



OPEN SPACES

The latest news from the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy

Vol. 8 No. 2

Working to Protect The Ojai Valley's Future - Today

Summer 2001

Wild About Ojai

Families Exploring The Natural World Together

Our popular environmental education series, *Wild About Ojai*, returned on April 7 and will offer its next program on Saturday, May 5. This year we've made the series more convenient for busy families by meeting on Saturday morning from 9:00 am to noon.

Wild About Ojai is a family-friendly, all outdoor, environmental education series. It inspires kids and adults to learn basic natural history and environmental concepts. Pete Johnson, the Conservancy's education coordinator will use hands-on exploration and participants' reflection through story telling, art, poetry and nature journaling to make this an

enriching, family experience.

We have also made the series more comprehensive so participants can come away with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Ojai Valley's natural world and the importance of our last remaining open spaces.



Enjoying the Ojai Meadow Preserve

This year *Wild About Ojai* will be divided into Spring, Summer and Fall programs. Each program will consist of three sessions. Session one will look at organisms, session two communities and session three the ecosystem. The Spring program will take

place at the Ojai Meadows Preserve, the Summer session at Matillija Creek and the Fall program at the Ilvento Preserve.

The cost of the series is \$8 per session or \$18 per three-session program for individuals and \$12 per session or \$30 per three-session program for families. Each program will occur on the first Saturday of every month, except for September 8 and December 8.

Wild About Ojai will be even more fun this year with the introduction of Quilly Quail and his open space crew, Terra Ant, Holly Mouse, Castor Lizard and Professor Salt n Puff, a snail. Also, all participants will receive a special kit, which not only contains everything participants need for each program, but will be something they can continue to use in studying natural areas on their own.

Space for *Wild About Ojai* is limited to twenty participants per session and advance registration and payment is required.

For additional information or to register, contact the Events Hotline at 646-0251 or visit our events calendar and education web page at www.ovlc.org.

Newest Park Campaign Resonates With Community

The fundraising campaign to create Ojai's Newest Park has now raised \$230,000 towards the \$610,000 goal to build and care for the Park. "The donors for this campaign are a cross-section of the community," remarks Jim Engel, the Conservancy's Executive Director. "We have old-timers and new-comers. People who love the idea of bringing a slice of the local mountains into downtown and those who want a place for tasteful art."

During the coming months, the Conservancy's volunteer fundraising team will be approaching several key individuals to discuss opportunities to support this community effort and honor or memorialize someone who is important in their lives. Naming rights vary from \$150,000 for the mountain stream to \$500 for the Park plaque. There are also many special opportunities to name a trail, plaza or tree. If you have an interest in learning more about how to help us realize the dream of turning a blighted site into a place of community beauty and pride, please call our office at 646-7930. See page 3 for more details on the naming rights that are still available.

**OJAI VALLEY
LAND CONSERVANCY**

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Ojai, California 93024

Office Phone/Fax • (805) 646-7930

Events Hotline • (805) 646-0251

E-mail Address • ovlc@ojai.net

Street Address:

250 E. Ojai Ave. • Arcade Plaza

Website • www.ovlc.org

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A Message From Jim

The Spirit of Open Space



During late March, actor Lee Stetson gave an inspired performance of "The Spirit of John Muir" for Conservancy members and local students. The audience of 120 people left the program energized and inspired by the words of the late, great conservationist. This got me thinking about what a lucky person I am, because I work with and meet dedicated conservationists every week. Their spirit ener-

gizes me to work even harder towards protecting the Ojai Valley's last remaining open spaces. These individuals include board members, volunteers, and concerned citizens. Many of them break the traditional environmentalist mold - young students, business owners, retired couples, and local citrus and avocado growers. Their enthusiasm and dedication is contagious and has spread throughout the Valley to include over 1,000 members.

During the last fifteen years, the Conservancy has built a foundation of supporters who have helped prepare us for the successes of the last three years and the still to be determined opportunities of tomorrow. So please take a look in the mirror and see if you see someone who wants to make a difference in the future of the Ojai Valley. You might be surprised by what you see! Then offer to volunteer or make a financial gift. We have many supporters, but the important job of protecting open space can never have too many advocates.

