It has been said that the only constant is change, and like our society at large, 2020 has been a year of change at OVLC. In addition to the staff changes detailed on page 4 of this newsletter, the organization has a newly streamlined mission statement, a new July 1 fiscal year, and a new finance and accounting structure. Our improvements in internal oversight and management are part of our continuing response to the embezzlement that occurred in 2019, and represent strategic steps to strengthen our resolve to protect and restore the Ojai Valley.

OVLC was founded in 1987 out of a community reaction to development threats. Thirty-three years later, we find ourselves uniquely positioned to work with the Ojai Valley community to address the threats from a changing climate. Indeed, much of OVLC’s current conservation and restoration work already enhances the valley’s natural resilience.

For more than a decade, OVLC has been working to restore riparian function and biodiversity in the Ventura River and its tributaries by removing invasive giant reed (Arundo) and replacing it with native species. In doing so, we are restoring the landscape’s natural response to wildland fire and flood. Arundo is highly flammable (as we witnessed during the Thomas Fire) and its removal can protect life and property. And with more extreme weather events predicted, removing the dense and shallow-rooted Arundo will help prevent catastrophic flooding of our creeks and the homes along them.

Having a clear urban-wildlife interface, or in other words protecting our open spaces from further development, is another way that Ojai can be more resilient to wildland fires. This is because firefighters can plan for and defend property much more readily when the wildland-urban interface is clearly defined and easily accessible. The OVLC's Valley View Preserve and parts of the Ventura River Preserve served to form these defensible spaces during the Thomas Fire. We are eager to acquire more lands in the urban wildland interface. These lands (like OVLC’s Valley View Preserve) often border the Los Padres National Forest, and therefore provide wonderful scenic and recreational amenities as well. One thing that was made clear during the pandemic is that access to nature is critically important to being resilient!

As climate change increases drought and heat stress, we need to consider the benefits of habitat and “nature-based solutions.” These benefits are often referred to as “ecosystem services” and in a time and place when the effects of climate change are undeniable, these ecosystem services provide guideposts for OVLC’s conservation work.

Our long-term plans for the Ojai Meadows Preserve and the uplands of the Ventura River Preserve are to restore them to native oak woodland. To date, we have planted oak circles on 36.5 acres. While labor intensive, the carbon storage benefits of planting a coast live oak can live on for over 200 years! If you visit the Ventura River Preserve near the Oso Trailhead, you can see the success of our oak circle plantings. Oak circles, in addition to containing saplings of our native oaks, also include native plants that support the growth of the young oak trees. These plants increase biodiversity, improve soil function, and create critical habitat for vital pollinators. We have also used a no-till drill to plant a variety of native seeds to try to increase the native biodiversity.

Here in the Ojai Valley, natural habitats provide no more important ecosystem service than clean water. Much of OVLC's land acquisition and restoration work is targeted to enhance the landscapes natural ability to recharge aquifers and protect aquatic wildlife. Concerns over water supplies for homeowners, agriculture, and nature was dramatically elevated when the City of Ventura counter-sued every water user in the Ventura River watershed. While distressing, this legal maneuver also presents a potential opportunity to more clearly define the river flows needed to sustain the natural systems on which we all rely.

Between the pandemic, an extraordinary national reckoning on racism, a divisive election, and record setting wildfires, this year will go down in history. You, our steady supporters, have enabled OVLC to weather all of the upheaval. We are confident that with your continued strong support, OVLC will find more innovative ways to help the valley cope with climate change and its ecological impacts. As we near the end of this difficult year, please consider a higher level of support to enable OVLC’s more comprehensive approach in protecting what you love.
When I started as Executive Director one year ago, no one anticipated that a global pandemic would require widespread lockdowns and social distancing practices to become commonplace. Thanks to the steadfast support of our donors, OVLC has only suffered moderately from the wide-ranging societal effects of the pandemic. However, OVLC has not been spared entirely from its effects.

Before the onset of the lockdowns, long-time OVLC Office Manager, Marty Reid, retired (for the second time after being pulled back into service for several months after Brian Stark’s departure). Long time OVLC volunteer Dan Pizano was hired to be OVLC’s Operations Director. Dan’s acute attention to detail and technological knowledge will help streamline and modernize OVLC’s business practices. And, as we all quickly moved to working from our homes in March, Dan’s hire came just in time.

