

Laguna Environmental Center Opening Draws Over 600

Christine Fontaine, Director of Education Programs

What a happy, fun-filled day! On May 26th the gate to the Laguna Environmental Center was opened and about 15 minutes before the festivities were to begin, cars began filling the driveway.



Docents were ready with 8 stations of engaging educational activities for children, spotting scopes and binoculars on the observation deck, scheduled tours of the historic house and buildings, plus tours of the native plant propagation nursery. The folktale of Tiddalick, the mythic giant frog of the Laguna was queued up for its debut on DVD, accompanied by the magical artwork of Molly Eckler. Stone Horse Farm (Stuart Schroeder & Denise Cadman) had their Percheron draft horses Bonnie and her colt nearby, and Ben harnessed and ready to take guests on carriage rides to learn about agriculture on the



property. Pizza Politana arrived early to light the fires of their pizza oven. The beautiful photographic art of Don Jackson was ready for viewing throughout Great Blue Heron Hall.

We were delighted to see the great turnout and to hear visitor stories of their connections to the Laguna and the property. Docents were busy all day at the activity stations and Ben pulled the carriage on more than 26 round trips! Many new friends were made and others reacquainted.



The Grand Opening celebrations would not have been so successful without the work of these volunteers: Raini Sugg Vallarino, Susan Churchill, Peggy Tourje, Sandy Mays, Barnee Alexander, Nina Arrabit, Yvonne Giambrone-Martin, Jeannette Anglin, Jane Krensky, Christine Engel, Denise Cadman, Stuart Schroeder & Rosalie Schroeder.

Plus 25 of the Laguna Docents who also helped fill the site with their enthusiasm for the Laguna: Barnee Alexander, Diana Laczkowski, Chris Engel, Tish Brown, Brendan Brown, Sandra Bodley, Kathi Jacobs, Dana Blake, Arlene Kallen, Ramona Haller, Melanie Goodpasture, Doris Parker, Marcia Johnson, Nell Kneibler, Hugh Helm, Jim Dempsey, Sheila O'Brien, Pam Murnane, Heidi Stewart, Betsy Sanville, Linda Hanes, Patty Newland, Ellen Swenson, Gail Powell & Erin Sheffield.

If you missed the Grand Opening festivities, be sure to join us for an upcoming open house on the second Saturday each month from 10am-3pm. More details on page 5.

Executive Director Report - *David Bannister*

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Anita Smith, *Public Education Coordinator*

We are so happy to have officially opened the Laguna Environmental Center and the new building, Great Blue Heron Hall. This project was first envisioned nearly a decade ago. It has come in fits and starts, surviving bond freezes, the great recession, cost realities, many board and staff changes, etc. But, we finally did it! The new Environmental Center includes the renovated 140 year old Churchill Farmhouse which is our Administrative Offices, the new Great Blue Heron Hall, outdoor areas with interpretive signage, native plant landscaping, the Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa Observation Deck, the Jerome Ohrbach Garden and Orchard, a farm pond planted with native wetland species, our native plant nursery and more!

This is now a spot to come learn about the wonders of the Laguna ecosystem, have a picnic or do some landscape painting, attend an educational class, pick up a field guide or outings brochure, do some birdwatching, and much more! If you weren't able to attend our Grand Opening Open House, plan to stop in at your leisure. The Center is open business hours Monday-Friday and on the second Saturday of every month from 10am-3pm we will have trained volunteers on site to answer your questions or take you on a site tour.

There are so many people and organizations to thank; we couldn't have done it without them. We start with the City of Santa Rosa who was willing way back in 2004 to enter into a lease with us. The California Coastal Conservancy supplied the bulk of the funding for Great Blue Heron Hall, the landscaping and the interpretive signage. Major donors at the start of the project whose funds went to site development, architectural design and the remodel of the farmhouse include: Jean Schulz Fund of the Community Foundation Sonoma County, the Coddling Foundation, Dan Smith and Joan Marler, Federated Indians Graton Rancheria, Carolyn Johnson and Rick Theis, the Gallo Family, and Ken and Susan Churchill. More recent donors to the Environmental Center project in addition to the Coastal Conservancy include the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (again!), Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa, the Bothin Foundation, and Rick Theis. There has also been tons of volunteer time devoted to the project including lots of work by our current and past Board members, our great Laguna Keepers volunteers, Laguna Docents and many others.

