



National Accreditation, the Land Trust and YOU.

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We are excited to announce that the Land Trust of Napa County is applying for national accreditation. National accreditation means we are meeting national standards for excellence, upholding the public trust, and ensuring that our conservation efforts here in Napa County are permanent. This rigorous, years-long process will make us a stronger and more capable organization. We hope to complete the process by the end of 2013.

The accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. We invite our members and constituents to participate in this process by sharing their views about the Land Trust with the Accreditation Commission during a public comment period.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission is an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance. It will conduct an extensive review of our policies and programs; as part of the process, the Commission requests public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how the Land Trust of Napa County complies with established national standards addressing the ethical and technical operation of a land trust.

For more information about the accreditation program and where to submit a comment, visit our website at napalandtrust.org. Comments on the Land Trust of Napa County's application should be submitted by June 2, 2013. Thank you for your input.



Landowners!

Act fast for significant tax benefits! See pg 4!



We Need Your Support

- Become a Member
- Include us in your Estate Planning
- Become a Corporate Partner

Visit us online at napalandtrust.org

Letter from the CEO

I just started at the Land Trust of Napa County at the end of 2012 and am very excited to be part of this outstanding organization. The Land Trust has a very important mission and a strong history of tangible achievements and I want to thank you all for your support for the organization and for our conservation work. I look forward to working with the board, staff, landowners, partners, volunteers and all of our many supporters to build on this tradition. There is so much more that needs to be done to ensure that we protect the character of Napa County for the long term.

The Land Trust is now working on a longer-term strategic plan and I want to share with you some of the priorities that are beginning to take shape for the initial phase of that plan. I would appreciate your input:

- Pick up the pace of conservation and be proactive in pursuing conservation priorities – Fortunately, Congress just approved enhanced tax incentives for landowners who donate easements to protect their land (thank you, Congressman Mike Thompson for your pivotal work on this!). But the incentives are only available this year. So we must make sure landowners are aware of this opportunity—and encourage them to act quickly. (see pg 4)
- Partnerships – Many of our most important initiatives can and should be accomplished in partnership with others. We'll have a bias for developing strong partnerships with landowners, donors, other nonprofits, businesses and public agencies.
- Review our preserves – We must ensure that we are being good long-term stewards of the land and its natural values, so we are now developing management plans for these lands and identifying the ongoing costs and responsibilities that will be required of us.
- Financial sustainability – The Land Trust is in this work for the very long term—in perpetuity—so we must ensure that we are financially sustainable and able to carry out our responsibilities not just today, but into the future. Your support, as members, is critical to that and we must also be effective in all our fundraising efforts. In addition, we are updating our financial systems and financial reporting to ensure further transparency and efficiency.
- Accreditation – Achieving national accreditation means that we will be meeting national standards for excellence, upholding the public trust, and ensuring that our conservation efforts here in Napa County are permanent. We hope to complete the process by the end of 2013. (see pg 1)



Thank you again for your support and thanks to all of you whom I have had the chance to meet for welcoming me to the Land Trust and to Napa County. I will do my best to move the mission forward.

Doug Parker
CEO

*To contact Doug, call 707.252.0435 or email doug@napalandtrust.org.
For more information about Doug, please see pg 5.*

Preserve Spotlight: Archer Taylor Preserve



Cascades Falls

Photo by John Burgess

Located on the west side of Napa Valley at the southern end of the Mayacamas Mountains, the magnificent Archer Taylor Preserve consists of 380 acres managed by the Land Trust of Napa County. The Preserve was donated by the children of Archer Taylor, including Constance Taylor, former LTNC Board of Trustees President Ann Taylor Schwing, and her husband Charlie. The property protects over one mile of Redwood Creek and one of the largest stands of redwood trees in Napa County. In addition, it supports 240 recorded species of native plants and a great number of animals and birds, including several that are threatened or endangered. The Land Trust manages the Preserve in conjunction with a group of dedicated volunteers who help to steward this beautiful property. The Preserve is open to the public by permission and at least 24 hours advance notice, or through the Land Trust's guided hikes. This year, 2013, marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the Preserve.



