



Meanderings

Preserving, Restoring and Celebrating Sonoma County's Richest Wildlife Area

Summer 2006

Enhancing and Caring for the Laguna

BY JOE HONTON, *Watershed Data Manager*

The two-year effort to develop a restoration and management plan (RMP) for the Laguna has come to completion and has resulted in the publication of *Enhancing and Caring for the Laguna*. This final report represents the capstone to the RMP project: it will become an important tool for planning and securing grant funding for future on-the-ground habitat restoration projects. The publication of the RMP is an important milestone on the path to the Laguna's restoration.

The plan defines clear goals in a number of areas: habitat restoration, ecological research, flood management, stream channel improvements, sedimentation reduction, water quality enhancements, recreational access and trail development. Specific objectives and priorities are defined for each of these goals.

This plan is significant for several reasons. First, it captures the accumulated knowledgebase of the Laguna: its natural and biological resources, its impairments, who is involved and who is responsible, what the Laguna looked like and what it could be restored to. Second, it distills the hopes of the community at large: what do we value, what is our collective vision for the future, and what projects are most important. Third, it provides guidelines for what needs to be restored: what species are at risk, which habitats are most affected, and what specific opportunities exist for immediate restoration. And fourth, it identifies the gaps in our understanding; where we need to conduct new research.

Some of the plan's priorities are straightforward and work can begin immediately: for example, enhancement of riparian forests, planting more oak trees, establishing fence line hedgerows, and removing undesirable invasive exotics can all be easily accomplished.



But other priorities suggest the need for new knowledge. For instance, how do we manage the vernal pools of the Santa Rosa Plain in a way that guarantees the survival of the plants and animals now threatened with extinction? Or, how can we manage our floodplains to provide downstream flood protection while also supporting diverse zones of vegetation and wildlife habitat? Or, how can hydraulic changes be made to enhance habitat while retaining flood storage and flood conveyance capacities? Answers to these types of questions will improve our ability to enhance the Laguna. And because this type of rigorous credible knowledge of the local ecology will be an ongoing component of our work, the establishment of a Laguna Wetlands Research Institute will become one of our first priorities.

Many of the plan's priorities can be carried out locally by volunteers: mapping the distribution of specific plants, surveying streams for barriers

to fish passage, ground-truthing the data developed in our GIS-labs, surveying areas of high-quality habitat for reference sites, and participating in habitat surveys such as bird-counts. Already this type of community support has proven to be beneficial. And fun.

To see a sneak preview of the plan, an online version is available: www.lagunafoundation.org/management_plan.html.

If you would like to reserve a spot at one of our upcoming slide show presentations, providing an overview of the plan, send a request to Joe Honton, email joe@lagunafoundation.org.

The California State Coastal Conservancy, which has championed the preservation and enhancement of our state's coastal and fresh-water wetlands, has been the principal sponsor for the project. Additional funding has been generously provided by the Sonoma County Water Agency, the City of Santa Rosa, and the Community Foundation Sonoma County.

Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation

P.O. Box 7886

Santa Rosa, CA 95407-0886

Phone: 707-527-9277

Fax: 707-527-5075

Website: www.lagunafoundation.orgEmail: info@lagunafoundation.org**Board of Directors**Susan Churchill, *President*David Bannister, *Vice President*Brad DeMeo, *Secretary*Jim Beyers, *Treasurer*

Jeannette Anglin

Alan Bertozi

Bill Bettinelli

Denise Cadman

Dick Carlile

Jim Shelton

Edmund Smith, Ph.D.

Guy Smith

Virginia Strom-Martin

George Tuttle

Staff

Dan Schurman

Executive Director

Mary Abbott

Education Coordinator

Catherine Cumberland

Education Program Assistant

Mark Green

Resource Development Director

Maggie Hart

Administrative Director

Joe Honton

Watershed Data Manager

Amber Manfree

Restoration Project Technician

Julian Meisler

Restoration Project Manager

Christina Sloop, PhD.

*Research Director***Executive Director's Report - Dan Schurman**

It seems that "comings and goings" should be the theme of the Laguna Foundation for the past few months. We said goodbye to the inimitable Anna Sears as our Research Director as

she returned to British Columbia to take on a new job as the Water Stewardship Project Director for the Okanagan Basin Water Board. In her place, we welcome the addition of the extremely well-qualified Dr. Christina Sloop.

