

# Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

Preservation through Education and Restoration in  
Russian River Sector State Parks

Volume XX, Number 2, Summer 2005



## Willow Creek Acquisition

Michele Luna, with excerpts from *The Trust for Public Land* press release dated May 10, 2005

The long awaited acquisition of 3,373 acres in the Willow Creek watershed as part of Sonoma Coast State Beach finally closed escrow on May 6, 2005. An additional 515 acres are protected through two conservation easements. This historic event was made possible through an innovative partnership between The Trust for Public Land (TPL), the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, the California Coastal Conservancy, the California Wildlife Conservation Board, and California State Parks. The land was purchased from the Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC).

The purchase of most of the Willow Creek watershed and a significant portion of the Freezeout watershed creates 13,500 acres of protected landscape in western Sonoma County by linking together both public and privately conserved lands that extend from the Pacific Ocean to the coastal hills, including redwood forest and inland grasslands.

TPL negotiated the purchase of the Willow Creek property and easements, and MRC agreed to protect the nearly 3,900 acres in this transaction for a cash consideration of \$20,785,000. TPL worked together with other agencies to secure funding for this public purchase. The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District contributed \$10,225,000, the California Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Coastal Conservancy each contributed \$4,187,000, and State Parks contributed \$2,186,000. The funds from the state agencies came from voter-approved park bond measures, Propositions 50 and 40.

Due to state park's limited budget LandPaths and Stewards are partnering with State Parks to offer three ways for the public to access Willow Creek.

- ◆ **Docent led hikes:** Docent led hikes will be available on many Saturday's throughout the year. Contact LandPaths or Stewards for a current schedule.
- ◆ **State Parks Use Permit:** LandPaths will oversee a permit program that will allow the you to hike, bike and horseback ride on the property at your leisure as you would any other State Park. Permits are available to anyone who applies by contacting LandPaths at (707) 524.9318 or willowcreek@landpaths.org.
- ◆ **Volunteering:** Community participation is key to successful public access on the Willow Creek property. If you are interested in becoming a hike docent, helping to build trails, working as a volunteer patroller, or helping in one of our offices, please contact LandPaths or Stewards.

### Mission Statement

*Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards) works in partnership with California State Parks to protect and interpret the natural and cultural resources of the Russian River Sector of the North Bay District.*

### State Parks Supported

Armstrong Redwoods State Reserve  
Austin Creek State Recreation Area  
Sonoma Coast State Beach  
Willow Creek Watershed

### Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

P.O. Box 2  
Duncans Mills, CA 95430  
707.869.9177  
707.869.8252 FAX  
stewards@mcn.org  
www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org

### Willow Creek Docent Led Summer Hikes

**Every Saturday in June, then the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from July through September, 9 am to 1 pm**

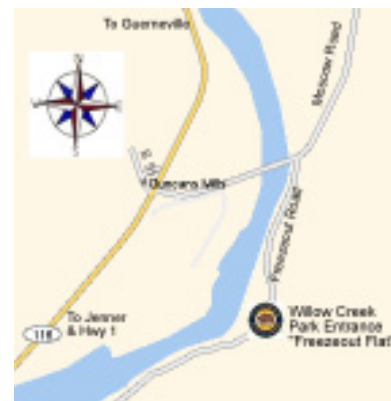
*Hiking Level: Strenuous*

**Meet less than 1 mile down Freezeout Road just west of the town of Duncans Mills off Moscow Road**

Come on out to see and enjoy this property first hand. Learn about the flora, fauna, history and become acquainted with the recreational opportunities that will be available in the future. Reservations are requested.

Contact Stewards for hikes on June 18, July 16, August 20, and September 3rd. (707) 869.9177, stewards@mcn.org.

Contact LandPaths at (707) 524.9318, willowcreek@landpaths.org



## Board Members

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*Annie Cresswell*  
*Diane Barth, editing*

## Contributors

*Ranger Dave Horvitz*  
*Ann Chambers*  
*Bill Chambers*  
*Norma Jellison*  
*Melissa and Alexa Carlson*  
*Norman Hill*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

*Michele Luna, Executive Director*

With the late arrival of spring, we are seeing the results of a wet winter here at Armstrong where the sound of the flowing creek is calming as we transition from our busy volunteer training season. As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter our education programs have provided services for close to 5,000 students again this spring. I feel very fortunate to be working with such a wonderful and efficient staff. Both Annie and Diane are doing an excellent job keeping up with school group scheduling demands as well as providing other support for fund raising events, etc. We can always use an extra hand in the office for special projects so let us know if you would like to be on our volunteer on-call list.