Jim Engel
Executive Director

Leave A Legacy

Give A Gift For Future Generations Of The Ojai Valley

Please join the seventeen families and individuals who have included the Conservancy in their will or trust. Consider the lasting impact of an estate gift for the preservation of the natural and agricultural heritage of the Ojai Valley. Your contribution will be used for:

- Preserving critical open spaces like the Ojai Meadows Preserve
- Restoring important natural habitats
- Educating our youth and community to be better stewards of our open spaces



If you have already named us in your estate plans, let us thank you for your generous gift and welcome you to the *Conservation Legacy Circle*. For a confidential inquiry about helping to protect the future and beauty of this valley, please **contact the Conservancy office at 646-7930**.



Preserving Ojai's Special Places Forever Newest Park Campaign

The latest campaign update is available at www.ovlc.org

Gift Naming Right Opportunities from \$500 - \$150,000

"As the purse is emptied, the heart is filled" VICTOR HUGO.

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy is offering a limited number of gifting naming opportunities for donors who want to honor or memorialize family, friends, mentors or for civic pride.

THE PARK STREAM ~ The stream emanates from the central viewing plaza and flows through the Park.

THE CENTRAL VIEWING PLAZA ~ An 1,800 sq. ft. central overlook and gathering area with panoramic views of Chief Peak, Topa Topa Mountains and Sulphur Mountain.

THE TRELLISES ~ The Park's three trellises, which will provide shade and access to the center of the park, feature wood branches laid on timber beams supported by natural stone columns.

OJAI AVENUE PLAZA ~ This highly visible plaza features open seating for viewing the stream.

RINCON PLAZA ~ The gateway to Ojai's Newest Park, adjacent to the scented walk and butterfly garden.

EL PASEO PLAZA ~ This entrance leads to the trail of discovery and is the permanent location of the Gift Appreciation Wall.

OJAI AVENUE STONE WALL ~ A 1000 ft. undulating, low stone wall edging in and out of the Park connects the Rincon and Ojai Avenue Plazas. **Reserved.**

GARDEN OF DISCOVERY ~ A natural bedding of water plants along the edge of the stream with fragrant native flowers and shrubs.

CHAPARRAL GARDEN ~ A 4,600 sq. ft. garden with gentle slopes, native trees and plantings to block out street noise.

PUBLIC ART ~ Three distinct artistic works designed by local artists to be placed at the corners of El Paseo,

Rincon and Ojai Avenue (administered by the City of Ojai Arts Commission).

SCENTED WALK AND BUTTERFLY GARDEN ~ A walk lined with flowers of brilliant colors and fragrances to attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

OLD OAK TREE RESTORATION ~ The lower edge of the Park will reach out on El Paseo and Ojai Avenues to the old oak tree, which will be revitalized and preserved.

TRAIL OF DISCOVERY ~ The trail leading from El Paseo Plaza will be filled with plants and surprises, great for school field trips. **Reserved.**

18 TREES, 7 BENCHES ~ A variety of trees, central to the Park's design, include Oaks, Maples, and Sycamores. Benches will be spaced throughout the Park. **20 Reserved.**

GIFT APPRECIATION WALL ~ 500 Names Maximum - The Gift Appreciation Wall at the corner of El Paseo and Rincon, will be unveiled at the opening of Ojai's Newest Park in 2002. **55 Reserved.**

FOR INFORMATION: Call Jim Engel, Executive Director, The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy • 646-7930 or email: ovlc@ojai.net

A Model For Community Parks

A three dimensional model of the Park design is now on public display at The Oaks. It shows all the major features of the beautiful park design.

