



# Lake County Land Trust

PO Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453 • (707)262-0707 • Spring/Summer 2018



From left: Val Nixon, President of the Lake County Land Trust, Trinity Taylor, 1st Place Winner K-5 Category, Conni Lemen-Kosla, Co-Founder of Lake County Rural Arts Initiative.



Hailey Trejo, 1st Place Winner in the 9-12 Category.

## Art and Nature Day celebrates nature with photography, activities, and more

The Lake County Land Trust and the Lake County Rural Arts Initiative (LCRAI) partnered on May 5<sup>th</sup> to have a wonderful event at the Land Trust's Rodman Preserve near Upper Lake. The event kicked off with a photography walk along the Rodman Preserve's nature trail and included a family hike, local art exhibits, yoga for kids, hand-painted tattoos, live music, scavenger hunts, nature journaling, and educational nature booths. It was a lovely day.

The student photo contest was a huge hit with amazing cash prizes donated by LCRAI. The photos were of the local nature and close to one hundred photos were

*(Continued on page 11)*



Maddy Brewster (Left) 1st Place Winner in the 6-8 Category, Conni Lemen-Kosla, Co-Founder of Lake County Rural Arts Initiative

# President's Message

By  
Val  
Nixon



**Val Nixon**

The splendor of spring in Lake County burst out all over Mt Konocti this May. I was struck by the rare and brilliantly scarlet colored Sonoma beardtongue (*Penstemon newberryi* var. *sonomensis*) as I walked up the old fire road of this publicly owned mountain recently. From the top, the views of our ancient lake, the beautiful oak woodlands, blooming

chaparral, old family farms and new vineyard developments made a patchwork of texture and color that was breathtaking. It was a reminder of the part that the Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) plays in creating partnerships and bridges between the private sector and the many agencies that want to preserve the beauty and rural atmosphere of this unique region while encouraging economic growth.

In the past few months LCLT has worked with the Rural Art's Initiative to promote an Art in Nature event at Rodman Preserve. This lovely affair honored young photographers and presented fun outdoor activities for families and budding artists. We are currently assisting the Middletown Art Center to attain a grant for an outdoor sculpture project on our Rabbit Hill property in Middletown. Rabbit Hill's recovery from the Valley Fire is visible from its base. At the top of the knoll a view of Middletown rebuilding and the greening of fire scars cascading down Cobb Mountain make it the perfect spot for art sculptures that commemorate the pain and rebirth of communities and nature.

LCLT is in the process of collaborating with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to purchase property at the Lakeport end of our Big Valley Wetlands Project to preserve and restore wetlands, magnificent oaks and open space. This undertaking exemplifies the Big Valley Conceptual Area Preservation Plan's purpose and fits within our land acquisition priorities.

As CalTrans works to widen local highways there are proposals to mitigate oak tree removals by partnering with LCLT to purchase land where old trees can be protected and new trees planted.

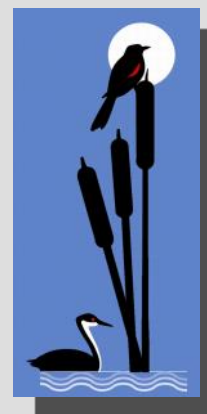
We continue to be part of the Middle Creek Restoration Coalition (MCRC). This coalition of multiple agen-

cies, non-profits and individuals will now assist the County to move forward with the purchase of land in the restoration area and procure funding for the infrastructure, known in Army Corps of Engineers terminology as: Land, Easements, Relocations, Rights-of-Way, and Disposal (LERRDs) that are the next step before the Army Corps will consider the project. The restoration of this major wetland and the contributing watersheds is essential to the health of Clear Lake.

It is with excitement for the projects ahead, and appreciation for all our volunteers and generous donors that I close this message. I hope all of you are enjoying the glories of spring.

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

You can now  
become a Land Trust  
fan on Facebook at  
[Facebook.com/  
LakeCountyLandTrust](https://www.facebook.com/LakeCountyLandTrust)



# Lake County Land Trust welcomes new Board member Merry Jo (Oursler) Velasquez

The Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) is pleased to welcome Merry Jo (Oursler) Velasquez as the newest member of our board of directors. Merry Jo has been interested in environmental issues since childhood and originally hails from upstate New York.