But, we still have work to do to complete the Center. We want to install: a Children's Playscape, add book shelves in our gift shop, add window treatments to darken Heron Hall for visual presentations, add more native plants to the landscaping, and purchase additional picnic tables, benches and more. Please consider a donation of any amount to help us complete the Center, purchasing a naming opportunity or donating new/used supplies that are needed.

Naming Opportunities Available:

Laguna Environmental Center- please inquire \$
Great Blue Heron Hall- please inquire \$
Bio-Retention Pond- \$25,000
Children's Discovery Garden and Playscape- \$25,000
Entrance Gate- \$20,000
Entry Kiosk- \$15,000
Foot Bridge Over Swale- \$15,000
Gift Shop- \$10,000
Grandmother's Garden- \$5,000
Benches- \$2,500 (three available)
Picnic Tables- \$2,500 (three available)
Valley Oak Tree- \$500 (four available)

Laguna Environmental Center Wish List:

- AV cart (to put the projector on in the middle of the room, that has a power strip built in)
- Food cart (to load up items in the kitchen and wheel out into the hall, and to help with collecting things for clean up)
- Portable platform or stage for Heron Hall (for speakers to stand on and be seen by folks in the back of the hall)
- Metal or plastic shelving to utilize the storage closets at Heron Hall
- Gardening tools and an electric leaf blower for landscape maintenance

For more information, please contact Maggie at (707) 527-9277 x107 or email: maggie@lagunafoundation.org

Two Graduations to Celebrate!

On May 21st the 10-week Laguna docent training program concluded with a game-show like test that everyone passed with flying colors and celebratory cake feasting! This year, 14 people participated in the program, and, based on the evaluation forms they completed, had a wonderful learning experience. We know they will each make unique contributions to the education programs and we graciously welcome them all to the Docent Circle (see photo right).

Next time you visit the Laguna Environmental Center look for the sundial they donated to enhance the landscape. Also, thanks class of 2012 for the new bobcat pelt for our Laguna Mammals kit for Learning Laguna field trips. Thousands of students for years to come will have a memorable (and tactile) learning experience because of your gift!

With the opening of the Laguna Environmental Center (LEC), a whole new crew of education volunteers is needed to help us staff the center. Thus, the Laguna Guides program was born. After five information packed classes and field sessions plus lots of reading, 20 volunteers completed the course on June 16th. The work of the Guides will focus on education at the Center, outreach at community events and facilities management when Great Blue Heron Hall is rented to outside groups.

You will soon have the opportunity to meet Laguna Guides at an upcoming public education event or during a LEC open house on the second Saturday of each month from 10am-3pm. Bring friends, family and out of town guests! The Guides are excited to begin offering tours of the site and environmental education activities for kids of all ages. Also, during the summer, visit the LEC on the third Thursday in the months of July (on the 19th) and August (16th) from 4:00-8:00 pm. The evenings are beautiful around here!

Please join us in welcoming the inaugural class of Laguna Guides: Steve Abrams, Suzanne Abrams, Sharon Bouton, Eric Cecil, John Condon, Sandra Bodley, Marian Doyle-Landis, Christine Engel, Victoria Fullerton, Barbara Gay, Marcia Johnson, Arlene Kallen, Fanny Minervini-Zick, Jeff Muse, Bob Orr, Michael Papaik, Doris Parker, Scott Posner, Erin Sheffield and Decker Smith.

Congratulations and gratitude to each of you for choosing to become a Laguna Docent or Laguna Guide. Thanking you for sharing your knowledge and passion for the Laguna with the next generation of naturalists and the whole community!

*Tule sway gently
Great white egrets stand silent
Laguna awaits
~Cathy Curran, Docent Class 2012*



Back row, L-R: Trainer Denise Cadman, Julian Lopez, Jack Zeigler, Keith Hall, Decker Smith, Jan Gullarian, Djubaya, Angela Sturr, John Branscome, Don Jacobs, Trainer Raini Sugg Vallarino. Front Row, L-R: Trainer Carolyn Johnson, Linda Bishop, Lois Cohen, Cathy Curran, Karin Guzman, Jeani Ritter, Trainer Christine Fontaine



Docents taking their final exam at the end of the 50-hour training.
Photo: Jeff Kan Lee, The Press Democrat

Learning Laguna Recap 2011-12 School Year

Docents visited 41 classes in 19 schools throughout the watershed (plus one school in Healdsburg). 1114 students experienced the classroom activities and the field learning experiences. We increased our service this year, reaching 158 more students than the 2010-11 school year. Docents contributed over 1250 hours of direct teaching time to the program. Can you believe the program just completed its 26th season? Approximately 13% of Sonoma County's youth between the ages of 5-18 have experienced the Learning Laguna program since its debut in the fall of 1999.