### Support for Historic and Cultural Projects

Recently, the board of Stewards voted to support the work of our State Park Archeologist Breck Parkman. Breck has been doing some very interesting work on Sonoma Coast with the Mammoth Rubbing rocks and other archeological finds. The board approved funding in the amount of \$2,000 to pay for carbon dating two specimens. Stay tuned for more information in our newsletter and on our website. Also, if you haven't gone on one of Breck's archeological hikes, they are truly wonderful. We are sponsoring two such hikes through our Hike, Paddle or Ride fund-raiser (see flyer insert). We are also looking for docents to learn from Breck how to lead this interpretive hike. Call our office for details.

### Two Successful Events

This year's Fisherman's Festival raised about \$2,000. Special thanks to Rich Draffin for coordinating this year's event and also to Ann and Bill Chambers for trailer set-up. On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, board member Bill Dickinson coordinated yet another successful golf tournament, raising over \$5400 in profit. Forty-three golfers participated this year on a beautiful day at Northwood Golf Course. Thanks Bill!

### EcoRing

Stewards is still working with the Russian River Chamber on the EcoRing project. A new board has been appointed to oversee the new nonprofit that is being formed. Meetings are being held to approve the organizing documents and to work on the proposal to go before the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors this summer. Stewards is preparing to develop 1 to 3 day workshops to be sponsored in our State Parks as one way we work towards promoting environmental awareness and stewardship through Ecotourism. Anyone interested in developing an appropriate workshop should contact me at the Stewards' office.

### Special Thanks to Prunuske Chatham, Inc. (PCI)

Thanks to the dedication of the staff at PCI, the Willow Creek Watershed Management Plan was finalized, and will become the basis for future work in the watershed. This project would not have been completed without the matching donation provided by PCI in an amount in excess of \$10,300. Stewards will honor PCI by putting their name on our Osprey Circle plaque in the Jenner Visitor Center.

Have a wonderful summer and thanks for supporting our special events!

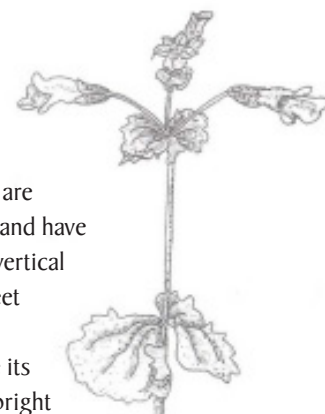
## WILDFLOWER OF THE SEASON

Sticky Monkey Flower, *Mimulus aurantiacus*

*Norman Hill, State Park Docent*

When you see those orange-yellow flowers, smaller and less bright than California poppies, on steep, fairly dry slopes or road cuts, you are probably looking at sticky monkey flowers. The flowers have tubular bases and have five petals with bilateral symmetry: the top two petals are longer and more vertical than the bottom three. Early in the season many flowers have a drop of sweet liquid in their bases.

It is a perennial shrub with narrow, dark green, sticky leaves (hence its name) growing oppositely, and alternating at right angles on stiff, mostly upright branches. Native Americans crushed the leaves and stems for application to wounds. Although widespread, you can see some up close near the bottom of the East Ridge Trail, right next to the Armstrong Visitor Center.



## CAL REPORT

*Dave Horvitz, Cooperating Association Liaison*

It seems as if spring has finally arrived just in time for summer to begin. There has been much progress within the Russian River Sector State Parks. Ongoing reorganization is proceeding as DPR is being positioned to maximize available funding. Several noteworthy events have occurred in our area.

Volunteer training is finished for the year. Many new volunteers have been signed up and are currently working in the field in all our diverse programs. Armstrong Redwoods is initiating interpretive walks through the grove on an experimental basis on weekends. These will be walks for the general public. If you are interested in participating you can contact the Stewards office to sign up.

The Willow Creek acquisition has been completed. Plans are moving forward to provide public access and interpretive programs within this fantastic piece of property. More programs will be developed and of course more volunteers will be needed to assist our experienced veteran interpreters. We will be seeking help once plans are finalized.