Dr. Sloop will lead our conservation science program which will become an even more important part of our work as we finish the Laguna Restoration and Management Plan and begin its implementation. There is still much we need to learn about the Laguna as we move ahead with large-scale restoration efforts and our intent is to establish a research science program to further this inquiry. With an established local NGO leading the way, and with a research station at the Laguna Learning Center in the heart of the watershed, we feel there's an excellent

opportunity for extensive collaboration with universities, colleges, government agencies and other research institutions that will serve many purposes and answer many questions.

We also said goodbye to our downtown Santa Rosa office location, which had been generously donated by Dan Smith and Joan Marler until the lease expired at the end of April. As we're working towards relocating permanently to the Learning Center site at Stone Farm (probably sometime next year), we needed an interim location that was affordable and didn't require us to sign a long-term lease. We feel fortunate to have been able to rent some space from the Sonoma County Water Agency in their old headquarters building on West College Ave, most of which had been vacant since moving to their new HQ near the airport. It gets us that much closer to Stone Farm and the Laguna, literally and figuratively.

Thanks again to all of you (donors, board members, staff, docents, Laguna Keepers, and all the volunteers) who make this incredible organization and all its work happen. We couldn't do it without you.

Welcome New Research Director

Dr. Christina Sloop has lived in Sonoma County and worked as a scientist for the past 16 years. She resides in the Sonoma Valley with her husband Marc and two young sons Ian and Nico, and enjoys exploring the county's natural beauty with her family and friends. Her science career was in fact launched in the Laguna, where she initially worked for the City of Santa Rosa as a natural resource specialist. She was also a research assistant to the North Coast IMP advisor before receiving her Bachelor's degree in 1993 in Biology with a minor in Environmental Studies from Sonoma State University.

After receiving her Master's degree in 1996 in Conservation Biology from San Francisco State University, Christina worked as a post-graduate researcher at the Bodega Marine Laboratory for several years. She then launched her doctoral study as a Sea Grant Fellow in 2001. She received her doctorate in Ecology from UC Davis in September 2005.



As the Laguna Ecosystem Restoration and Management Plan nears completion, our focus will shift to the development and implementation of large-scale restoration and enhancement

projects to effect the recommendations of the plan, as well as the development of an expansive research program to inform those projects and to further our understanding of and develop workable solutions to the issues and problems facing the Laguna. In directing this research program for the Foundation, Dr. Sloop will continue the efforts of her predecessor to establish and advance collaborations with public resource agencies, universities, and private nonprofit science and conservation organizations.

Contact Christina at x101 or by email: christina@lagunafoundation.org.

What Happens in the Laguna During the Summer?

BY MARY ABBOTT, *Education Coordinator*
& CATHERINE CUMBERLAND,
Education Program Assistant

Out in the Laguna de Santa Rosa, summer is in full swing. As it does for many of us, activity in the Laguna slows down as temperatures rise. Water levels do not fluctuate as during the rainy season, there are no dramatic arrivals or departures of wildlife, and the flowering season is past its peak. Yet in subtle ways the biotic and abiotic world of the Laguna de Santa Rosa is shifting.

Water levels are slowly drawing down. Some stretches of the Laguna have only a foot or two of water or are already dry. Creeks may only have water ponded in the deepest, shadiest places. Lower water levels mean available habitat is restricted -- spotting elusive aquatic mammals such as river otter, mink and muskrat is actually easier this time of year. Activity tends to be concentrated where water remains deeper and has good riparian cover (a great spot is the Laguna Wetlands Preserve in Sebastopol, particularly north of the seasonal bridge).

Late blooming plant species in the Laguna add color to an otherwise brown landscape caused by the completion of the exotic annual grass life cycle. Small yellow and white flowered tarweeds bloom in August. Tarweeds are distinguishable by a sticky secretion on the leaves and flowers that have a distinctive, pungent odor; a smell that lingers in the air and invokes late summer memories for many Sonoma County residents.

Keep your eyes to the sky as you walk the Laguna watching for the return of the White Pelicans, one of North America's largest birds, from their breeding grounds in Nevada and the Central Valley. Last summer, we saw flocks of White Faced Ibis also returning from the Valley. If it seems as if there are more Canada Geese than usual, you are right -- juvenile geese are now making their practice flights over the Laguna and can barely be distinguished from their parents. We hope that you might wander across the floating bridge in Sebastopol and take a moment to relish the summer savannah on the other side.