She and her husband, David, joined the Land Trust as members shortly after moving to Lake County in 2015. After coming to events and getting to know other board members, she became a member of the Land



Trust's "Lands Committee," and helped to organize and present the recent workshops to update the LCLT's Land Conservation Priority Plan. Merry Jo is also a director for the Lake County Resource Conservation District (RCD), a member of the Middle Creek Restoration Coalition, a member

of Lake County Master Gardeners and is active with the Lake County Symphony Assoc. "Through all of these activities my understanding of the needs to preserve Lake County's natural habitats and the breadth of these needs has grown immensely," Merry Jo comments.

Merry Jo brings an astounding level of expertise to the Land Trust. She graduated from Skidmore College in upstate New York with a combined Biology and Chemistry degree. Her undergraduate thesis was "Co-Evolution of Insect Pollinators and Flowering Plants". While working full time as a technician at the University of Rochester, she obtained a Master of Science degree from the University in Environmental Studies. In one of her classes, she met and then married her husband of 40 years, David Velasquez, who was in a Ph.D. program at the University. After they both completed their degrees, the couple moved to Saint Louis for David to take a job and where Merry Jo enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Washington University.

After being awarded a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Merry Jo and David relocated to Minnesota where David took a position at 3M while Merry Jo continued her training at the Mayo Clinic as a postdoctoral fellow in the area of Bone Cell Biology. After completing her training, she accepted a position at the University of Minnesota as an Assistant, then

Associate Professor of Biology. Seven years later she relocated to the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine as a Professor of Medicine. Since 2003, she has been the Director of the Bone Cell Biology Laboratory at the Mayo Clinic.

In 2011 David and Merry Jo began searching for a future retirement home. An internet search for a home on a lake in a semi-rural area is what led them to Lake County, where they purchased a home in 2012. They visited Lake County a few times until May, 2013. A foot of snow fell in Minnesota in early May, prompting them to start planning for a permanent move to Lake County. David was already retired by then and Merry Jo assumed that she would retire shortly. Unexpectedly, Merry Jo obtained five years of federal funding for her research program on the cells that cause osteoporosis. In late 2014 David moved to Lake County with their two dogs and two cats while Merry Jo commuted back and forth between Minnesota and Lake County. Tiring of this after about nine months, Merry Jo arranged to direct her laboratory research by telecommuting.

We welcome Merry Jo Velasquez as our new board member and look forward to working with her on our many projects.

## You can choose to receive your LCLT Newsletter by Email

You can opt to receive your newsletter via email or via postal mail. We hope as many as possible will choose email because it saves our organization money and our staff and volunteers time, all of which can be used to save more land in Lake County, and save the trees too! If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, simply let us know at [LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org](mailto:LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org).



# The 2018 Conservation Priority Plan will help the Lake County Land Trust set priorities and planning objectives

**By Merry Jo (Oursler) Velasquez,  
Lands Committee Chair**

Setting priorities and planning how to achieve them are crucial for nearly all successful endeavors. The Mission Statement of the Lake County Land Trust outlines the scope of possible lands that could be protected by Land Trust initiative.

Recognizing the need to be proactive in setting priorities for the Land Trust, The Lake County Land Trust Conservation Priority Plan was generated in 2007/2008 following input from Federal, State, County, and local experts. After 10 years of Land Trust activity and recognizing the changing Lake County landscape and environmental issues, the Land Trust Lands Committee initiated an update to the planning document with new input from available experts.

Last fall, two workshops were held again including Federal, State, County, and local experts. Representatives were invited from Lake County Water Resources, Special Districts, the Community Development Department, Public Services and the Agricultural Commissioner's office. The Cities of Clearlake and Lakeport were represented by mayors and councilmembers; UC Cooperative Extension and the Lake County Resources Conservation District were invited; the State's Wildlife Conservation Board, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Fish and Wildlife also contributed; at a Federal level the Bureau of Land Management, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument were there. Invitees from Non-Governmental Organizations included the Chi Council, Sierra Club, Redbud Audubon Society, the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association and of course the Lake County Land Trust. Other stakeholders invited included Northwest Bio Surveys, the Big Valley Rancheria, and Cache Creek Campground.

The data have been tabulated and the document is in the final stages of being written. With all of the data now in, we can report that some things that were a high priority before have remained a priority, some of the original high priorities have moved down the list of importance, in part due to successful activities reducing threats, and some new priorities have arisen.