This year's volunteer appreciation event took place at Fort Ross on May 21. About one hundred sector volunteers, park staff, and guests were on hand. Several interpretive programs led by park staff occurred. These included an earthquake fault exploration and a historic cemetery walk. A barbeque dinner was enjoyed and a fun band provided dancing and toe tapping music. All current State Parks volunteers are invited to attend and join the fun at the next appreciation event in 2006.

On the nature side of things this is a great time of year to go hiking. The weather is still cool, there is lots of water in the creeks and the birds and flowers are booming. Just about anywhere you choose to go will be well worth the effort.

Come on out and go for a hike.

## FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

*Ann Chambers, Stewards Board President*

I would like to take this column opportunity to periodically highlight outstanding volunteers.

Melissa and Alexa Carlson put together a skit, "A Day in the Tidepools," for the last tidepool training day. They formed "tidepools" with various materials, added "critters," and performed an excellent dialogue on what a tidepool docent does. Here is their story and what they have been up to.

Hi, we are identical twin Girl Scouts that have volunteered as docents for Stewards for our third year now and really love it. We began volunteering with Seal Watch our first year and then Seal Watch and Tide Pool last year. When we were looking over the journals at the beach, we really enjoyed reading what the previous docents had written, but sometimes it was hard to read and difficult to get the whole story from the log sheet binder as the pages got mixed up and we were flipping around a lot trying to read about the action on the beach. We went to a friend's house up at Sea Ranch last summer, Diane Hichwa, who showed us her Seal Watch/Tide Pool community journal (typed up like a good story! it was really good) and we began thinking how great it would be to have one typed up for our Sonoma County beaches too!

When we began planning for our Girl Scout Silver Award Project, we knew we wanted it to be something about Nature and the Ocean.....so the idea began to have a day at the Ocean for Tidepooling, open to Girl Scouts, the public, and through a friend of ours at Madrone Audubon Society (Diane Hichwa), have it for PEE WEE Audubon kids too! Here is what we have planned:

### **Tide pools at School House Beach for Pee Wee Audubon!**

Love the Ocean? Always wanted to tide pool? Come to our PEEWEE Audubon (recommended for children 6-12 years old and a parent) tide pool and exploration day at School House Beach, just 4 minutes north of Bodega Bay. On Saturday, June 25th, 2005, from 8:30 to 11:00 am, we will show you the wondrous world of tide pools and the creatures that live in them. Bring a sack lunch and wear layers; it can be chilly at the beach. Rubber boots would be good too, so your feet don't get wet! Be prepared to have a lot of fun! This is a free nature program sponsored by the Madrone Audubon Society & Coordinated by Girl Scout Troop 413 Cadette Scouts, Melissa Carlson, Alexandra Carlson and Erica Robenalt, earning their Silver Award, with mentoring by Claire Shurvington and Debi Luce! Space is limited so make your reservations soon! (707) 938-2406 or email lamcarlson@aol.com **If any Tidepool docents are available that day to help us we would really appreciate it. We already have about 40 people signed up and would love it if any of you could come. Just give us a call to get more info!**

## WISH LIST

*Two drawer file cabinet  
Vacuum Cleaner  
Spotting Scope & Tripod*

## GOLF SPONSORS

*Carlenzoli & Associates  
Exchange Bank  
Jere Jacobs  
Sonoma National Bank  
Freeman Toyota Lexus  
Burgess Lumber  
Clover Stornetta  
Empire Eye Doctors  
Redwood Credit Union  
Gene Gaffney Ins.  
Advanced Database  
Design  
John Metzger  
Bob Records  
Russ Nishikawa*

## RAFFLE DONORS

### **Golf Tournament**

*Windsor Golf Club  
World of Carpets  
Foxtail Golf Club  
Rooster Run Golf  
Seaview Art Glass  
Annie Cresswell  
Foundtaingrove Golf  
Jordan Vineyard &  
Winery  
Sandpiper Restaurant  
Adobe Creek Golf Club  
Sebastopol Hardware  
Free to Travel  
Whole Foods  
Friedman Brothers*

### **Duck Race**

*Softub  
Zap  
Village Inn  
Osmosis Enzyme Bath  
Russian River Outfitters  
Seaweed Cafe  
Ridenhour Inn  
Korbel Vineyards  
Main Street Station Pizza  
Lotus Kayaking*