Recent Newest Park Campaign Donors

Khaled & Sheryl Al-Awar	Jill Greene
The Amorteguy Family	Kathleen & Marvin Hellwitz
Lerie Bjornstedt	Alice Herdina
John & Kathy Broesamle	Gene & Anne McCroy
Vickie Breen	Randi Orlando
Thomas Cruz	Rotary Clubs of Ojai
Steve Eltinge	Nan & Carl Tolbert
Ben Engle & Nancy Kane	Terry & Cricket Twichell
Robert Geres	Larry & Katherine Wilde
Emma & Jonathan Greene	Huora Williams

Ojai's Newest Park Campaign Committee

CO-CHAIRS: Don and Sheila Cluff

COMMITTEE: Ren Adam, Khaled Al Awar, John Broesamle, Jim Engel, David Lavender II, Lois Rice, Mansfield Sprague, Terry Twichell and Larry Wilde.

CAMPAIGN CONSULTANT: David Kaplan

Gift Naming Guidelines

- All gift-naming contributions can be made over a two-year pledge.
- All naming right opportunities are to be provided on a first come - first serve basis. Once they are secured by a gift or pledge, the "naming" will no longer be offered.
- No more than two individuals or families can share one gift naming right.
- Gift-naming donors will be offered a recognition plaque to be placed at the location of the specific gift naming identified on the Park's masterplan. The gift naming will have the suggested inscription as follows: *"Smith Family-Central Viewing Plaza."*

The Latest Conservancy News 'As It Happens'

“We offer our members and friends the opportunity to hear about our latest projects, event announcements, and other exciting news before they appear in the newspaper,” says Jill Greene, Membership Services Coordinator. “The response has been great with over 240 subscribers to the e-mail service so far,” Ms. Greene explained. Its free and easy to sign up. Just send an e-mail to: ovlc@ojai.net and request to be added to the Conservancy e-mail news list or include your e-mail address on your membership renewal envelope.

Virtual Newsletter Saves Resources

In addition to the Conservancy's e-mail news service, we are now offering the option of receiving your *Open Spaces* newsletter online. The advantages of this service include: saving paper, always having the newsletter at your fingertips for future reference and receiving it at least a week before everyone else gets their printed copy. If you'd like to check out the newsletter online, visit our website at www.ovlc.org and click on the 'newsletter' link on the left side of the home page. Five past issues of the newsletter have been archived for your viewing. If you like what you see, then e-mail us at ovlc@ojai.net and request to receive your newsletter electronically just like the 120 people that have already joined.

Events Information Is Only A Phone Call Away

In an effort to make it easier for our members to learn about upcoming events, payment information or how to make reservations, we have added an OVLC Events Hotline at 646-0251.

New Board Members

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy has appointed three new members to the Board of Directors. Susan Bee is a long-time Valley resident, who brings nonprofit experience, budgeting, negotiations skills and a love for education and birding to the Conservancy. Vickie Byrne owns the Carlton Gallery and has a professional background in accounting. She also is a licensed pilot and enjoys photography and horseback riding. Pauletta Walsh offers a strong interest in land use issues, public relations and believes that environmental education is the way to strengthen our long term efforts to protect open space in the Valley. All of these new members share a passion for open space protection.

State Educators Tour Preserve

A group of education professionals, attending a leadership conference in Santa Barbara took a field trip to the Ojai Meadows Preserve in March. At the Preserve, the group was met by students from San Antonio Elementary School and Nordoff High School. The young open space enthusiasts discussed their participation in the service learning/environmental education program, which was developed through a partnership with the Conservancy and the Ojai Valley Unified School District. A graduate student from UCSB's Bren School was also on hand to discuss the Preserve's habitat restoration plan.

New Volunteers Gather At Conservancy Office

Ten new volunteers attended an orientation at our office to learn about how they could become involved in the Valley's open space efforts. Carole Cascio, Volunteer Coordinator and Pete Johnson, Education Coordinator discussed volunteer opportunities, including helping in the office, protecting our Preserves or assisting with our education efforts. *If you would like to become a volunteer or learn more, please contact Carole at 646-7930, e-mail us at ovlc@ojai.net or look at Volunteer Opportunities on page 9.*



The Rainforest Comes To Ojai

Over 90 people gathered at the Ojai Valley Inn for a fascinating lecture and slide show by Dr. Lou Netzer who discussed his work in the Bolivian Rainforest with indigenous people. Jim Engel, OVLC executive director, opened the presentation and explained why the Conservancy would be involved in a topic, seemingly so far away from the Ojai Valley. “Think globally and act locally is a statement challenging us to learn and be inspired by individuals from the Ojai Valley, Ventura County, the State, Nation and even the remote reaches of the rain forest,” he explained. The program was organized by Direct Relief International and co-sponsored by our local Rotary Clubs. The program was part of the Conservancy’s *Environmental Learning Series*.