The map highlights the five highest priorities in the new Land Trust Conservation Priority Plan. The highest priority 10 years ago was the Big Valley wetlands. This remains the highest priority in the new tabulation. The Land Trust has had some success in preserving wetlands in the Big Valley by purchasing the 34 acre Melo property, but much remains to be preserved. In the words of one expert "it's easier to preserve a wetland than it is re-create one".

The second highest priority 10 years ago was Mt. Konocti. In the new tabulation, the area remained a priority, but moved down the list to a medium priority due to the happy circumstance of the successful purchase of large areas of the mountain by the County of Lake, protecting it from development.

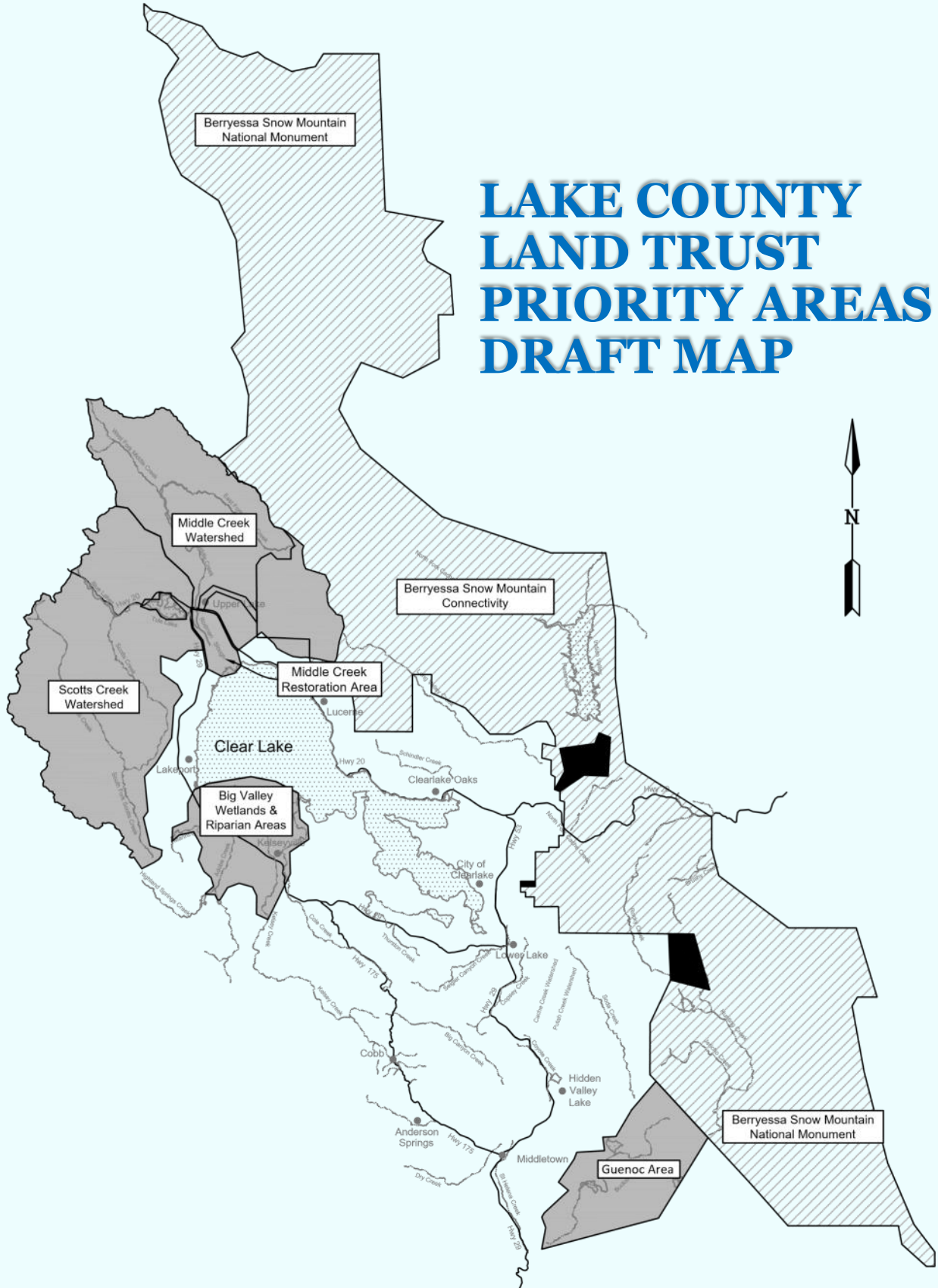
In voting this past fall, the second highest priority was established as the watersheds of Scotts and Middle Creek near Upper Lake. One expert stated that reducing sediment above the planned Middle Creek Restoration area would enhance the benefit of restoring the wetlands by reducing the sediment load that enters the wetlands.