A Fond Farewell to Hattie and a Warm Welcome to Meghan!

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our newest staff member, Meghan Parish. She joined the Laguna Foundation this June as our new Conservation Science Program Manager taking the place of Hattie Brown. While we are all sad to see Hattie go, we wish her all the best as she embarks on the fantastic journey of motherhood. Hattie's hard-work, dedication, and diverse skills are exemplified by the multitude of contributions she made to the organization over the past four years such as the recently published "Field Guide to the Vernal Pool Plants of the Santa Rosa Plain," the Adopt a Vernal Pool citizen science monitoring programs, invasive species control, and all her efforts in the education and outreach of conservation science for the Laguna ecosystem.

Over the past decade, Meghan gained experience in the fields of conservation and restoration – both as a scientist and a practitioner. Meghan earned her Bachelors of Science at Sonoma State University with an emphasis in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation. Currently, she is also working to complete her Masters degree in Biology at SSU in collaboration with her advisor and our board member, Dr. Caroline Christian. For her research, she is interested in finding the most practical and efficient ways of meeting land management goals,

such as controlling exotic plant species, while also supporting and promoting native plant communities.

During her first summer at the Laguna Foundation, Meghan is expanding upon a successful pilot study completed by Hattie in spring 2010 to control exotic and invasive pennyroyal mint (*Mentha pulegium*). Meghan and a team of interns will treat 100 vernal pools containing Pennyroyal mint to alleviate stress on endangered vernal pool plant species endemic to these seasonal wetlands. Meghan is also working to map the present extent of water primrose (*Ludwigia sp.*), a rapidly growing invasive plant that poses a direct threat to the diversity of native plant and animal communities throughout the Laguna watershed.

Meghan's appreciation for the Laguna stems back to her time as a student and as a life-long resident of the North Bay. She is thrilled to be working for an organization that shares her dedication to preserving, restoring, and enhancing the area's natural resources.

You can contact Meghan at (707) 527-9277, ext. 105 or Meghan@lagunafoundation.org

Laguna Docent and Laguna Keeper Christine Engel Honored

We are delighted to share the good news that our own Christine Engel recently received the Bentley-Smith Award from Madrone Audubon Society. This prize—named for Martha Bentley and Ernestine Smith, lifelong local environmental advocates and educators—is given for exceptional contributions to the environment through education and conservation. Not only is Chris a valued member of the Laguna education leadership team, she has passionately and professionally led Laguna walks for the community and Learning Laguna classroom visits and field trips since 2004. She doesn't shy away from hard work and is always willing and eager to share her thoughts and insights and contribute to diverse projects in all the Laguna Foundation programs (and our partnership projects with the City of Santa Rosa) from getting dirty in our native plant propagation nursery and in the field, to surveying bird populations and even fundraising. In fact, Chris has been one of the most successful fundraisers for our annual Tree-A-Thon, personally raising over \$7,100 for Laguna Foundation programs during the last three events.



In 2007 Christine earned the Raini Sugg Vallarino award for outstanding service to Laguna education programs. She is a Learning Laguna Day Leader, taking on extra responsibility for the program, and she just went through the new Laguna Guides training so she can help at the Laguna Environmental Center.

In addition to all the heart, time and hard work she has contributed to the Laguna and the Laguna Foundation, Christine also volunteers for the Sonoma Land Trust and is a docent for their Glen Oaks property. She helps with restoration projects at Bouverie Preserve and has been a dedicated volunteer at the Songbird Hospital for the past six years. Recently, she even helped with fundraising efforts for PRBO Conservation Science.

Anyone who has tried to schedule a social event or a special meeting with her knows that Chris' calendar is always jam-packed with teaching, fundraising, citizen science activities and wildlife care. She truly focuses her life energy on making a difference for our local environment. Congratulations Chris and heartfelt thanks for all you do and give!

Public Education Events

Anita Smith, Public Education Coordinator

Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better. ~ Albert Einstein

Public education is a vital aspect of the work we do at the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation. Our programs help people of all ages and walks of life gain knowledge, understanding, personal relationships with and appreciation for this unique and amazing natural resource, the Laguna.