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE NEW DOCENT GRADUATES!

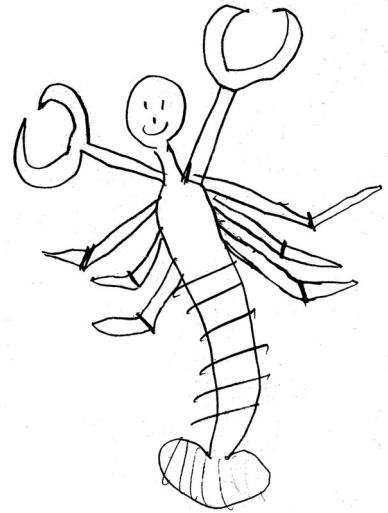
Front Row: Carolyn "CJ" Johnson, Ramona Minero, Deborah Grace, Patty Newland, Tara Henteleff, Jeannette Anglin

Back Row: Richard Mayer, Jan Crowe, Magi Discoe, Bob Murnane, Carol Simpson, Gretchen McIndoe, Mat Keller, Catherine Cumberland, Andy Fleming, Judy Krist, Frank Dono, Sandy Steele and Raini Vallarino.

Not pictured: Sheila Handley and Kate Madlem.

If you are interested in the docent training beginning in March 2007, please let us know!

Learning Laguna



Child's drawing of a crayfish

During the 2005/06 school year, 685 elementary school students from 18 different schools learned about the Laguna de Santa Rosa through the Foundation's Learning Laguna program. This program has grown rapidly since its inception in 1999, and teachers and students alike continue to respond with glowing praise. "The docents were very friendly and excited about the program..." one teacher wrote, and "the hands-on activities were lots of fun and engaging." Another simply stated, "The whole experience was very positive!"

As for the kids, testimonials ranged from, "I learned that a wetland is very important to many different kinds of animals -- so we all should take care of the wetlands together;" to "I learned that the Laguna used to be a dump!" The importance of a program such as Learning Laguna cannot be overstated, as more and more kids are growing up without the experience of the outdoors that will help them develop a personal understanding of nature. One child wrote, "I learned to not be afraid of little animals that do not hurt you." A field trip to the Laguna can make such a difference in the life of a child!

Clarification on Ludwigia and Lepidium

BY LILY VERDONE, *Contributing Writer*

By chance, the two most troublesome weeds currently invading the Laguna, Ludwigia and Lepidium, may sound similar in name but are unmistakable in the wild. Exotic Ludwigia sp. (creeping water primrose) is an invasive aquatic plant that grows in dense clonal mats, covering vast areas of slow moving, shallow water and muddy banks. Possibly introduced from South America, Ludwigia has long, branching stems with willow-like leaves and bright yellow flowers. Ludwigia's rapid growth allows it to take over areas that were once open water, reducing foraging grounds and altering sediment movement and water quality.

Lepidium latifolium (perennial pepperweed) is a highly invasive herbaceous perennial introduced from Eurasia. Unlike Ludwigia, Lepidium can establish in a wide range of habitats including riparian areas, flood plains, wetlands and marshes. Lepidium has upright stems to 4 feet tall, with white flowers and an extensive creeping root system. Once established, Lepidium creates dense colonies that displace native vegetation and animals and is very difficult to remove because of its deep roots. If left unmanaged, both Ludwigia and Lepidium form dense stands that modify native habitat and decrease biological diversity, ultimately impacting the plants and animals we associate with the Laguna.



Ludwigia sp. (creeping water primrose)



Lepidium latifolium (perennial pepperweed)

Year Two of the Ludwigia Control Project Up and Running

BY JULIAN MEISLER, *Restoration Project Manager*

In late June the Laguna Foundation began Year 2 of the Ludwigia Control Project. Operating under a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the herbicide application was preceded by an intensive round of water quality and vegetation monitoring, both of which will continue as the project progresses.

The two project areas, located near Rohnert Park and Sebastopol, have each been expanded this year to include new reaches of channel not treated in Year 1. These densely vegetated sections stand in sharp contrast to the previously treated channels, which do have regrowth but nothing close to the scale seen in previous years. Regrowth is not a surprise and is in fact the reason this is a three-year rather than a single year project.