The watershed area is large and composed of a variety of public and private lands. In 2008, the larger of the Middle Creek watersheds, Scotts Creek, was recognized as important to protect in conjunction with protecting Scotts Valley agricultural lands, placing Scotts Valley fourth on the original priority list. The need to protect agricultural lands throughout Lake County ranked seventh in priority in the current voting.

A unifying theme of wildlands connectivity for wildlife arose during interactions among experts in the workshops last fall. The third highest priority centered on improving wildlife corridors within the Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Monument and between the National Monument and the Knoxville Management Area, which is a component of the National Monument located in southeastern Lake County. Private lands are scattered throughout the National Monument, potentially impeding wildlife movement (noted by the striped area that is the National Monument in the map). Additional private lands that are a priority to conserve, (noted by black areas adjacent to the striped area) include Benmore Canyon and the watershed of

*(Continued on page 9)*

# LAKE COUNTY LAND TRUST PRIORITY AREAS DRAFT MAP





Every year the Lake County Land Trusts holds a “State of the Land Trust Coffee,” where Land Trust supporters at the “White Pelican,” level (\$100) gather to visit with one another, meet the Land Trust board and learn about our latest projects. The 2018 event was held on March 18. Pictured is Land Trust vice-president, Bill Lincoln, pointing out properties on a map that the Land Trust has identified in its recently updated Land Conservation Priority plan.



Enjoying the presentations at the March 2018 Land Trust coffee were Bernie Butcher, who along with his wife Lynne, owns the Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Café in Upper Lake, and Superintendent of Schools, Brock Falkenberg.

# STATE OF THE Land Trust COFFEE



The group gathers to hear presentations. The coffee is held at the Land Trust’s Rodman Preserve every year, usually in March where Land Trust supporters are informed about the plans and accomplishments of the Lake County Land Trust.



Land Trust president, Val Nixon, discussing the most recent Land Trust accomplishments and endeavors while pointing to a map to clarify the properties the Land Trust is currently viewing as priorities.





**Merry Jo Velasquez, head of the Lake County Land Trust's Lands Committee, husband, David Velasquez and Carol Lincoln visit during the event.**



**Kathy Barnwell, a Land Trust volunteer and supporter visits with long-time supporter Joyce Porterfield.**

## LEAVING A LEGACY

What better legacy is there to leave than your commitment to protecting Lake County's natural resources for future generations? Whether you are taking those first important steps toward planning your estate or are in the process of updating your estate plan, please consider a donation to the Lake County Land Trust. To discuss how you can name the Trust in your will or estate plan call the Land Trust's Executive Director, Tom Smythe at (707) 262-0707.

# Join us for our annual *Spring Celebration Fundraiser*



**Please join the  
Lake County Land Trust  
on Sunday, June 10,  
3 pm-5 pm, for our  
Spring Celebration Event**

Hosted by Lynne and Bernie Butcher in the Garden of the **Blue Wing Restaurant** and **Tallman Hotel** in Upper Lake.

Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and live music by **Tom, Rick and Harry**. Tickets are \$50 per person with all funds going to support the Lake County Land Trust.

**TICKET INFORMATION:  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

To reserve and pay online go to <http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org> and click on Spring Celebration Tickets on the home page.

To reserve call **(707) 262-0707** or email [LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org](mailto:LCLT@lakecountylandtrust.org).

Payment can be sent to **PO Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453.**

*Payment in advance is requested.*

Looking forward to seeing you!



**Attendees enjoyed learning about fire ecology from biologist Cathy Koehler during an April field trip at Trailside Park.**



**Cathy Koehler, Director of UC Davis' McLaughlin Reserve and a Lake County Land Trust board member, discusses post-fire recovery at the Trailside Park in Middletown.**

## **Middletown Art Center and Lake County Land Trust partner to learn about post-fire recovery**

The Middletown Art Center (MAC) invited Cathy Koehler, Director of UC Davis' McLaughlin Reserve and Lake County Land Trust board member, to lead a short walk at Trailside Park in Middletown in April to review the post-fire condition of the popular county park. The park was heavily impacted by the Valley Fire of September 2015.