Unfortunately, the lockdowns and need to work from home led long time staffer Jill Lashly and OVLC to part ways. Jill was a huge part of our team and this left a big hole in our staffing. But, with change comes opportunity and Jill’s departure created an opportunity to restructure the staffing of our field programs. We brought our restoration and stewardship programs together into a “field operations” structure that enables a more integrated approach to our restoration and stewardship projects. Brendan Taylor has been promoted to Director of Field Programs.

We also promoted Caitlyn Barrera to the position of Restoration Program Manager to guide the implementation of our restoration projects. This includes coordinating with state and federal funding agencies and ensuring that we meet the grant requirements. Caitlyn brings a scientific orientation to our restoration efforts and is already refining some of our practices.

Another staffing change occurred when a departure from the development team provided long-time employee Nathan Wickstrum with an opportunity to diversify his contributions to OVLC beyond his field role. Nathan has embraced the change and is bringing new energy to the development team as the Communications and Outreach Manager. Nathan’s depth of field experience will enhance our outreach on our stewardship and restoration work. This is also a great fit since Nathan’s outstanding photography has long been a source of inspiration to staff and supporters alike!

Importantly, with Nathan’s move out of the field and Brendan’s new more office-based role, OVLC created a wholly new and much needed position of Land Steward. The goal of this position is to provide a presence on the land, interact with preserve users, and help guide and coordinate our dedicated cadre of volunteers. We are excited to welcome Ventura County native and emerging expert in local flora Linda Wilkin into this new position. Please look for her out on the trails and say hi!

Helping to fill Nathan and Caitlyn’s moves out of the field is Kevin McLeod who previously worked on OVLC’s restoration team. He is providing his expertise as Field Crew Supervisor. Kevin’s knowledge of the Ojai Valley and ecology are invaluable additions to the team. Helping Kevin in the field and rounding out the recent staff changes is Nicole Kabey who has replaced Destinee Rabelo and joins Mayra Diaz on the field crew to help with our restoration and stewardship activities.

These new staff roles synergize perfectly with the work of Deputy Director Tania Parker and Development Associate Xena Grossman, who make the magic happen in the office, and our Nursery Manager Ron Singer, who ensures we have an ample supply of native plants for our restoration projects and our native plant sales.

So, while OVLC copes with elements of the new normal of the pandemic, we are encouraged by the recent staff changes, and look forward to coming through this strange time stronger than ever. Keep your eye out for Linda, as well as our restoration crew, and if you see them out on a preserve, please feel free to introduce yourself and say hello!
Bridges are complete, volunteers are back, and some weeds are finally being out-competed at the Ojai Meadows Preserve.

In March, with the Allan Jacobs Bridge nearly complete, it was time to plan our next projects for our volunteer trail program. We decided to turn our attention to the three trails the OVLC adopts from the Los Padres National Forest: lower Gridley Trail, lower Pratt Trail, and Foothill Trail. With this goal in mind, we submitted a grant application to the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA), National Forest System Trail Stewardship Partnership Funding program for support in our work on the adopted Forest Service trails.

In late spring, we got some good news: our grant application was successful! The only catch, was that as part of the application we had committed to using hundreds of hours of volunteer trail work before the end of 2020, and because of Covid-19, all of our volunteer projects were indefinitely postponed.

Out of an abundance of caution, we did not host volunteer projects through the spring into the summer. Slowly OVLC staff chipped away at the Allan Jacobs Bridge without big groups involved. As we neared the end of that project, and as the end of the year and the volunteer hours grant requirement started to creep into view, and as more and more of our committed volunteers inquired about restarting projects, we knew we had to do something. So we did.

On August 29, we hosted our first volunteer trail crew project in over five and a half months. We established robust safety protocols, including requiring masks, minimizing the number of people allowed on a single trip, doing contactless temperature checks, and more.

As of October 27, we have had eight volunteer projects on our Forest Service trails—and this doesn’t even include numerous volunteer restoration projects we’ve had as well on other preserves.