As we move forward with Year 2, we also continue to make strides toward long term restoration intended to make the Laguna less inviting to Ludwigia and other invasive plants. Projects like the Restoration and Management Plan (*page 1*), the 1.8-mile Middle Reach Restoration Projects, and the TMDL baseline studies (*page 6*) are essential to understanding and addressing the larger problems in the Laguna. It is a long road but that vision is emerging and we are taking the steps to get there.

If you have questions about the Ludwigia project or our larger restoration projects feel free to contact Julian Meisler at 527-9277 x106.

Laguna Learning Center Campaign Update

The Foundation has nearly completed the permitting process for the rehabilitation of historic Stone Farm to create the Laguna Learning Center, and work onsite will begin soon. We need help of every kind—financial donations, in-kind labor and materials contributions.

The campaign to generate the \$5 million dollar construction budget for the Laguna Learning Center continues and pledges continue to mount. Recently, we are pleased to announce that the Nathan M. Ohrbach Foundation, on the recommendation of Caryl Ohrbach Hart, has made a generous pledge purchasing the naming opportunity for the Laguna Learning Center's recreated 19th century farm garden, in memory of Jerome K. Ohrbach.

The Foundation is currently in the process of retaining a general contractor for the project and will soon have a detailed list of materials and services we will seek as in-kind donations. The Laguna Learning Center is a true community project—a “barn raising”. There is a place for every element of the community to be involved in its creation.

For more information about the Laguna Learning Center, visit the Foundation's website at: www.lagunafoundation.org.



Kayaker obstructed by dense mats of Ludwigia

Opportunities to Get Involved with the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed

BECOME PART OF THE LAGUNA RESTORATION TEAM AND JOIN THE LAGUNA KEEPERS!

We will be restoring and maintaining some new Laguna sites this season, beginning in September! Watch your mail or email for the 2006/07 schedule of workdays. If you would like to join the restoration team, please email catherine@lagunafoundation.org or call x109 and ask to be added to the mailing list.

TAKE A DOCENT-LED WALK IN THE LAGUNA!

All walks take place at the Sebastopol Wetlands Preserve with parking behind 425 Morris Street. A great way to learn more about the Laguna, our docents are also available for group tours. Members free, \$5 donation others.

Wednesday Evenings:

Wednesday, August 9 - 7:00pm
Wednesday, September 6 - 6:30pm

Saturday Mornings:

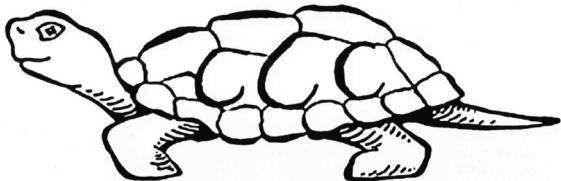
Saturday, September 16 - 9:15am
Saturday, October 14 - 9:15am

WANT TO DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAGUNA?

The Education Program is offering a series of "Three Walks and Talks in the Laguna" in September. The first session will be held at the Llano Road Wastewater Treatment Plant with a slide show presentation, a brief overview of waste water treatment, followed by a walk to a created wetlands rich with birds, and continuing on to the Laguna itself. The second walk will focus on the swale and hummock environs of the Laguna as we traverse lower Stone Farm to the water. And the third walk will be an enchanted evening at Kelly Farm, a City of Santa Rosa preserve, with a focus on wildlife and the sights and sounds of the Laguna. For an application, please email mary@lagunafoundation.org or call x102.

Cost is \$ 45 for Laguna Foundation members and \$65 for non-members. Space is limited!

Saturday, September 9, 9:15 am - Wetlands Introduction
Saturday, September 16, 9:15 am - Swale and Hummock walk
Saturday, September 23, 5:00 pm - Kelly Wetlands Wildlife Walk



COTATI CREEK CRITTER EVENTS

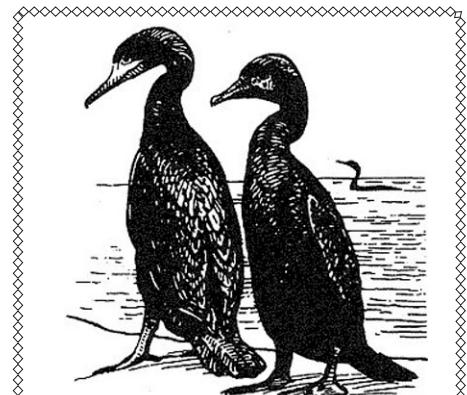
Saturday, August 19, at 6 p.m. Bike Tours of the Creeks of Cotati and Rohnert Park. There will be two rides: One with Wade Belew, Stewardship Coordinator, which includes several stops for brief observations of the ecology and wildlife of our creeks. The other, led by Team Hub, will be for intermediate riders looking for a longer ride with just one stop. Meet at the Hub Cyclery located at 7885 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati.