In addition to the outstanding docent-powered Learning Laguna Program that works with local school children, we also offer walks, talks, and workshops for all ages on a range of Laguna and nature-related topics. With the opening of our new Laguna Environmental Center, completion of our first training course for Laguna Guides, and our new part-time Public Education Coordinator, Anita Smith, we are gearing up for even more public education activities, both on site and in the field! Stay tuned to our website and Facebook where we will continually add new offerings. Here is a taste of some of the public education events coming up:

Laguna Environmental Center Open House Second Saturday of the Month, 10am-3pm

July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13

Summer Nights- Third Thursday of the Month 4-8pm

July 19 & August 16

Learn about the natural and cultural history of the Laguna de Santa Rosa and historic Stone Farm by taking a self-guided nature walk or a guide-led tour. Stop by for a visit and take in the beautiful views. Birdwatch from the observation deck. Bring a picnic! Enjoy our gift shop and an art exhibit in Great Blue Heron Hall. This is a working farm, so please leave your pets at home. The site is wheelchair accessible. Come join us!

Laguna Keepers 2011-2012 Recap

John Guardino, Director of Restoration and Conservation Science Programs

Thanks to your dedication and on-the-ground efforts, we enjoyed another exciting and successful season of Laguna Keepers workday events. In all, over 200 volunteers turned out and made a gigantic impact in our ongoing efforts to protect and restore the Laguna. Working on various projects and habitat types, Keepers volunteers planted hundreds of native trees and shrubs, removed restoration hardware on completed projects, maintained public access paths, fought bravely in the continued battle against non-native plant invaders, installed irrigation systems for new plantings, munched on home-baked goodies, and much more. We also celebrated our passion for this remarkable resource and the community spirit that brings us together to secure a bright future for the Laguna de Santa Rosa. We invite you to join us!

Our regular events calendar runs from September of each year through the following May. The 2012-2013 schedule will be available in early August at www.lagunafoundation.org. Click the "volunteer" link, and follow directions to the "Laguna Keeper calendar." We look forward to seeing you again (or for the first time!) in September.

Tule Twined Basket-Making Workshop for Teens and Adults, with Charles Kennard Saturday, July 28, 9am-2pm

Join long-time student of California Indian basketry, Charlie Kennard, to learn about the use of tule-reed for clothing, boats, house thatch, rope, mats, and baskets. Make your own small twined basket to take home using several different weaves. Ages 13 and up. \$75.00 (\$65.00 Laguna Foundation members). Advanced registration required. Please visit the Laguna Foundation website to register.



A tule basket by Charles Kennard based on a Salinan Indian original made a century ago for collecting hens' eggs; it is seen against a backdrop of tule stems.
Photo by Charles Kennard.

Twilight Laguna Explorations Saturday, August 4, 5:30-8:30pm

Who comes out as day fades to night? What are Laguna critters up to in the evening? Join Laguna Foundation docents for a fun-field excursion of exploring, learning, and family-friendly games (optional) along a special section of the Laguna not usually open. Offered in partnership with LandPaths & Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. Register at www.LandPaths.org.

For more information and to share your ideas for future public education events, please contact Anita at (707) 527-9277, ext. 110 or anita@lagunafoundation.org



Garden Art Gala- 9th Annual Event Coming September 9th



The Gala committee has been hard at work (ever since last October!) planning another fabulous event to support the Foundation's programs. Our annual fundraising Gala will be held **Sunday, September 9, 2-6 pm.**

The Garden Art theme, introduced two years ago, was a big success so it is coming back again this year. However, we've expanded! Look for wearable art (think jewelry ladies!) and functional art in addition to all of the garden art, outdoor furniture, fountains, sculpture, art hats, and more.

Those of you who have been to the event know the food is fantastic, the wine is varied and excellent, the location is wonderful and the company is the best. In short, this event is going to be the party of the year! If you haven't been in the past, make sure to check it out this year. The location is outdoors at 3601 Vine Hill Road, Sebastopol, at the spectacular Vine Hill House complete with fabulous views overlooking the Laguna, the Santa Rosa Plain, and across to the Mayacamas Mountains.