Frogs and Open Space

Over 30 people attended OVLC’s *Environmental Learning Series* program held at the Ojai Retreat. Author and journalist Kathryn Phillips presented a lecture and slide presentation on *Tracking the Vanishing Frogs*. Ms. Phillips joined biologists on their quest for answers. “They helped me understand that habitat destruction and pollution have played a key role in the decline of amphibians,” said Ms. Phillips. At the end of the program, she answered a variety of questions and emphasized why open space protection and habitat restoration play an important role in helping with the recovery of species locally and worldwide.

Conservancy Recognized in State and National Publication

The Conservancy was recognized in the Spring 2001 issue of *Exchange Magazine* for building a strong volunteer effort which has translated into more community programs and open space preservation. The Land Trust Alliance, who represents open space organizations nationwide, has also described our efforts to turn an abandoned gas station into a community park at their website (www.lta.org). We were also highlighted in the statewide land trust publication produced by The Trust For Public Land for our successful open space efforts during the last three years.

Ventura Open Space Group Works To Save 6,000 acres

Jim Engel spoke to a group of forty individuals at a Ventura forum for those who wish to protect more than 6,000 acres of open space lands behind the City of Ventura. “Work with the landowners, where possible, to reach a solution that will benefit all parties involved,” counseled Engel. “The land trust movement has flourished because of innovative thinking and a willingness to think outside the mainstream,” he added. *Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation’s* website is located at www.hillnoventura.com. Media Relations Director, Martha Nudell believes that Ojai Valley residents should be concerned about the protection of these lands. “The proposed development would be on the Valley’s doorstep,” states Ms. Nudell.

John Muir Talk and Walk

John Muir may have died over 75 years ago, but his spirit and inspiration now lives on through actor, Lee Stetson, who presented a series of programs during late March. As part of our *Environmental Learning Series*, this project was a partnership of the Land Conservancy, Thacher, Ojai Valley and Ojai Valley Unified Schools. Stetson provided two performances to local schools, a public program attended by over a 120 people and a Saturday morning walk at the Ojai Meadows Preserve. Stetson thrilled his audience by conveying the enthusiasm, wit and insight John Muir had towards the natural world.



John Muir

Great Turnout For Conservation Legacy Circle Event

Ninety of our largest donors were honored for their time, spirit and financial contributions at an afternoon reception held at The Ranch House Restaurant and hosted by David & Edie Skaggs. The hosts prepared a beautiful spread for all to enjoy. We also celebrated our 15th year of open space protection with a delicious birthday cake.

CONSERVANCY CALENDAR

Wild About Ojai Education Series Spring Program Session 2 in the Ojai Meadow Preserve

Saturday, May 5 • 9am-noon

The new season of family fun has begun. Join Pete Johnson and his cast of characters to learn about communities in the Ojai Meadow Preserve. **Cost:** \$18/individual and \$30/family for a three-session program or \$8/person; \$12/family for one session. Advanced reservation required and space is limited.

Clean-up Day at Ojai Meadows Preserve next to Nordhoff High School

Sunday, May 20 • 6-7:30pm

Volunteer to keep your Preserve looking beautiful and meet new and old friends.

Evening Lecture Environmental Learning Series

Wednesday, May 23 • 7-8:30pm

Ojai Retreat, topic to be announced.

Volunteer Orientation at the Conservancy Office

Saturday, June 2 • 11-12pm

Learn about all the opportunities to help our open space efforts.

Wild About Ojai Education Series Spring Program Session 3 in the Ojai Meadow Preserve

Saturday, June 2 • 9am-noon

Continue on the family fun quest with Pete Johnson and his cast of characters to learn about the ecosystem of the Ojai Meadow Preserve. **Cost:** \$18/individual and \$30/family for a three-session program or \$8/person; \$12/family for one session. Advanced reservation required and space is limited.