Field Trips

Our field trips highlight the areas we protect: farmland, water resources, vistas, recreational areas, and wildlife corridors. Hikes vary in difficulty from very strenuous to relatively flat walks. We also have boating and evening excursions. Everyone is welcome—we invite you to explore and appreciate these cherished areas.

Following are field trips on our Archer Taylor Preserve. For more information on outings featuring our other properties, please visit napalandtrust.org

April 6: Maggie's Peak

April 19: (Friday)

Member Series: Devil's Well*

April 27: Maggie's Peak

July 14: Maggie's Peak and

Tin Cabin Redwood Hike

*For Land Trust members only—a great reason to join and support us! For details, to register or to join as a member, visit napalandtrust.org or call 707.252.3270.



Landowners can help protect the agricultural and natural heritage of Napa County—forever—and get a tax break by doing so!

2013 Tax Benefits for Landowners

For over 30 years, the Land Trust has helped Napa County landowners meet their families' long-term objectives for conserving the natural and agricultural values of their property while continuing to own and use it. Our success in protecting over 50,000 acres of land results largely from landowners working with the Land Trust to protect their land using conservation easements. This achievement reflects our community's deep commitment to preserving natural areas and agricultural lands.

Changes to federal law, passed by Congress on January 1, 2013, have made protecting privately owned agricultural and open space lands a lot more beneficial by offering private landowners expanded income and estate tax benefits to protect their property through conservation easements. A conservation easement (or voluntary conservation agreement) is a legal agreement between a landowner and a nonprofit land trust, such as the Land Trust of Napa County, or government agency, that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect important conservation values. It allows landowners to continue to own and use their land and to sell it or pass it on to heirs.

Owners of agricultural, natural, scenic, or forested lands may qualify for the improved tax benefits for protecting their property. But they must act quickly.

This new law provides expanded tax benefits only until the end of 2013!

These new incentives make it easier for average Americans, including working family farmers and ranchers, to donate the development rights on their land. The legislation allows easement donors to:

- Deduct up to 50% of their adjusted gross income in any year (up from 30%);
- Deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income if the majority of that income came from farming, ranching or forestry; and
- Continue to take deductions for as long as 16 years (previously 6 years).

To show our appreciation for the trust the community has shown in us, we intend to assist as many interested landowners as possible throughout the county in considering conservation easements on their property in 2013. The process can take months, however, so it's best to act quickly. To learn more about the enhanced incentive visit lta.org/easementincentive and contact Doug Parker at 707.252.0435 or Lena Septimo at 707.261.6316.



2012 Annual Fund Challenge Success!

Our 2012 Annual Fund Challenge was a success thanks to the generous support of members and donors like you. Thank you to all who contributed and helped us raise much needed funds to continue in our mission of preserving Napa County by permanently protecting land.

**Save the Date!
September 21**

acre by acre

A W A R D S & A U C T I O N

Join us for the 2013 Acre by Acre Awards & Auction on Saturday, Sept. 21 at the magnificent Odette Estate. Visit napalandtrust.org for more info.



Welcome New CEO Doug Parker

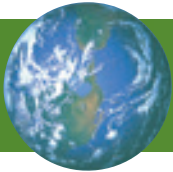
The Board of Trustees of the Land Trust of Napa County was pleased to announce the appointment of Douglas Parker as CEO in late 2012. Doug succeeds Joel Tranmer as the CEO and John Hoffnagle, who served as the Executive Director of the Trust for 24 years.

Doug has worked in land conservation for over 20 years, serving as CEO of two different statewide conservation organizations. He comes from Audubon Vermont, where he served as Executive Director from 2005-2012, as well as Vice President of the National Audubon Society. Prior to that, he served as Director of External Affairs for the Colorado Conservation Trust and was State Director for the Nature Conservancy in Rhode Island. Doug was also Director of Marketing with TechnoServe, and holds a Bachelor's degree from the



University of Colorado and a Master's degree in Public and Private Management from the Yale School of Management.

"After a nationwide search, we are pleased to have found Doug to lead the Land Trust of Napa County in its mission of preserving the character of Napa County by permanently protecting land," said Rob Andreae, Board Chair. "Doug will be a wonderful asset to the organization and the community."