Sponsorship packages have been mailed out. If you received one and have not sent it back please do so ASAP so you can be included in pre-event publicity, on our web site, in the program, etc. Did you misplace or not receive a Sponsorship package? No problem. Either call Nancy at (707) 527-9277 x.109 or go to www.lagunafoundation.org/news_gala.shtml for the 2012 Gala Sponsorship Kit link. Many thanks to those Sponsors who are already "in." The sidebar to the right shows these generous individuals and businesses; please patronize them.

In order to make sure you have a ticket, please fill out the form below and mail it back with your check. We are expecting a sell out, so don't delay!!

Thank You Gala Sponsors (As of June 25)

Bald Eagle \$10,000

Lynmar Estate
Vic and Karen Trione

Golden Eagle \$5,000

Vine Hill House

Otter \$2,500

Codding Foundation

Bobcat \$1,000

Gallo Winery
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Garden Art Gala 2012

Sponsor or Ticket Order (please check one):

- Bald Eagle Sponsor (\$10,000+, includes 20 tickets)
- Golden Eagle Sponsor (\$5,000, includes 15 tickets)
- Otter Sponsor (\$2,500, includes 12 tickets)
- Bobcat Sponsor (\$1,000, includes 6 tickets)
- Heron Sponsor (\$500, includes 4 tickets)
- Egret Sponsor (\$250, includes 2 tickets)
- _____ **Individual Tickets (\$75 each)**
- I'm sorry I cannot attend, but enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to help your event be a success.

(If sponsoring) please list in the program and promotional materials

as: _____

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Email: _____

Enclosed is my check or I prefer to charge my Visa or MasterCard:

Name on Card _____

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Thank you to our generous supporters since our last *Meanderings*...

New Members

Joan Art, Ray Bingham, Jo-Ann Blackburn, Sharon Bouton, Hattie Brown, Kate Cesaretti, Laura Close, Kari Dupler and Steven Cavazos, Eugene Hunn, Pete Jackson, Simon and Anne Lowings, Phillip Lyons, Katrina Matos, Barbara and Andrew McCarthy, Martha McEwen, Tomas Phillips, Emily Sawyer, Kathleen Tarmann and William Streett.

Member Renewals

Stephen Album, Barnee and Gary Alexander, Jeannette and Butch Anglin, Barbara Arbunich, Don Arrabit, Martha and J.M. Baeli, Balletto Vineyards, Genevieve Barnhart, Stephen and Linda Barnhart, Reginald and Margaret Bayley, Phyllis Bazzano, Martha Bell, Helen and Robert Berg, Dee and Ken Blackman, Jenny Blaker and Neil Hancock, Benn Blincoe, Harry Boatright, Sandra and Walt Bodley, Joan Bossart, Janet Bosshard, Doug Braik, Donna Briggs, Judy Brinkerhoff, Kenneth and Crystal Brody, Brendan and Tish Brown, Georgia Brown, Cali Bush and Louis Gouveia, Chuck and Deanne Cadman, Denise Cadman and Stuart Schroeder, Christine Caliendo, Bob Caricato and Cindy Ketelsen, Lenore and Al Carrion, Laura and David Casey, Mike Center and Marlene Russell, Robert and Shirley Cerniglia, Chez Jeanne, Clay and Kim Clement, Phyllis and R.C. Clement, Marcia Coleman, Kim and Bill Cordell, Al and Sherri Couture, Joseph and Patricia Currie, Jill Davenport, Melvin and Nancy Davison, Nancy and James Dempsey, Jill Dennler, Frank and Jackie Dono, Paul and Christine Doolittle, Laraine Downer, Jeanette Doyel, Herbert and Jane Dwight, Steve and Pat Edelstein, Tom Edwards, Peggy and Ted Elliott, George and Barbara J. Fanslow, Mark and Jean Farmer, Tom and Mary Feige, Andrew and Nancy Fleming, Angela Ford, Flora Lee Ganzler, Judith and Joseph Gappa, Barbara Gegan, Jim and Kathy Gilliam, Michael Gillogly and Ginger Parish, Skip Ginsburg, Sarah Glade and Dan Gurney, Susie Hagemeister, Ramona Haller, Linda Hammer, Linda and David Hanes, David and Sarah Hehman, Jeremy Joan Hewes, Norman Hill, Carroll and John Hirsch, Rich and Wanda Holmer, Andrew and Jean Holroyd-Sills, Mary Ann Huckabay, Martha and Alex Hunt, Donald and Marsha Jacobs, Mia James, Marcia and Ralph Johnson, Beth Johnstone, James and Pamela Jorgensen, Arlene and Brad Kallen, Bert and Susanna Kaplan, Michelle Keip, Mat and Ann Keller, Charles Kennard, Wally Krampf, Ellen and Wayne Krebs, Wendy Krupnick, Tom and Sally Lambert, Bob Landman and Helene Morneau, Gaye and John LeBaron, Ardath Lee, Peter and Olivia Leveque, Jan and Stephen Lochner, Terry Loveton, Carol and Peter Lucic, Janet Randall and Bruce Mac Evoy, Lynne March, Keith Marshall and Margery Wolf, Catherine Martin, Gregory Martin, Barrie Mason, Frank and Kathleen Mayhew, Sandy and Jeff Mays, Lynn McGarvey, George and Marie McKinney, Steven and Heidi McNeal, Major Eugene Meade, Gordon Meininger, Glenn and Franny Minervini-Zick, William and Rebecca Montgomery, Gerald and Mary Edith Moore, Nancy Moorhead, Pam Moskowitz and Harvey Moskowitz, M.D., Barbara Moulton and Tom Helm, Scotty Muira and Jim Ethridge, Shirley Myers, Alan Nannini, Laura Neumann, Patricia Newland and Lisa Peters, Jeremy and Laura Nichols, Jon and Susan Nichols, Rick Nielsen, Sheila O'Brien, Loren Brueggemann and Michelle Olson, Bob Orr, John and Nancy Packard, Michael Papaik and Phyllis Early, Benjamin and Ruthmary Parmeter, Richard Parry-Jones, Linda Patterson, Roger and Lyn Phelps, Ralph and Tecla Pierotti, Pat and Tim Preston,