Very little walking was done, but there was a lot of discussion about the ecology of natural post-fire recovery. There was also some discussion of art that could integrate well with the new "face" of the park. Attendees observed good displays of native wildflowers and discussed possible ways the community could assist native plant recovery.

Of note was the increase in "wetlands", which is now much more extensive than the ponds and wet areas that were present before the fire. With the absence of woody trees and shrubs, and the amount of water they used daily, more water remains in the ground and will be available to plants and animals for several years as woody vegetation regrows. It will be exciting to see how the plant community of the park recovers over the next few years and decades, and how the community interacts with this new and dynamic landscape.

MAC is a local cultural hub, featuring exhibits, classes, concerts and community events. During the Valley Fire, Trailside Park, which housed EcoArts: Lake County Sculpture walk was burned along with many homes and businesses in the Middletown and Cobb area. MAC became a locus for folks to gather and continues to work with local artists and residents to rebuild after the fire. The Lake County Land Trust has partnered with MAC on events and projects in the Middletown area, especially focusing on the Land Trust's hillside park known as Rabbit Hill. Events like the Tri UpLifting healing project in September of 2016 have been held. Participants planted McNab Cypress seedlings and tied ribbons on the fences protecting the trees with their "intentions for the community," written on them. The Land Trust looks forward to continuing partnerships with art and community groups in Lake County.





**Post-fire regrowth at the Trailside Park.**



**Koehler points out and helps identify wildflowers at Trailside Park.**

# Conservation Priority Plan

*(Continued from page 4)*

Benmore Creek, a direct connector between Cache Creek Wilderness Area and the Knoxville Management Area, and public access from the City of Clearlake to the National Monument.

Wildlife corridors *per se* did not appear in the 2008 Conservation Priority Plan but were a consideration in the importance of many of the identified priorities. In 2008, the Rodman Slough and Middle Creek Restoration area was ranked as a high priority in third place. Much progress has been made on the acquisition of private lands in the area with the recent State allocation of \$15 million to complete land purchases. The Middle Creek Restoration Coalition, headed by the Land Trust Board President Val Nixon, successfully gained support from our state representatives to acquire this flood mitigation funding to acquire lands from willing sellers. The Coalition is currently seeking additional support for the next steps in this process.

The Rodman Slough and Middle Creek Restoration remains a high priority in the view of the current panel of experts, coming in as the 4<sup>th</sup> highest priority. Rounding out the top five in the 2018 Priority Conservation Plan is the Guenoc area. In 2008, the Guenoc Ranch area ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in priority in recognition of its unique diverse habitats and the threat of residential and vineyard development. These positive attributes and pressures of development remain today.

The workshops were extremely productive and will provide important guidance in Land Trust prioritization in the coming years. The willingness of these experts to give their time, effort, and careful thoughtfulness to this process is greatly appreciated by the Board of Directors of the Lake County Land Trust.

## Donate to LCLT while shopping Amazon.com

We always encourage shopping at our local businesses first, but if you shop online at Amazon.com, you can designate part of the purchase price of your items to the LCLT. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and sign in. If you have not already done so, you will be given an opportunity to choose a charity: type "Lake County Land Trust," in the search box, select our organization and proceed to normal shopping. Whenever you place an order with amazon.com, go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) first, and help support the Land Trust.





**Close to 100 photos were entered in the Art and Nature Day photo contest and many cash awards were given. Pictured here are winners and their entries: First place, Hailey T., 9th grade.**



**Second place, Rylee M., 8th Grade.**



**First place, Maddy B., 7th grade.**



**Third place, Maiya D., 7th grade.**

**Second place, Rose D., 12th Grade**







Third place, Dallas K., 12th grade.



Third place, Jacob S., 4th Grade.

# Art and Nature Day celebrates nature with photography, activities, and more

*(Continued from page 1)*

submitted. “We have some very talented student photographers and nature lovers growing up in our county,” noted Martha Mincer with the Lake County Rural Arts Initiative.

Art and Nature Day was instituted as a way to participate in and support “Take it Outside California”, a statewide initiative designed to connect Californians with great outdoor spaces. To learn more about *Lake County Rural Arts Initiative* go to [www.lcrai.org](http://www.lcrai.org) and to discover the on-going activities of the *Lake County Land Trust* go to [www.lakecountylantrust.org](http://www.lakecountylantrust.org).

*See more Art & Nature Day photos next pages*



A family enjoying the nature scavenger hunt at the Rodman Preserve during Art and Nature Day in May.