Monday, October 2, at 7 p.m. Gardening with Native Plants, and our speaker will be Liz Parsons from the California Native Plant Society – just in time for the CNPS annual plant sale! Cotati Community Center, Room 7, off E. School St., behind City Hall.

Saturday, October 14, from 9 a.m. – 12 noon: The first Fall Community workday of the new season. Meet at Ladybug Lot – map and directions at www.CotatiCreekCritters.com

Sunday, October 29, from 9 a.m. – 12 noon: For the first time, we're introducing "last Sunday" workdays to complement our "second Saturday" workdays. Meet at Ladybug Lot – map and directions at www.CotatiCreekCritters.com

LAGUNA STORE PRODUCTS ONLINE! Please browse our website for maps, t-shirts in adult and children sizes, and a poster of Laguna wildlife. We also have new greeting cards with art by Sebastopol artist Molly Eckler. Shipping is available and they make wonderful gifts for that special someone.



DELTA POND ROOKERY FUNDRAISING WALK - A HUGE SUCCESS!

"Astounding! I've never even imagined so many birds in one place!"

This spring, the docents offered a new walk for the public, a rare chance to see the heron rookery at the back of Delta Pond, off of Willowside Road. The walk hosted over 150 people and was given as a fundraiser for our bus transportation fund. We raised over \$1600, which will translate into eight or more class field trips next year.

Hikers viewed over 100 nests of herons, egrets and cormorants and cited many other birds along the walk. There was a lot of nesting, feeding and other juvenile behaviors in plain view. One couple returned from Delta Pond to say that this was "one of the most sacred moments of our lives!"

ENJOY A GREEK MEAL AND HELP THE FOUNDATION!

By generous arrangement with Daphne's Greek Cafe, the Laguna Foundation will be the beneficiary of an all-day "Big Fat Greek Fundraiser" on Sunday, October 22.

20% of the entire day's proceeds will be donated to the Laguna Foundation. Take your family out for dinner and help the Laguna!

Daphne's Greek Café is in the Mendocino Marketplace at 2280 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

Where the Wilds Weeds Are

BY AMBER MANFREE, *Restoration Project Technician*

The presence of invasive wildland weeds in the Laguna is well known and the associated problems are often discussed. But exactly where are the weeds, and how much ground do they cover? Comprehensive restoration plans rely on the answers to these questions.

One goal for the 2006 field season is to create a snapshot of the extent of the most challenging weeds in and around the Laguna itself. After the initial season, this data can be modified to reflect changes over time. Water primrose (*Ludwigia sp.*) and Pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*) are our top priorities, but other invasives may be mapped as well.

Establishing accurate records of invasive plant populations will be a key component in a variety of long term restoration projects that the Foundation is already involved in. Ideally restoration projects eventually reach a state requiring little or no interference by people but, at first, persistent weed populations need to be reduced or eradicated.

Invasive Pepperweed in the Middle Reach



Water primrose and Pepperweed both alter their immediate environment, making it nearly impossible for other plants to gain a foothold. Unfortunately no amount of native plantings will abate them. Systematic efforts to reduce weeds followed by revegetation and long-term monitoring are the best known methods for restoration.

Field mapping is being done by numerous staff and volunteers, who have made tremendous progress so far. SRJC students are helping out too, but there's plenty of ground left to cover, and more volunteers are always welcome! Please contact Amber Manfree at x110 or by email amber@lagunafoundation.org if you're interested in helping out with the project.

Middle Reach Restoration Project Receives Federal Grant

The Laguna Middle Reach Restoration Project ("MRRP"), an extensive effort to restore critical riparian, seasonal wetland and oak woodland habitat along 1.8 miles of the Laguna channel, has received a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The project is in the planning and permitting phase and work will begin on the ground this fall.

