negotiations with landowners and donors that sometimes require years of staff commitment. They also fund our innovative land stewardship program, keeping the open space lands in our own backyard healthy, vital and beautiful.

Skyline Society

Part of our annual giving program includes the Skyline Society, a group of individuals whose annual gifts to POST total \$1,000 or more.

The Skyline Society takes its name from Skyline Ridge, the redwood-studded spine of the Santa Cruz Mountains that provides sweeping views of the San Francisco Peninsula. These dedicated donors provide 70 percent of POST's operating support, helping to ensure that our local natural lands will be preserved forever.

Membership Benefits

Members of the Skyline Society enjoy the following benefits:

- Invitations to "Walks & Talks: Hiking with POST"
- Special Reports from the President, including land acquisition announcements
- Acknowledgement in the Annual Report
- Opportunities to attend fund-raising updates and special events
- Knowledge that your gift saves the extraordinary landscapes that contribute to our quality of life on the San Francisco Peninsula



Typha angustifolia © 2004 Neal Kramer

Skyline Society Committee

A six-member volunteer committee coordinates the outreach efforts of the Skyline Society. Committee members Sue Anawalt, Jeff Enderwick, Tracy Halgren, Alisa MacAvoy, Cindy Miller and George Zimmerman coordinate society membership, help organize special events, and cultivate and thank POST donors. They are the force that helps POST get the job done, and we thank them for their invaluable service and leadership.

Become a Skyline Member!

For more information about how you can become a member of the Skyline Society, please call Director of Annual Giving Daphne Muehle at (650) 854-7696 or via email at dmuehle@openspacetrust.org.



Stock Gifts to POST

Stock gifts are a wonderful way to make a gift to the *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign. A gift of securities is fully tax-deductible at its market value at the time of your contribution. An added benefit is that by contributing your stock directly to POST you avoid the capital gains tax. POST can sell stocks tax-free and use 100 percent of your gift to save land. To make a gift of stock to POST, please do the following:

Step 1: Contact your stockbroker. Your stockbroker can make a direct electronic transfer of your stock certificates to POST's account with the following information:

DTC #226 National Financial Services

Account Name: Peninsula Open Space Trust

Account Number: P61-045870

Banc of America Investment Services

555 California Street, 7th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94104

Mail code: CA5-705-07-41

Attention: Tom Katilius (415) 627-2749

or Tammy Lilliston (415) 627-2750

Fax: (415) 835-2875

Step 2: Give your stockbroker POST's taxpayer identification number: 94-2392007.

Step 3: Notify POST as soon as the transfer instructions have been given so that we can alert our stockbroker. Please provide the Peninsula Open Space Trust with the name of the security, the number of shares to be donated, and the name and phone number of your stockbroker. To notify POST, please contact:

Daphne Muehle, Director of Annual Giving
Peninsula Open Space Trust
3000 Sand Hill Road, Building 1, Suite 155
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 854-7696

Thank you for your support of POST and your commitment to the Peninsula's open space! ■



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Landscapes is published quarterly
by the Peninsula Open Space Trust
3000 Sand Hill Road, 1-155
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Telephone: (650) 854-7696

Fax: (650) 854-7703

Web site: www.openspacetrust.org

POST is a public benefit California corporation and is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to POST are tax-deductible.

Edited by Anne Sharman

Contributing Writer: Nina Nowak

Designed by DiVittorio & Associates

Printed by TradeMark Graphics, Inc.

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