Swing by for Earth Day

Come visit our booth in Downtown Napa Saturday, April 20, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Welcome New Board Member Richard Seiferheld

We are pleased to announce our newest board member Richard Seiferheld. Richard is currently a Natural Resource Volunteer with the CA Department of Fish & Game, assisting with: Inland & Marine Fisheries; Habitat Conservation; Wildlife Management; Hatcheries; and Education & Outreach. Richard spent 31 years as a successful realtor with Crown Realty, Morgan Lane and Heritage Sotheby's in the Napa and eastern Sonoma Counties with an emphasis on residential, county agricultural, and investment properties.

Richard holds a BA in Economics from Cornell University and has taken accounting and business management classes at NYU Business School. He previously served on the Board of Directors for the nonprofit affordable housing Stonebridge Apartments project in St. Helena. As a Land Trust volunteer since 1982, he's served on many committees: monitoring; protection; project; and the Linda Falls Permanent Preserve (as chairman). He's also assisted with fund-raising events.



"I was pleased and honored to be invited to join the Board of Trustees this past fall. After serving on numerous Land Trust committees over the past 25+ years, participating at Board level allows me to bring my long-term perspective to the issues we all face in protecting our precious Napa Valley land, environment and bio-diversity for both our current and future generations. I believe the challenges ahead require a combination of traditional and bold new approaches to accomplish the Land Trust's strategic objective of preserving and protecting our land."

Land Trust Month in June

Stay tuned for ways to join us in celebrating Land Trust Month in June. Please visit napalandtrust.org.



Mention the Land Trust at participating restaurants, businesses, wineries or hotels and a portion of the proceeds from your bill will be donated to benefit the Land Trust of Napa County. It's a great way to support our local businesses and the Land Trust—everyone wins! This program runs the entire month of June, but only certain days apply. Please visit napalandtrust.org for information.

Corporate Partners

In our mission to preserve Napa, the Land Trust is not alone. In fact, there are a number of organizations who share our philosophy, but realize it in a different, yet complementary way. Together, we are creating innovative approaches to keep Napa beautiful. We are proud to collaborate with all our partners. For more information about our Corporate Partners program, contact Kimberly Barrett at kimberly@napalandtrust.org or 707.252.1135.

Odette Estate



Tucked under the dramatic palisades of the Stags Leap District alongside Silverado Trail sits one of the Valley's newest wineries, Odette Estate. The Estate encompasses 45 acres, with a total of 36 planted to vineyard. The entire Estate is farmed organically, and has plans to break ground on a new Leed Certified organic winery in 2013. Owned by PlumpJack Group partners Gordon Getty, Gavin Newsom and the Land Trust's own board member John Conover, this new winery reflects the PlumpJack Group's continued commitment to organic viticulture. Learn more about this magnificent winery at odetteestate.com.

As a Corporate Partner of the Land Trust, Odette has generously agreed to host our 2013 Acre by Acre Awards & Auction. Save the date for September 21, 2013 and stay tuned for more information!

BottleRock Napa Valley



BottleRock Napa Valley and WillPower Entertainment are bringing the Bottle Rock festival—the ultimate fusion of music, food and wine—to Napa Valley in May 2013. With over 60 top bands on three stages, 60 iconic Napa Valley wineries, and world-famous culinary superstars, this event appeals to just about everyone and brings affluent crowds to Napa Valley. BottleRock is dedicated to empowering partners and people through philanthropy and cooperative efforts and has selected the Land Trust of Napa County as one of its beneficiary community partners. To learn more about BottleRock, visit their website at bottlerocknapavalley.com.

We want to thank both of these generous partners for supporting the Land Trust.

Field Trips Celebrating Land Trust Month

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| June 1: | Mt. George Historic Hike |
| June 9: | Owling in the Napa Valley* |
| June 15: | Aetna Springs/Wildlake Dual Hike |
| June 16: | Green Valley Ranch Lily Hike* |
| June 22: | Footo-Mt. George Preserve Workday |
| June 23: | Full Moon Walk at Wildlake |
| June 29: | Oat Hill Mine Trail/Wildlake Dual |

*For Land Trust members only—a great reason to join and support us! For details, to register or to join as a member, visit napalandtrust.org or call 707.252.3270.