In June, the Foundation learned that the MRRP received a \$75,000 USFWS Private Stewardship Grant. We were gratified to learn that the project was one of only ten which received funding out of 34 applicants in the California/Nevada Region. The project has also received funding from the California State Coastal Conservancy, the Community Foundation Sonoma County, and private sources. We are still seeking additional funds to complete the budget for the project.

The MRRP will have multiple benefits to the Laguna's wildlife and water quality, and will improve the beauty and "wildness" of the Laguna between Hwy 12 and Occidental Road, where the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District plans to develop a hiking trail within the next few years. It will be the largest single Laguna restoration project to date.

This large-scale restoration initiative is an ambitious scope of work and it will require many hands. If you would like to be a Middle Reach Restoration Project volunteer and help with removal of non-native invasive plants and tree planting, please contact Julian Meisler at x106 or by email julian@lagunafoundation.org.

Conceptual Model Funding Granted

The City of Santa Rosa has awarded the Laguna Foundation a grant to develop a conceptual model of impairments to the Laguna's water quality. TetraTech, an environmental, water resource management and engineering firm will join with Philip William and Associates, specialists in hydrology, hydraulic engineering and geomorphology, as principal contractors for the model.

Thank You to our generous supporters since the last Meanderings...

Laguna Learning Center Campaign

Contributors:

B&B Dual Roofing, Inc., Marylee Carli, Susan & Ken Churchill, Clay & Kim Clement, City of Santa Rosa, Codding Foundation, Sam & Mary Dakin, Jack & Judy DeMeo in memory of Betty Ann Revard Ohlinger, EmCee Group, Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, Fledgling Fund, Bill & Cindy Gallaher, Gallo Family, Joany Goodwin, Susan Gorin, Mary Frances Laier in memory of James Laier & Phil Nell, Tom & Sally Lambert, Glen Lippard of Tradecraft, Howard Levy of Levy & Associates, Dan Smith & Joan Marler, Nathan M. Ohrbach Foundation in memory of Jerome K. Ohrbach, Nancy Peter & Jeffery Orth, Tom & Ann McGinley in memory of Helen McGinley Adams, Les Perry, Larry Moskowitz & Eric Koenigshofer of Perry, Johnson, Anderson Miller, Moskowitz LLP, Brian & Jymmey Purtil, Joan Przkop in memory of Henry Przkop, Gladys Sawyer, Schulz Fund of the Community Foundation Sonoma County, Anne & W. Clayton Stephens, Kirk & Pat Veale

In-Kind Contributors:

Sandra Bodley, Doug Bosco and Emma Clancy, John Condon, Toby Cowan of Performance Design Group, Kelly Dabney, Fircrest Market, Joany Goodwin, David Haley, Sheila Heim, Don Jackson, Jack Laws, Alysha Lippard, Amber Manfree and the Shadow Puppets Troupe, The Raging Grannies, River's Edge, Rob Sanville of Computerlink, Trailer Park Rangers (special thanks to Michael Houlihan and Bonnie Harvey), Lily Verdone, Whole Foods

Administrative Supporter:

The Chatton-Young Fund of Community Foundation Sonoma County for improvements to our database.

Education Program Supporters:

Dean Witter Foundation, Wells Fargo Bank, Fireman's Fund Foundation, Summit State Bank, Whole Foods Sebastopol, Helen Heal, REI, Codding Foundation, City of Santa Rosa, Don Jackson, Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission

Restoration Projects and Science Program

Supporters:

State Coastal Conservancy, California Wildlife Conservation Board, Sonoma County Water Agency, City of Santa Rosa, Marin-Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District, Community Foundation Sonoma County, ESRI, US Fish & Wildlife Service Private Stewardship Partnership Program

Art and Garden Gala Event Sponsors

Golden Eagle:

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

Otters:

Sonoma National Bank, Vine Hill House, Sonoma West Times & News

Bobcats:

Bill & Gail Bettinelli, Churchill Cellars, Inc., Clean Lakes, Inc., Gallo Family Vineyards, La Dolce V Chocolatiere, Luther Burbank Savings, Anne & Clay Stephens, Veale Investments, Zix Cookies

Herons:

Denise Cadman, Carle, Mackie, Power & Ross LLP, DeMeo & DeMeo Attorneys at Law, Exchange Bank, Bill & Teddy Geary, HMS Travel, Inc., Linkenheimer LLP, Party Tents & Rents (*continued next column*)