New Member's Welcome Event

Saturday, June 9 • TBA

A pot luck gathering will be held at the home of one of our members to welcome new members to the Conservancy. An explanation of what the Conservancy does, their goals and spirit of OVLC will be discussed.

One of A Thousand Nights A Moroccan Feast and Auctions at the Raz Estate

Saturday, June 30 • 6pm

Sylvia & Shlomo will host a magical evening filled with exotic food, belly-dancers and the exceptional art of Ojai's finest artists. Save the date.

Wild About Ojai Education Series Summer Program Session 1 at Matilija Creek

Saturday, July 7 • 9am-noon

Join Pete Johnson and his cast of characters for Session 1 of the Summer Program and learn about organisms of Matilija Creek. **Cost:** \$18/individual and \$30/family for a three-session program or \$8/person; \$12/family for one session. Advanced reservation required and space is limited.



Clean-up Day at Ojai Meadows Preserve next to Nordhoff High School

Sunday, July 15 • 7-8:30pm

Volunteer to keep your Preserve looking beautiful and meet new and old friends.

Wild About Ojai Education Series Summer Program Session 2 at Matilija Creek

Saturday, August 4 • 9am-noon

Join Pete Johnson and his cast of characters for Session 2 of the Summer Program and learn about communities of Matilija Creek. **Cost:** \$18/individual and \$30/family for a three-session program or \$8/person; \$12/family for one session. Advanced reservation required and space is limited.



**Call 646-0251 or
email: ovlc@ojai.net
for more information about
these programs**

Recent Ojai Meadows/Besant Meadow Campaign Donors

Martha Churchyard
Robert Geres

Amy and Sarah Schneider
Bill and Jill Shanbrom

Annual Fund Gifts

Nancy and Bill Hammond
Michael McFadden Photography
The Ojai Cook
Patagonia

Primavera Gallery
RAINS Department Store
Sara Sackner and Andy Behar
George Wymer

Gifts Memberships Given by Joan Roberts:

Gabriela Barrett
Meridith Hart
Peter Hurley
Jim Joseph
Norma Lamb
Gloria Leader
Ron and Perry McFarlene
Mike Moshofsky

Gifts Memberships Given by Wendy Lockwood:

Stan Clark
Maynard Saylan
Roger Wike

Gifts Made in Honor of:

JOY, MICHAEL AND ANNIE MULLIGAN
Betty Stoughton

Gifts Made in Memory of:

DR. JOHN RUPP
*Carl and Marian Greenfield
Ojai Valley Retired Professional
and Business Men's Club*

JOHN LARRONDE
Kathleen Hellwitz

Special Thanks

Gael Beldon for donating a portion of her book proceeds. **Direct Relief International** for partnering on our Environmental Learning Series. **Mary Ann Johnson** for assisting with the editing and preparation of our newsletter. **Val Lavender** for all her hard work on the cookbook. **Michael McFadden** for donating a picture slide scanner and for donating a portion of the proceeds from his book, *The Color of Ojai*. **The Ojai Cook** for donating a portion of the holiday sales of their food products. **Ojai-Prudential Realty** for the donation of a microwave oven. **Ojai Retreat** for allowing us to use their conference room for the *Environmental Learning Series* and Volunteer Celebration. **Our Landlords** for making it affordable for us to move into our new office. **Primavera Gallery** for hosting our "Heartfelt Fundraiser" and donating a portion of the evening's proceeds. **David and Amy Bransky** for donating a Hoover Vacuum. **Joan Roberts and Wendy Lockwood** for gifting memberships on behalf of their real estate clients. **Linda and Spencer Silver** for donating a wildlife spotting scope to be used at the Ojai Meadows Preserve. **Chris Smithers** for making environmental education a focus for our local students.

The Ranch House Restaurant for hosting our annual Conservation Legacy Circle Event.



Honoring Volunteers - Conservancy Style!