Member Renewals (continued)

Diane Psota, Curtis Quantz and Felicity McNichol, Raymond Rapp, Margaret Reichmuth, Paula Reid, Harry and Dee Richardson, Larry Robinson, Ron and Marie Roller, Margaret Rowe, Ruth Sanford, Betsy and Rob Sanville,

Larry and Barbara Sawyer, Luann Schend, Paul and Patty Schoch, Jean Schulz, Lena and Richard Schuman, Paul and Gail Schwarz, Gary and Peggy Searby, Carol Seely, Patricia and Bryan Sesser, Helen Shane and Fred Fletcher, Greg Sharpe, Erin Sheffield, Mike and Barbara Shepherd, Tom and Minnie Silman, Anthony and Rose Silva, Silveira Pontiac-Buick-GMC, Liz Simmons, Lorna Skinner, Edwin Smalle, Susan Smith, Neil Fishman and Maxene Spellman, Shirley Spina, Anne and Clay Stephens, Irene Stewart, Craig Stone, Jack Stupp, Ellen Swenson, Dr. Zeno Swijtink, Peggy Tourje and Jane Krensky, Bob Truax, Ransom and Marilyn Turner, Francesca and Herbert Tyrnauer, Joe and Arlene Ulmer, Alton and Anita Vanderford, Tom Webb, John and Claire Werner, Gene and Mary Wilkinson, Sara Winge, Christine and John Woodward, Dan and Patsy Wright, Mike and Katie Wright.

Cotati Creek Critters

Frances G. Davis, Rotary Club Of Rancho Cotati, Pat and Tim Preston.

Other

Agilent Technologies, Robert Ahders, Theodora Amaroli, Steve and Kathleen Amend, Harold Appleton, Justine Ashton, Janine Barnes and Chris Watson, Ross and Barbara Bickford, Betty Burrige, California Native Plant Society Milo Baker Chapter, Coddling Foundation, Kim and Bill Cordell, Gerald and Buff Corsi, Barbara Cox, Jay and Joele Deike, Nancy and James Dempsey, Patrick Donahue, Paul and Christine Doolittle, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Fledgling Fund, Leslie Gattman and John Maas, George Golfieri, Sarah Glade and Dan Gurney, Keith Howell, Terry Junemann, Howard and Shelly Kalmer, Nell Kneibler, Michelle Lua, Janet Randall and Bruce Mac Evoy, Frank and Kathleen Mayhew, Medtronic Cardio Vascular, New Belgium Brewing Co., Inc., Oak Grove School, Doris Parker, PG&E Corporation Foundation, Occidental Laguna Sangha, Redwood Hill Farm & Creamery, Redwood Region Ornithological Society, Jean Ritter, Rotary Club Sebastopol, Robert Ryan, Stanley and Ceci Salomon, Schulz Fund of Community Foundation Sonoma County, Tom and Minnie Silman, Soroptimist International, Heidi Stewart and John Weinstein, Willard and Ellen Stillman, Dr. Larry Susnow, Rick Theis and CJ Johnson, Vic and Karen Trione, United Methodist Church, Raini and Steve Vallarino, Raini and Steve Vallarino, Jennifer Wagman and Patrick Njathi, Janis and Warren Watkins, John and Claire Werner.