## DONORS

### Foundations

American Rivers/NOAA  
Fisherman's Festival  
Russian River Watershed  
Project - Prop. 13  
Community Foundation  
Sonoma County  
California State Parks  
Foundation  
Dean Witter Foundation  
Medtronic Foundation  
Nat'l Fish and Wildlife Fnd.  
Project Aware  
Sonoma County Fish and  
Wildlife Commission  
Community Foundation  
Sonoma County/Russian River  
Community Tr.  
Save the Redwoods League

### Corporations

ChevronTexaco  
Mendocino Redwood Co.  
Pacific Gas and Electric

### Osprey Circle Members

\$500 or more  
Peggy and Churchill Colburn  
Tom and Marilyn Fujiyoshi  
Lanny and Joann Keyston  
Claudia Lapin  
Laura Morgan  
Mountain Shadows Expedi-  
tionary Parent's Assn.  
Josephine Nattkemper  
Betty Riess

## THANKS TO ALL THAT HELPED ON POND FARM CLEANUP

Laura Parent, State Park Maintenance

The Pond Farm Cleanup Day on May 1<sup>st</sup> was another successful event!

It's hard to believe this year was our 11<sup>th</sup> annual. Two of this year's volunteers came up from San Diego County and were some of the crew at our 1<sup>st</sup> annual cleanup. They were also the driving force for the Pond Farm Interest Group, who for 11 years have continued to gather archival information about the history of Pond Farm. My special thanks to Marcia Smith and Russ Whitman for all their efforts, past and present.

Other volunteers this year were Jonathan and Suzanne Herr. Jonathan was raised at Pond Farm. His parents, Gordon and Jane Herr bought this ranch property (160 acres) in 1939 from John and Eva Walker. The Herr's began an utopian artists' colony on this property, which Marguerite Wildenhain was a part of from its beginnings. Jonathan's stories of his childhood living above the Armstrong Redwood Grove really makes the Pond Farm/Austin Creek Area come alive.

A new book to add to our archival collection has been donated by Dean Schwarz, a prior Pond Farm student and presently an Art Professor at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa (Marguerite's pottery was donated to this College). Dean composed this book entitled Marguerite Wildenhain, A Diary to Franz.

Earlier this year Dean visited Pond Farm which created a circle of others to join in. Coincidentally, this visit fell on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Marguerite's death. He originally contacted Breck Parkman, our State Park Archeologist, who invited other Park staff. From our Russian River Sector of Parks and Recreation, Superintendent Michael Stephenson came, along with Administrative Officer Jack Ekstrom, Ranger John Kolsrud, and myself, Laura Parent, Park Maintenance Worker. From the Sacramento Division of Cultural Resources Walter Gray, Division Chief came. He invited Elizabeth Goldstein, who is the President of the California State Parks Foundation. Also in attendance was Jonathan Herr, former resident of the Walker Ranch which became Pond Farm. As we stood in a circle and introduced ourselves to one another we took a moment of silence to take in the beauty of Pond Farm and memories of Marguerite.



## WHALE WATCH

Bea Brumm, Whale Mother

**T**ime sure flies. We have completed another great whale watch season and we really don't want to quit, but...

Every year is different, but we can always count on rainy, stormy and windy days as well as beautiful calm, warm days on the coast.

As usual during April we had lots of mothers/calves swimming by close after they had been sighted resting and nursing in the inner bay by the jetties.

In May we also had quite a show of humpbacks way out (on a real clear day) as we were watching our gray whales close in.

Our last weekend turned out terribly windy with lots of whitecaps and no possibility of seeing any whales. May 22 we retreated to Campbell Cove for our annual potluck. Each year the food gets fancier, and we had 22 volunteers show up—we even had a visit from our own Michele Luna.

Thanks to all our volunteers - seasoned and new - for making this another great season.

A special thanks to Norma for bailing me out on several occasions.

Hope to see everybody again next season.



## Trip to the Farallons

The annual Whale Watch trip to the Farallons will take place on August 21, 2005. Most years the trip is fantastic and the wildlife viewing phenomenal. Anyone interested is invited to call Norma Jellison at (707) 875-3799.

# IT DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THIS

Norma Jellison, State Park Docent

It's the last day of April. I am at the pullout on Route 1, just north of Jenner, overlooking the Russian River where it enters the Pacific Ocean. I'm there to count the Pacific harbor seals at their haulout at the mouth of the Russian River and meet my Stewards' partner. We will soon head down to Goat Rock State Beach to relieve the AM shift of Seal Watch.