Ben vanSteenburgh III brought a lot of interest with his temporary tattoo station.



Land Trust president, Val Nixon instructs kids on how to use a microscope.





Kaylynn was thrilled to get a temporary tattoo from artist Ben vanSteenburgh III. *Event photos by Roberta Lyons*



Melissa Kinsel, Outreach Coordinator for the Lake County Land Trust works with children at the Land Trust booth.



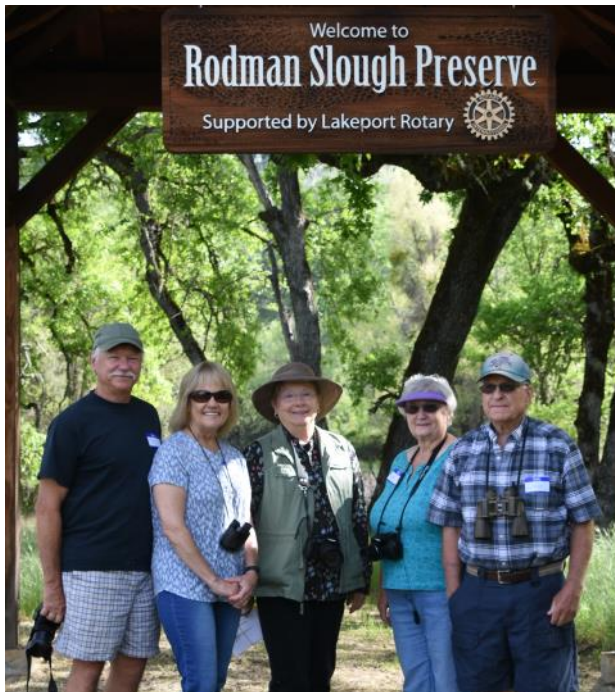
Olivia and Randy Raabe enjoyed Art and Nature Day co-sponsored by the Lake County Rural Arts Initiative and the Lake County Land Trust as part of the "Take It Outside," program encouraged by the California Council of Land Trusts.

# ART & NATURE



Doing Yoga outside was a fun part of the day.





**Ruth Stierna lead a photography walk. The group gathered at the pavilion at the start of the Vic Barnes Nature Trail at the Lake County Land Trust's Rodman Preserve.**



**Land Trust president, Val Nixon, helps announce the photography contest winners.**



**Val Nixon got into dissecting owl pellets with a group of interested kids.**

## Become a member of The Lake County Land Trust

**Membership Benefits include:**

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

Reserved seating at our Annual Dinner • Guided hike and picnic lunch at a specially featured Land Trust property • Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust," Coffee • Acknowledgement on our Land Trust website and publication in our Land Trust newsletter, updated annually • Lake County Land Trust newsletter either via email or a mailed paper copy

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

Guided hike and picnic lunch at a specially featured Land Trust property • Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust," Coffee • Acknowledgement on our Land Trust website and publication in our Land Trust newsletter, updated annually. • Lake County Land Trust newsletter, either via email or a mailed paper copy.

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

Invitation to our annual "State of the Land Trust," • Coffee and acknowledgement on our Land Trust website and published in our Land Trust newsletter updated annually.

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

Acknowledgement on our Land Trust website and published in our Land Trust newsletter updated annually. • Lake County Land Trust newsletter, either via email or a mailed paper copy.

*Membership period is for one calendar year.*

## Yes! I want to become a member of the Lake County Land Trust!

- Yes, I would like to join the LCLT
- Please renew my membership with LCLT
- Please increase my membership support with the below contribution
- Please sign me up as a sustained giving member and bill my credit card on a monthly basis for the amount indicated below.

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: LCLT  
Mail to: PO Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453**

I'd like to pay with my credit card:

Card Type: VISA MasterCard (circle one)

Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(\*3 digit code on back of your card)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my newsletter by  Email  US Mail

# Twice monthly walks at Rodman Preserve show off birds, native grasses, and even river otters!

By Erica Lundquist, LCLT Secretary and Rodman Preserve volunteer

Nature walks at Rodman Preserve continued throughout the past, somewhat dry winter and the beautiful spring. Walk leaders often described great bird watching. Dec. 23, 2017 was a typical experience with sightings of “a Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, Northern Flicker, Audubon’s Warbler, Scrub Jay, Black Phoebe, and Red-tailed hawks.” This respectable list was greatly surpassed by the total of 25 bird species observed during a walk led by Brad Barnwell last year.