Nancy Peter & Jeffery Orth, Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, Sprint Copy Center, George Tuttle & Ben Cushman, Warren & Janice Watkins, Wiggins for Senate 2006

Egrets:

Allen Landscaping, Angel Motors, Codding Foundation, Nancy Dakin & David Woltering, Frank Dono, Environmental Health Specialist, Miles Ferris, Law Offices of Hugh Helm, William & Grace Howard, Rosemary McCreary, Susan Gorin for Santa Rosa City Council, Lanny Keyston, Small Vines Viticulture, Inc., Sonoma Compost Co., Sylvia Zensen

Patron Supporters:

James & Lynda Allen, Jeannette & Carroll Anglin, Nina Arrabit, David Bannister, Elizabeth Bryant & Kimberly Lawton, Doug Bosco & Gail Guynup, Helen Cahill, Susan & Ken Churchill, Kim & Bill Cordell, Florence & William Dodson, Frank & Jackie Dono, Jenny Edstrom, Christine Engel & Hugh Helm, Vivian Estrada, Bob & Chris Evans, Miles Ferris, Linda & David Hanes, Philip & Jenny Harriman, William Hughes, Jr., Greg & Kathi Jacobs, Cheryl Johnson, Don & Louise Johnston, Nancy Kittle, Elizabeth Lewis, Lolly Mercer, Ramona Minero, M. Eileen Morelli, Robert & Pam Murnane, Margo Norman & George Triest, Ettamarie & Ray Peterson, Joan Przekop, Maxine & Patrick Reagh, Valerie Silva, Carol Simpson, Patricia Stack & Paul Rosen, Anne & W. Clayton Stephens, Thomas & Renee Tolliver, Raini & Steve Vallarino, Greg Young

...and, of course, all our donors, volunteers, and you.

Become a Friend of the Laguna!



Founded in 1989, the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation works to preserve, restore, and provide opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn about the Laguna, Sonoma County's richest region of wildlife habitat.

The Foundation is a nonprofit organization supported by contributions and grants. IRS ID #94-3155180. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Clip this coupon and mail with your check. THANK YOU for supporting the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation!

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Tax deductible donation enclosed of \$ _____

I am interested in volunteering. Please call me for opportunities in docent training, restoration projects and/or outdoor recreation (circle preferences).

Preservation Circle. I'd like to support the Laguna with a contribution of \$ _____ every quarter!



Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation

P.O. Box 7886

Santa Rosa, CA 95407-0886

(707) 527-9277

info@lagunafoundation.org

The Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, founded in 1989, works to preserve, restore, and inspire greater public understanding and appreciation of the Laguna de Santa Rosa, a rich and extensive complex of freshwater wetlands on the North Coast of California. The Foundation conducts educational programs, implements preservation and restoration projects, works with landowners and public agencies to protect and improve Laguna resources, and works to develop appropriately managed opportunities for the public to enjoy the Laguna.

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #470
SANTA ROSA, CA

Let us know! We are cleaning up our database so if you received this mailing in error, received duplicates, or any part of your contact information is misspelled, please speak with Maggie x107 or email maggie@lagunafoundation.org. Thanks!

You're Invited Third Annual Laguna Art and Garden Gala

The Laguna Foundation will hold our third annual **Arts and Garden Gala on Sunday, September 10th, from 3-6 PM**. The Gala will again take place at the Vine Hill House north of Sebastopol, a beautiful venue with lush gardens and a spectacular view across the Santa Rosa Plain. The Gala features fascinating and unusual strolling entertainers, sumptuous catering by celebrated local restauranteur Michael Hirschberg & Greg Markey of Highfeather Catering, premium Sonoma County wines, desserts by LaDolce V chocolatier and Zix cookies, and an auction of original artworks on the theme of the Laguna by prominent and well-known Sonoma County artists. It's unlike anything else—an event to remember.

This year's (brief!) keynote address will be by the Hon. Bill Bettinelli, a retired Superior Court judge who serves on the Foundation board.

Tickets for the Laguna Arts and Garden Gala are \$75 each. Sponsorships are also available to promote your business—all sponsorships come with tickets. To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorships, contact Mark at the Foundation offices: 527-9277 x103 or email mark@lagunafoundation.org.

Complete information about the Laguna Art and Garden Gala, including benefits of various sponsorship levels, is available on the Foundation's website,

www.lagunafoundation.org.



Reserve your tickets soon!