I strike up a conversation with some motorcyclists and a couple sitting on the tailgate of their truck. They are delighted as, in addition to the seals visible to us from the overlook, we can see whales in the surf line. The couple says they went to Alaska, and never saw a whale, and here they are seeing them, practically in their backyard. I know this is going to be a good day on the beach, although I think just about any day on the beach is a good day.

The harbor seals are dispersed between the north and south sides of the river this day. I count about 110 on the south side and 80 on the north side. There are plenty of others in the river, as well as in the ocean just off the beach. I count about 25 pups on the beach with their moms. This is very exciting, as it's the highest number of pups I've seen, since I started volunteering with Seal Watch nine years ago. As I'm standing there taking in the panorama and the haulout activity, Elinor Twohy drives up. She comes to the overlook twice a day to count the seals and take pictures of the haul out. Elinor lives in Jenner and is its former Postmaster. I know her as one of the founders of Seal Watch and thus of Stewards. Elinor is dedicated to the harbor seals and the health of the Russian River. She has an incredible historical perspective, both facts and photos, of this magical place where the river meets the sea.

Jeff arrives and we bid Elinor farewell and head for Goat Rock Beach. Because it is Jeff's first time volunteering for Seal Watch, although the seals are on both sides of the river, we both will go to the south side. We hike out to the place on the beach where the Seal Watch signs and rope delineate where folks should stop and not approach the seals any closer. Today, that is at the jetty, which is so sand covered it is barely visible. The AM shift tells us that there has been a steady stream of gray whales just off the beach all morning. This is good news and should make for an exciting day on the beach.

Our job as Seal Watch volunteers is to talk to folks walking up the beach about the harbor seals, and why it is important to stay back behind the rope and signs. Harbor seals feed at night; they haul out and sleep during much of the day. In the springtime, another important reason to give the harbor seals space is the presence of pups. The daytime haul out period is critical for the mothers and pups to nurse and bond. This allows the mother to recognize her pup when she returns in the morning.

At one point, I notice a commotion on the beach. Turkey vultures are hopping around and flying up in the air and back down on the beach. I walk over to investigate and sure enough, they are fighting over an afterbirth. The gulls, which usually move in at this stage, are backed off by the big birds. Mother seal proceeds to move toward the river with the newborn pup following. Mom apparently feels a seal is blocking her path, and a bit of an altercation occurs. Mom lunges and snaps at the seal blocker, who retaliates, but finally moves aside, clearing the path to the river. Mom enters the river, rolls over a couple of times to clean herself off and gets the pup to come in. It is quite special to see the pup's first swim! Much rubbing of faces and rolling in the river ensues, as a small group of witnesses to all this watch, enthralled by this demonstration of affection and bonding. One person is amazed that the pup can swim immediately.

All afternoon, the beach, mouth of the river and ocean are alive with birds – cormorants, gulls, terns, loons, grebes, and an occasional osprey flying overhead with a fish in its talons headed to its nest. There are lots of small fish in the water, as evidenced by the terns with fish in mouth flying overhead and landing on the beach to gulp the fish down. A number of seals are in the ocean playing in the waves, sitting on the beach waiting for a wave to wash over them and even feeding on the tiny fish. At one point, six sea lions arrive and join in, frolicking and feeding in the surf.

Jeff and I and 7 lucky folks end our day on the beach watching a gray whale mother and calf put on an amazing show for us, so close it feels like you can touch them. So close it is easy to see the mom's barnacles and the calves relative lack of barnacles, making it a much darker gray. They surface and roll and spy hop and blow and just delight us all. As Jeff and I walk up the beach we remark - it just doesn't get any better than this!



## How to Volunteer for VIP Programs

Call the Stewards office at 869-9177 or email, [volparks@mcn.org](mailto:volparks@mcn.org)

## Program Activities

### Armstrong Redwoods

Visitor Center Staffing  
Nature Walks  
School Program  
Trail Maintenance  
Habitat Restoration Project  
Pond Farm Interest Group

### Sonoma Cst State Beach

Visitor Center Staffing  
Seal Watch  
Whale Watch  
Tidepool Program  
Watershed Program