A Special recognition and thank you potluck dinner for OVLC's dedicated volunteers was held at the beautiful Ojai Retreat which overlooks the Ojai Meadows Preserve. Over 50 volunteers feasted on the home made entrees, salads and desserts. Conservancy staff and board members reminded the audience of the important role volunteers have played in the success of our open space protection efforts. "We couldn't do it without you!" exclaimed Support Team Chair, Kathy Broesamle. "And we need new volunteers to help us move forward during the new year." In appreciation for outstanding service, special volunteer awards were presented to Marqui Bury and Judith Gustafson.

Welcome To Our New Members

Thank you to our new members for their exceptional support. The Conservancy's successes in the last year are due to the generous financial and volunteer support of our members.

Robert Anderson
Rolan and Caroline Angel
Anonymous (1)
Gabrielle Barrett and Peter Hurley
Peter and Carla Brooks
Mrs. Brown's Class at Topa Topa Elementary
Stan Clark
Steve Eltinge
Dick and Kay Felton
John Fickewirth

Ms. Giffin's Class at Topa Topa
Matt Goldsmith
Peter and Barbara Haggerty
Mark Hansen
Kipp Harmer
Gary and Jeannie Kennedy
Meridith Hart and Mike Moshofsky
Ric and Cynthia Jackson
Tim Johnson
Jim Joseph and Norma Lamb

Gloria Leader
Ron and Perry McFarlene
Robert Millington
Robert Ramey
Lewis Riffle
Gilbert and Ines Roberts
Maynard Saylan and Roger Wike
Jane Spiller

Local Supporters Help Us To Grow Stronger

Every year, hundreds of our members choose to renew their membership. Thanks for your exceptional support! We are happy to recognize the following individuals and businesses who have renewed their membership since mid April. Your loyalty is greatly appreciated.

Michael and Marjorie Ambarian
Anonymous (2)
Pat and Ross Atkinson
Larry Beatty and Sultana Parvanta
Gael Belden
Steve Bennett
Rick and Tara Bisaccia
Gabriele Blackburn
Tom Bostrom
Barbara Bowman
Masako Bristol
Sue Broidy
Stanford and Eleanor Brown
Keith Buchan and Gretchen Greenberg
Phil and Cindy Burton
Fred and Judy Bysshe
Peter and Cindy Cantle
Michael and Jean Case
Charles Casey
Yvon and Malinda Chouinard
Karen Courington and Dan Lukasiewicz
Peter and Linda D'Aprix
Robert and Greta Davis
Lanyard and Mary Dial
Jerry and Merry Dunn
Delleen Enge
Jim Engel

Ray and Sylvia Faulstich
Jeffrey and Theresa Ferguson
Fred and Dana Fleet
Cindy and David Frings-Cohan
Fruit Growers Laboratory
David and Cindy Garber
Mrs. George Glass
Tony and Kathy Glassman
Stan and Barbara Greene
Larry and Maj Hagman
Stan Hakes
John Hall
Dale Hanson
Jack and Marie Harding
Karen Helsi
Kathleen Hellwitz
Ruth Hemming
Michael and Elizabeth Hermes
Harriet Herrick
Tony and Barbara Hirsch
Lamar and Sally Hoover
Charles and Willa Irwin
Jim and Susan Jackson
John and Maggie Kaufman
Ole Konig
Carol Langford
Mike Jauregui and Susan Olson

George Jaidar and Malchia Olshan
Lynn and George Malone
E.D. and Delee Marshall
Jeff and Debra McComas
Michael and Julie McFadden
Donald and Marion McIsaac
Bill and Cookie Miley
Mr. Gerald Murphy
Elaine Needham
Muriel Parfitt
Carol Peterson and Curt Mossestad
Marty and Barbara Pops
Leland and Katherine Rosenboom
Harry Ross
Amy and Sarah Schneider
Chris and Brett Smithers
Sheila Snow
Nan and Carl Tolbert
Paul D. and Ollie B. Turner
John and Helene Vachet
Bill and Joan Vogel
Jane and Dick Weirick
Harriet Wenig
Dana White
Catherine Wilcox
Susanne and Blake Wilson