With spring, baby birds (or at least nesting parents) are popping out all over. Both Tree Swallows nesting in the boxes near the Nature Center and Osprey in the newly installed PG&E platform across the street are easily observed. Rarer, was the observation of a river otter observed this March.

Many thanks to all the walk leaders Katherine Lindsley has been volunteering on a monthly basis, and another leader found that two children who had been on a previous walk with her “retained so much information, I didn’t have to say a word”. Along with Katherine, walk leaders include, Brad Barnwell, Roberta Lyons, Val Nixon, Pam Bordisso, and Erica Lundquist.

We have often pointed out that numerous native grasses of California are present at the Rodman Preserve and recently new signage, in the form of stakes driven into the ground, have been installed near the different patches of bunch grass. Most common at the preserve are *Elymus glaucus* (Blue wild Rye), *Bromus carinatus* (California Brome), *Elymus elymoides* (Squirrel Tail Grass) and *Stipa pulchra* (Purple Needle Grass) which is the State Grass of California. The signs/stakes have the scientific (Latin) names on one side and the common name on the other.

Volunteers are needed to continue weeding the native grass patches. We are also happy to report that our landscaper, Mario Uribe, has taken a great interest in the project as well and is rapidly learning to identify the native grasses. He is clearing out the non-native grasses, like rip-gut brome and wild oat and the purple vetch that can keep the native grasses from thriving.

A work party was held recently where three interns from the McLaughlin Reserve came with board member, Catherine Koehler, to work on weeding and identifying species. During that day a healthy population of another native perennial grass, *Hordeum brachyan-*



**Interns working at the McLaughlin Reserve continued their education about native and non-native grass species by coming to the Rodman Preserve with LCLT board member and director of the McLaughlin Reserve, Cathy Koehler. Two interns, Cat Fraser and John Spanos are pictured with landscaper Mario Uribe and Catherine Koehler clearing around a patch of native perennial bromes that were planted two years ago by local 4-H volunteers and students.**



**Catherine Koehler and Mario Uribe work on the trail at Rodman, clearing vetch and non-native annual wild oats to free up areas for the native grasses to grow.**

*(Continued on page 15)*





**Roberta Lyons with a patch of *Stipa pulchra*, or Purple Needle Grass, a prominent native perennial bunch grass at Rodman, plus California's State Grass.**

## Twice monthly walks at Rodman Preserve

*(Continued from page 14)*

therum (Meadow Barley), was encountered. Very exciting.

Walks will continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. The next one will be at 9 a.m. on Saturday May 26, led by Erica Lundquist. Starting in June, the walks will start at 8 a.m. This is a great time of year to see nesting birds and identify native grasses, so we hope to see you at Rodman!



**Many thanks to PG&E for taking care of the Osprey around Clear Lake. They put up numerous “dishes,” every year for the Osprey to use as nesting sites so they don’t endanger either themselves or the power lines on the poles that the birds seem to favor. *Photo by Ruth Stierna***



**The dish for the Osprey nest originally placed by PG&E on the power pole in the Rodman Preserve parking lot had to be moved across the street. The Osprey were getting too close to the power lines. PG&E workers moved the nest, and although upset at first, the Osprey soon settled in to their new and safer home, pictured here. *Photo by Ruth Stierna***



Every year the Lake County Land Trust joins with other local non-profits and health organizations to participate in the annual Earth Day Celebration at Woodland Community College Lake County Campus (formerly the Clear Lake Campus of Yuba College). Earth Day is celebrated each year to bring attention to the importance of our environment and to urge awareness and action. Established in 1970 to promote understanding of important environmental issues, Earth Day is scheduled for April 22, but is sometimes celebrated on different days to accommodate participants; this year's (2018) Earth Day was held on April 19. The Land Trust's Outreach Coordinator, Melissa Kinsel (pictured greeting students) and Land Trust board member, Roberta Lyons, enjoyed meeting students and the public at this well-organized and fun event.



Showing student Gabriel Wiese a map of areas protected by the Lake County Land Trust.



Shula Shoup picks up a LCLT newsletter at the trust's information booth.



Local students learn about the Lake County Land Trust's conservation efforts.