## Other Projects

Recycling & Firewood  
Office Help & Events

## Volunteer Program Coordinators

Joyce Bacci, ARVC  
Lanny Keyston, AR Trails, FAR  
Skaidra Smith-Heisters, AR Restoration  
Laura Parent, Pond Farm  
Linda Fisher Jenner VC  
Bob Caricato, Seal Watch  
Bea Brunn, Whale Watch  
John Cole, Recycling  
Vacant, Willow Creek Education  
Rob Dickerson, CAT  
The Sorensons, Marine Debris  
Bill Chambers, Tidepool Programs

## State Park Volunteer Coordinators

Ranger John Kolsrud, Armstrong/Austin Creek  
Ranger Jeff Mecchi, Sonoma Coast State Beach

## NEW MEMBERS

**Patron \$200 plus**

*James Goerlich*

**Business \$100**

*CJ Farms*

**Supporting \$100**

*Robert & Joan Dickerson*

*B. Harvey & M. Houlihan*

*Lois Meli*

*Singles Outdoor Activities & Recreation (SOAR)*

*Robert Walsh*

**Contributing \$50**

*Renee Armstrong*

*Sheldon & Jeni Bachus*

*Mary Baker*

*Lorraine Bazan*

*Vern & Robin Drehmel*

*Mr. & Mrs. Neil Edwards*

*John Erla*

*The Gleeson Family*

*Marlys Green*

*Kathleen Haviland*

*Darlene & Jim LaMont*

*Claudia Mudgett*

*Victor Rumsy*

## Family

*Scott Adams*

*Bev Balliett*

*B. & E. Bullock-Wilson*

*Janet & Alan Coleman*

*The DeKay-Bemis Family*

*D. Dillman & M. Redstone*

*Nancy & John Giambastiani*

*Chris & Raissa Hamilton*

*Hernandez Realty*

*Kimberly Hilsmann*

*Herbert Howe*

*Wally & Susan Jeffery*

*Scott & Darlene Kersnar*

*William & Esther Koolman*

*V. & M. Mackinnon*

*Andrew & Barbara McCarthy*

*Laura & Robert Parent*

*Richard Parker*

*Dr. Douglas & Janice Pile*

*Elaine Ramires*

*Tonie Richardson*

*Marilyn Schimdt*

*Michele Sokol*

*Lee Stratten*

## TREASURES IN OUR VISITOR CENTERS

*Annie Cresswell, Stewards Executive Assistant*

There are many new and exciting things to report from the Visitor Centers. Jenner Visitor Center (JVC) was refurbished with a new floor and rearranged, and it looks great. The JVC also has a new coordinator, Linda Fisher and she has been wonderful to work with. We are looking forward to a busy summer and are hoping some of you will stop by and see the improvements. The JVC is open Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 4pm and on Mondays from 11am to 3 pm. If you are interested in volunteering at the JVC please call me at the office and I will assist you in getting started.

Don't forget your State Park Visitor Centers when looking for a gift for the outdoor person or child in your life. Our Professor Noggin Games have been a big hit. Kids can play them and learn about wildlife, birds, or the ocean and not even realize they are learning. Another great gift for anyone expecting a child is our *Tallest Tree Growth Chart*. This is a great way for new parents to track the growth of their little ones. It also has a *Tallest Tree Block Set* that goes with it and a hard book, both of which have great learning tools incorporated into them.

Our reference books and field guides are expanding and we have many new titles covering many subjects. One of our new reference books is the *Oaks of California*, a beautifully done book with lots of interesting facts both historic and ecologic. It brings a new insight to the California Oaks, a tree that is often overlooked. It is sold at the Armstrong Visitor Center, located at the entrance to the park and it is opened from 11-3, 7 days a week.

Last weekend I sat down on a beautiful sunny day and opened this book thinking I would just start it and see how it goes. I started reading and found that I couldn't stop. Little did I know that I was going to learn many new and interesting things about an area that I thought I knew so much about. I grew up along the coast and have remained in the area as an adult, but the historic information in this book gave me a new insight into the creation of, protection of, and the people of one of Sonoma County's treasures, Sonoma Coast State Beaches. The name of the book is *Let Ocean Seethe and Terra Slide* by Rex Grady. There are so many characters in the book from Rose Gaffney, the heroine of Bodega Head, to Larry Shuster, one of the great fishermen of his time. Their stories are all so enlightening.

We hope that you will stop by the Visitor Centers and check out the new items and remember that we are a great place to shop for gifts, field guides, and reference materials.