New Member Form

Yes! I'll help preserve open space in the Ojai Valley • Enclosed is my annual tax-deductible pledge/gift of:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25-\$49 Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$249 Donor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999 Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50-\$99 Sustaining Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$499 Sustaining Donor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000+ Steward |

MEMBERSHIP NAME(S) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____ HOME PHONE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please make check payable to: **The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy**, P.O. Box 1092 • Ojai, CA 93024
or contribute through your Credit Card

Name on Card _____ Credit Card # _____ Exp.Date _____

Meadows Preserve Volunteer Host Program Kicked Off During Earth Day Celebration

Meadow Preserve Hosts, Susan Tallyn and Marqui Bury led a bird watching hike through the Ojai Meadows Preserve in celebration of Earth Day on April 21. A spotting scope, generously donated to OVLC by Spencer Silver, was used to enhance viewing.

This is a great time of year to see the many bird species that

come to the meadow to feed, seek shelter, mate and nest. It is also a great chance to become a Preserve Host. We are expanding the Host Program this year into an organized, and more highly visible, environmental education team.

Volunteer hosts will lead hikes, set up bird watching stations, conduct other site specific environmental programs, walk the

Meadows, survey wildlife, greet visitors and report any security, maintenance or clean-up needs. Hosts will be provided with OVLC vests and will be responsible for the pick-up and return of all equipment and materials used.

If you would like to become a member of this new Volunteer Host - Environmental Education Team, please contact the OLVC office.

Volunteer Opportunities

GIS Coordinator

A Global Information System (GIS) is a way of computer mapping important resources and being able to visually show relationships between these resources i.e.- development and the loss of agricultural lands or barn owls and mature live oak forests. We need someone who is willing to be trained and will work with us to develop the system to meet our needs. This resource will help the Conservancy and the community to better plan for the protection of critical natural and agricultural lands. We need a person with some computer skills and who will be available to work weekly on this project, but you will be able to set your own schedule for accomplishing the tasks.

Events Assistants

During the year OVLC sponsors several fund raising events. Each event has a special theme that requires unique talents.

Office Assistants

Experience the 'pulse' of the Conservancy by working at our office. Meet our great staff and volunteers, while working on mailings, special projects and other office duties. We would prefer a weekly commitment of a few hours, but once a month would work too.

Preserve Clean-up

Volunteers are needed for monthly meadow clean-ups. If you are interested in helping us keep the Ojai Meadows Preserve clean and beautiful, please join us for one and one-half hours each month. Dates for clean-ups will be posted on the OVLC hotline at 646-0251.

Wild About Ojai Assistants

Come experience our new and exciting education program. It's a chance to be outside, learn about the natural world of the Ventura River Watershed and help families better understand the importance of protecting open space for future generations. An ideal commitment is three hours, once a month.



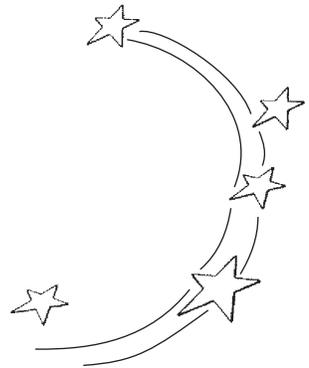
Call 646-7930 if you want to learn more about how you can help with these and other volunteer opportunities listed above.

Our Wish List

Conservancy Will Move Forward With Your Help

As the Conservancy grows, so does our need for additional resources. One way you can help is through the donation of new or used stewardship tools, reference books, and office equipment. Please call us if you can donate any of the items below or if you know of anyone who might like to contribute to the needs of the Conservancy.

- Copy Machine
- Shovels and other trail maintenance tools
- Electric Pencil Sharpener
- 3 Tripods
- Folding Card Table
- Baskets, Serving Bowls & Utensils etc. for OVLC Events
- Microwave Oven - **Donated !**
- New Vacuum Cleaner - **Donated !**
- 2 Spotting Scopes - **1 Donated !**
- 1 Picture Scanner - **Donated !**



Other items that you think would be useful? Please, let us know • 646-7930

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER • SEPTEMBER 8

printed on recycled paper



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 1092
Ojai, CA 93024

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