In-Kind

6th Street Playhouse, Frank and Jackie Dono, Felton Acres Farm, French Garden Restaurant and Bistro Bar, InVision Sash & Glass, Korbel Sales and Marketing, Peter Lowell's Restaurant, Petersen Builders, Inc, REI Santa Rosa, Marty Roberts, Screamin' Mimi's Ice Cream, Guy and Michelle Smith, Tuttle's Hoen Pharmacy, Whole Foods Market Sebastopol, Cindy Sherwood of California Gardens.



The **Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation**, founded in 1989, works to preserve, restore, and inspire greater understanding and appreciation of the Laguna de Santa Rosa wetland complex, which is the largest tributary of the Russian River and one of Sonoma County's richest wildlife areas. The Foundation conducts educational programs, implements preservation and restoration projects, conducts scientific research, works with landowners and public agencies to protect and improve Laguna resources, and advocates for appropriately managed opportunities for the public to enjoy the Laguna.

Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation
900 Sanford Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
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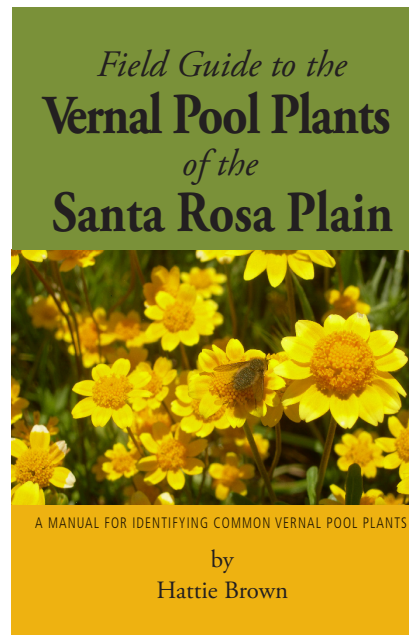
Reminder!
Annual Member & Volunteer
Appreciation BBQ
Saturday, July 21 4-8pm

NEW! Field Guide to Vernal Pool Plants of the Santa Rosa Plain

We are pleased to announce the release of our *Field Guide to the Vernal Pool Plants of the Santa Rosa Plain*, a manual for identifying 70 common vernal pool plants. This 30-page guide is designed to help the user learn about the unique seasonal wetlands of Sonoma County. It was developed for use by Citizen Scientist volunteers participating in the Adopt a Vernal Pool Program and can be used by anyone interested in learning about vernal pool botany. It includes descriptions of common, rare, threatened, and endangered plants and color photographs of each species.

The guide also includes an introduction to vernal pools, the Adopt a Vernal Pool Program, the Santa Rosa Plain, vernal pool soils, the soil seed bank, vernal pool pollinators, and effects of climate change on the vernal pools.

Assistance on and development of this field guide came from numerous volunteers and fiscal sponsors. Christina Sloop and Joan Schwan developed the predecessor to this guide.



Carol Witham provided guidance by sharing her *Field Guide to the Vernal Pools of Mather Field*, Sacramento County as a model. Interns Connie Foster, Carissa Bosch, and Ashley Farris helped with layout. John Herrick, Joan Schwan, Sarah Gordon, Brent Reed, Maggie Hart, David Bannister, John Guardino and Christine Fontaine all provided expert editorial eyes.

The California Native Plant Society Milo Baker Chapter contributed financially to support printing of the Field Guide including donations from individual chapter members: Gerald Corsi, Ann Howald, and Christina Sloop. Last but not least, great thanks and appreciation to the many Adopt a Vernal Pool Citizen Scientists volunteers – past, present, and future who have spend countless hours collecting data critical to the persistence of rare and endangered vernal pool plants on the Santa Rosa Plain.

Please visit our office to purchase a copy (\$13.95) or go to our online store www.lagunafoundation.org/store.htm.