## TIDE POOL PROGRAM UPDATE

*Bill Chambers, Volunteer Coordinator*

Only one scheduled school tidepool activity left as of June 1st!

The Tidepool Volunteers have conducted tidepool explorations for 407 school children and at least 100 adults. (Not counting Roving Naturalist contacts on the weekends) After June 10th, we will have had contact with 472 school children and well over 100 adults. Special thanks to the Carlson family, Ann Chambers, Mel Ehlers, Andrea Freeman, Darlene LaMont, Keary Sorenson, and Sally Sorenson.

Thanks also to our "newbies" Lunette Howerton, Meg Kailikale, Martha Ostrowski, Elizabeth Robenalt, Erica Robenalt, and Jackie Screechfield. Lynette and Meg have been out so often that they have graduated from "shadowing" an experienced docent to taking a group on their own.

Special thanks are due to Martha Ostrowski and her Mom for their willingness to tackle the hard work in making new vests (something BESIDES size "small") for the Tidepool Program.



## DOCENT LED HIKES AT THE LAGUNA DE SANTA ROSA

**New to Sonoma County?** Lived here a long time, but still don't know what the Laguna is? Learn all about it by coming on a Laguna Foundation-sponsored docent-led walk! Walks offered twice a month on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings at the Sebastopol Wetlands Preserve and other locations (check our website for updates). Upcoming walks will be Weds July 13 @ 6:30 pm and Saturday, July 30 @ 9:15 am. Meet behind 425 Morris St, Sebastopol. Bring your questions, binoculars and a friend. A \$5 donation will be requested. Register by contacting [Mary@lagunadesantarosa.org](mailto:Mary@lagunadesantarosa.org) or 527-9277 x2. Learn more about the laguna by visiting [www.lagunadesantarosa.org](http://www.lagunadesantarosa.org)

# ARMSTRONG REDWOODS STATE RESERVE

## *The Educational Value of Armstrong Woods*

Diane Barth, Stewards Administrative Assistant



### SCHOOL TOURS

Did you ever wonder how many school groups visit Armstrong Woods?

From January – June 2005 our records indicate scheduled visits of over 4,000 K-12<sup>th</sup> grade school students, with over 436 adults accompanying these classes.

#### How does that break down by grade?

Kindergarten	552	3 <sup>rd</sup>	343	6 <sup>th</sup>	936
1 <sup>st</sup>	804	4 <sup>th</sup>	205	7 <sup>th</sup>	300
2 <sup>nd</sup>	346	5 <sup>th</sup>	278	mixed grades	327.

#### And, what months are the busiest?

January	55	March	382	May	1737
February	110	April	545	June	1262

#### A GIANT thank you to the docents who lead hikes for school groups from January – June 2005

We have over twenty docents that give tours at Armstrong and they are very busy, particularly during May and June. Some of the groups requesting tours have over 100 students. These hard working volunteers deserve a big round of applause for their incredible efforts.

Lanny Keyston (12), Bob Lewek (9), Doris Dickensen (8), Keith Nelson (8), Katherine Williams (7), Shauna Jacobs (6), Joyce Bacci (5), Ann Chambers (5), Steve Duletsky (5), Carol Swartz (5), Bill Chambers (4), Norman Hill (3), Wallie Kass (3), Alice Hamilton (2), Richard Parker (2), Denise Arnold (1), Bill Bambrick (1), Kristan Bennett (1), Jim Bray (1), Albie Kass (1), Gary Lathan (1), Lori Wagner (1)

## SUMMER TOURS AT ARMSTRONG WOODS

### *Every Saturday at 11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center*

Encourage visitors to the area and bring your friends for an easy hike thru the inspirational ancient giants at Armstrong Woods.

Try your hand at leading a tour on a Saturday morning during the summer. This is a great opportunity to greet the visitors to our wonderful area, give them a personal tour of the Armstrong redwoods and introduce them to Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods. We don't expect to attract large groups and this should be a relaxed opportunity to communicate your knowledge of our local treasures.

Your help is needed to make this new summer program a success. If you are more comfortable, sign up with a buddy to co-lead a hike and invite a group of your friends to join you.

Contact Diane Barth at 869-9177 or [dbarth@mcn.org](mailto:dbarth@mcn.org) to lead a hike or sign up.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration Required - call (707) 869-9177 or Email [stewards@mcn.org](mailto:stewards@mcn.org)

**HIKE, PADDLE, OR RIDE FOR STATE PARKS** - See flyer insert for dates and registration details. Forms are also available on our website, [www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org](http://www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org).