# 2017 Financial Statement

## REVENUES:

### General Donations:

Fundraisers and community events	29,081.20
General Membership contributions	57,873.05
Stewardship Support Fund	700.00
Bequests	5,000.00
Other Revenue Sources:	481.95
<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>93,136.20</b>

## EXPENDITURES:

### Lands and Conservation Work:

Land Stewardship and Conservation	6,889.35
-----------------------------------	----------

### General Operations:

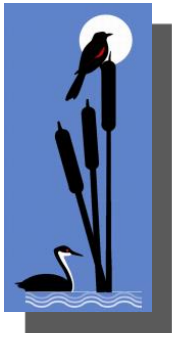
Fundraisers and Community Events	10,472.86
Membership Support and Development	4,179.66
Administration (wages & professional services)	59,665.53
Regional Partnerships and Associations Dues	2,665.00
Conferences and Professional Development	2,118.91
Program Support (office expenses, insurance, etc.)	15,211.91
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>101,203.22</b>

<b>NET GAIN:</b>	<b>-8,067.02</b>
------------------	------------------

## MONETARY ASSETS:

Big Valley Wetlands/Melo Property Acquisition Fund	17,628.97
Grants & Board Designated Funds (committed to specific projects)	63,536.57
Operating Reserves (unrestricted)	26,529.15
<b>TOTAL MONETARY ASSETS AT CLOSE OF 2016</b>	<b>107,694.69</b>





# Lake County Land Trust

PO Box 1017, Lakeport, CA 95453 ~ Phone (707)262-0707

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Lakeport, CA  
Permit #1017

Address Service Requested



## 2018 Calendar of Events

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

**Second and Fourth Saturdays of the Month** – Walks at the Rodman Preserve, flagship property of the Lake County Land Trust, will be held second and fourth Saturdays of the month, weather permitting. Continuous heavy rains cancel walks for the season as trails get too soggy. Walks start at 9 a.m. September through May, and 8 a.m. June through August. Participants meet at Rodman Preserve Nature Education Center, 6350 Westlake Road (corner of Westlake and Nice-Lucerne Cutoff). No dogs please and moderate to heavy rains cancel. Please do not mistake County Rodman Slough Park for Land Trust's Rodman Preserve. To get to the Preserve turn left on Westlake Road after exiting highway onto Nice-Lucerne Cut-off. If you reach the bridge going over the slough, you've gone too far and missed the preserve entrance. Call Erica Lundquist at (707) 245-8384 for info.

**June 10 – Sunday** – Lake County Land Trust Spring celebration Fundraiser. Please join the Lake County Land Trust from 3 – 5 p.m. at the Blue wing Restaurant and Tallman Hotel garden in Upper Lake. Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and live music in the company of other friends of the Land Trust. Tickets are \$50 per person with all funds going to support the Land Trust. Reservations are required. Go to [www.lakecountylandtrust.org](http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org) for details and to purchase your ticket or call 262-0707 for more information.

**July 27 – Friday** – Sierra Club Lake Group Midsummer BBQ. This year's party will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Dancing Tree People farm, 1445 Pitney Lane in Upper Lake. A semi-potluck: Club will provide a main dish, and guests are asked to bring beverages and a side dish or dessert to share. Please bring your own plates, napkins, and eating utensils. Event is free and all Lake Group members and their guests are cordially invited. To RSVP please call or email Denise Rushing at (707) 560-1166 or [denise@productfrog.com](mailto:denise@productfrog.com).

**July 14 – Saturday** – Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association nature walk at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. This easy walk should last about two hours. Free parking for participants. Go to [www.andersonmarsh.org](http://www.andersonmarsh.org) for more information or call (707) 995.2658.

**Oct. 13 – Saturday** – Lake County Land Trust Annual Dinner at Boutique Winery. Save the Date! Delicious dinner, good fellowship, silent auction, live music and guest speaker.

## 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.

Officers:  
President Val Nixon  
Vice-President Bill Lincoln  
Treasurer: John Stierna  
Secretary Erica Lundquist

Board Members: Roberta Lyons,  
Catherine Koehler, and  
Merry Jo Velasquez

Melissa Kinsel-Outreach Coordinator  
Anne Martin-Operations Coordinator

Executive Director: Tom Smythe

For info contact:  
Lake County Land Trust,  
PO Box 1017, Lakeport  
CA 95453 • (707)262-0707

(email)  
[lclt@lakecountylandtrust.org](mailto:lclt@lakecountylandtrust.org)

[www.lakecountylandtrust.org](http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org)

Tax I.D. No. 68-0332712

A sponsor member of the



Lake County Land Trust