Get to Know Our Volunteers

Lynn Woodward started volunteering for the Land Trust in 2009 as an office assistant—and has been loyally donating two to five hours, two days a week ever since! If you've ever walked into the office on a Tuesday or Thursday, it's possible you've been greeted with her cheerful smile. Lynn's willingness to help out with most any project or task from database entry to mailings and archiving makes her an invaluable part of the Land Trust team. We simply could not accomplish all that we do without Lynn's time, talents and energy!

Lynn enjoyed her previous work as a Dispatch Supervisor with the National Park Service until 1995. She then worked as an office manager and administrator, and began volunteering soon after.



"I love nonprofits, and know how much work is needed in administration because of small staffs," said Lynn. "I especially love the Land Trust because of its people—the staff is like a family and are wonderful to work with. Even the other volunteers, everyone—it's a great place to be."

Lynn, who lives in Sonoma, chose to give her time to the Land Trust because she believes in the important work of saving land and the environment.

As a nonprofit, the Land Trust could not do its work without the bighearted efforts of our volunteers.

Foote Society

The Foote Society is the legacy giving circle of the Land Trust. It is named after founders Si and June Foote, who donated the Foote Botanical Preserve at Mt. George to the Land Trust, creating our first permanently protected property. You can leave your legacy by making a gift in your will or living trust to the Land Trust. For more info, please call Doug Parker at 707.252.0435.

June Harman



June Harman was known as the "Land Trust Guardian Angel" for her longstanding continual support of our mission to preserve Napa County by permanently protecting land.

She and her husband, John Harman, were among the earliest members of the Land Trust. John served on the Board of Trustees from 1981-1990.

Born January 16, 1923 in Eugene, Oregon, June attended the University of Oregon as a proud Duck. In 1946, she accompanied her mother, Constance Hitchcock, on a sailing adventure from San Francisco to Hawaii aboard the 38-foot ketch Makai—one of the first times that a



Photo by Marissa

woman piloted and navigated between the mainland and Hawaii. Prior to moving to St. Helena full-time in the late 1970s, she worked as a supervisor for the San Francisco Parks and Recreation Department for 25 years where she met her husband John.

June was a force of nature in St. Helena. She lived on her own terms, supporting dozens of charitable organizations each year, including the Land Trust. She was an avid and competitive golfer at Meadowood (proudly claiming to be the only woman kicked out) and then at Vintners Golf Club in Yountville.

June died on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at the age of 88, but her legacy lives on through the Land Trust's continued perseverance in protecting Napa County's wild spaces, vistas and agricultural heritage. June's generosity through her annual giving and estate donation will forever be cherished by the Land Trust.



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Look for updates on our website at napalandtrust.org



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Land Trust of Napa County / Upcoming Field Trips & Events

April

- 6 Maggie’s Peak
- 7 Linda Falls Preserve
- 14 Grateful Dead Peak
- 19 (Friday) Devil’s Well*
- 27 Maggie’s Peak
- 28 Audubon-Cheyney Preserve/
Devil’s Punchbowl
- 28 di Rosa Preserve*

May

- 4 John Hoffnagle Loop at Wildlake
- 11 Snell Valley Rare Wildflower Walk
- 12 Mother’s Day at Tuteur Ranch
- 18 Foote-Mt. George Preserve Work Day
- 19 Henry Road Walk
- 25 Candlestick Photography Hike*

June – Land Trust Month

- 1 Mt. George Historic Hike
- 9 Owling in the Napa Valley*
- 15 Aetna Springs/Wildlake Dual Hike
- 16 Green Valley Ranch Lily Hike*

- 22 Foote-Mt. George Preserve Workday
- 23 Full Moon Walk at Wildlake
- 29 Oat Hill Mine Trail/Wildlake Dual

July

- 6 Wantrup Stargazing
- 14 Maggie’s Peak &
Tin Cabin Redwood Hike
- 20 Kayak/Canoe on the Napa River

August

- 25 Up the River—with a Paddle!

*Land Trust members only—a great reason to join and support us!

For details, to register or to join as a member, visit napalandtrust.org or call 707.252.3270.



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July 6: Stargazing in Wantrup Preserve