#### **DUNCANS MILLS ART & WINE FESTIVAL & RUBBER DUCK RACES**

July 23 & 24, 2005, Volunteer needed

#### **BODEGA SEAFOOD, ART, & WINE FESTIVAL**

August 27 & 28, 2005, Volunteers needed

These festivals provide wonderful food, entertainment, wine and micro beer tasting, lovely crafts and lots of fun for the entire family. To volunteer contact the Stewards office, (707) 869-9177 or [stewards@mcn.org](mailto:stewards@mcn.org).

#### **Keith Nelson's Tide Pool walks at Salt Point State Park**

(Meet at the Gerstle Cove Visitor Center)

Sunday June 12, 9-11 a.m.      Sunday June 26, 9-11 a.m.      Sunday July 10, 9-10 a.m.

**REDHILL LOOP** with Docents Keith Nelson and Joyce Bacci

**Saturday, June 18, 2005, 10 a.m. Challenging; 500 ft. elevation gains, 4.5 miles.**

Meet at Shell Beach parking lot. Hike Pomo Campground trail to top of Red Hill; then west to Furlong gulch and back on Kortum trail to Shell Beach. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

## NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

### Family - continued

Wendy Struhl

R. Vance & D. Hansen

George & Rosamond Warren

Sheila & Dan Whipple

### Individual

Christina Burch

Frank Churchill

Steve & Shelley Clarkson

Shawn Combs

Prudence & Lloyd Draper

R. Ellinthorpe & F. O'Ryan

Carol Grandy

Gary & Anna Hansen

Frederika Haskell

Michael Jones

Kathleen Juarez

Alta Kavanaugh

Kyle Omi Lehecka

Christine Miller

Ginger Moser

Lilla Orr

Larry Standley

Anna Steinhauer

Linda Swartz

### Seniors/Students

Bruce Austensen

Bodega Bay Community Assn.

Sabrina Braham

Reno Cervelli

John Davenport

Judith Ferrin

Stuart Floyd

L. Marvel Gardner

Col. Walter Grandjean

Elisabeth Hawkins

Gordon Heiner

Christine Hoex

R. Knight & B. St. Louis

Adrian & Ann Mac Nab

Keith Marshall

Gaeta Stratton

R. Stringall & C. Jones

Francis Tracy

Glen Vadon Construction

John & Ann Walton

Jürgen Woelke

Stewards members receive this quarterly newsletter with information about Sector parks, special events for members and opportunities for volunteering. Members are also entitled to discounts on purchases at Stewards run visitor centers and at special events.

VIP docents earn annual day-use passes.

Give a **GIFT MEMBERSHIP** to Stewards to a relative or friend.

## Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

### Membership Form

Renewal

**YES**, I'd like to become a member.

- Senior/Student  \$20.00  
 Individual  \$25.00  
 Family  \$35.00  
 Contributing  \$50.00  
 Supporting  \$100.00  
 Business  \$100.00  
 Patron  \$200.00 plus  
 Osprey Circle  \$500.00 plus

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to help with an additional donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Payment type: Check  Charge Card  Visa  MC Total tax deductible donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Stewards. Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Renewal Date: February 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bequests

### Your Gift to the Future of State Park Volunteerism

With your help future generations will enjoy quality interpretation through "Volunteers in Parks" programs for many years to come. A gift to Stewards is the simplest form of giving from your estate. There are several types of charitable bequests by will (or beneficiary designation).

#### Sample:

I hereby give and bequest to Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods, a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of California, with a principal address at P.O. Box 2, Duncans Mills, CA 95430, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my estate, (or) the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, (or) the following assets \_\_\_\_\_.

Contact your legal advisor for further information. There are also other planned giving options for your consideration. For information on contributing to Stewards' **Endowment for the Armstrong Restoration Project**, please contact Michele Luna at the Stewards office (707) 869-9177.

**CALL 800-320-0476 TO MAKE A  
 VEHICLE DONATION IN THE  
 NAME OF  
 STEWARDS OF THE  
 COAST AND REDWOODS**

## Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

PO Box 2, Duncans Mills, CA 95430

(707) 869.9177, FAX (707) 869.8252

stewards@mcn.org, stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org



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