The moment we’ve all been waiting for has finally come to fruition. The Rice Canyon Canal Bridge is officially complete! The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, in partnership with the Casitas Municipal Water District and Bureau of Reclamation, has worked hard over the last two and a half years to ensure the Rice Canyon Canal Bridge, which crosses over the Robles Diversion Canal, would be reborn from the ashes once again. However, unlike its last two predecessors, the new bridge is made out of steel and concrete which makes it more resilient to fire.

The installation of the new Rice Canyon Canal Bridge means the return of the quickest public access to Rice Canyon, the beloved Rice to Wills loop, and the western portion of the Ventura River Preserve and its extensive network of trails; including a gateway trail (Kennedy Ridge Trail) leading into the Los Padres National Forest. Hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians all agree that the loop from Rice Canyon to Wills Canyon is one of the most beloved routes on the preserve. Following an old ranch road, it provides a trail that is accessible to all levels of users and creates one of the most enjoyable loops in Ojai.

The OVLC estimates that the 1,600-acre Ventura River Preserve provides nature-based recreation to over 66,000 visitors each year on its 17 miles of trail. These protected open spaces and outdoor recreational opportunities are one of the reasons why people enjoy living in and visiting Ojai.

Through the hard work of our volunteers, we’ve already put in 13 rock check steps, eight timber check steps, fixed or installed 17 rock water bars, and generally maintained nearly two miles on our adopted Forest Service trails. We’re fortunate to have the support of our partners in the Los Padres National Forest and funders like the NWSA to support these projects, but we’re truly and incredibly lucky to have volunteers so dedicated that they’ll put up with restrictive but necessary safety protocols to help our trails. We are proud to report that we have not had any problems or anyone get sick to our knowledge, and our outdoor volunteer program is back, humming along, with Covid-19 safety protocols in place. Though we can’t be certain how long the pandemic will affect our program, we’re certain this community will help us accomplish great work throughout!
OVLC field crew has been hard at work controlling weeds. One area in particular that has changed dramatically in the last year is what the OVLC calls the South Church Field at the Ojai Meadows Preserve. In 2015, it was a field filled with the beautiful, but terribly invasive mustard. As the years went on, OVLC started to establish mini plant-community “nodes”—each composed of a variety of chaparral and wetland species surrounded by mulch to keep away weeds. Each node had to be managed for weeds regularly since invasive species, like mustard, can easily choke out newly planted stock. Depending on the species, mustard can also be very tall and dense, shading out smaller native plants that need sunlight (see photo 1).

A couple years later, as the plantings began to mature, disjunct patches of mustard were popping up instead of the usual solid field. One species to thank for this change is coyote brush (Baccharis pilularis). This plant is a pioneer species, meaning it has the ability to re-colonize a disturbed or damaged ecosystem after other native species have disappeared. Once it is mature and established it makes it hard for non-native species to establish in the same area (see photo 2).

Now, the South Church Field is filled with a large amount of coyote brush, and less and less mustard returns each year (see photo 3). With the establishment of coyote brush, the OVLC field crew is now focusing efforts on helping other immature plants gain establishment with irrigation and weed control efforts. A native plant that is starting to self-recruit is purple needle grass (Nassella pulchra). The southern black walnuts (Juglans californica) that were planted years back by OVLC staff are starting to mature and become taller than the cages they were planted in to protect them from gophers and deer. Most importantly, the coast live oaks (Quercus agrifolia), which are dominant species in the desired ecosystem, are starting to reach above the coyote brush.

This project has taught the field crew that restoration is a slow process that requires a lot of hard work, but it can be very rewarding to watch first-hand the transformation of a degraded ecosystem back to its original state. OVLC staff are excited to see what further transformations are in store for this field in the coming years and share them with the community of Ojai.

Note: This is an active restoration site. Please view it from designated trails only.

In 2019, the OVLC Board chose a new auditor in its efforts to further improve internal controls after the unfortunate embezzlement in 2019. As we had hoped, that firm was extraordinarily detailed in the preparation of our Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 audit, which took until the spring of this year to complete. The auditor’s extensive research benefited from the expertise of Marti Reid who, as you may recall, came out of retirement to help OVLC through the leadership transition. The auditor confirmed that many of the changes that the Board and staff have taken were appropriate steps to improve internal controls. We are confident that we have all but eliminated the possibility that any sort of embezzlement could occur without being detected much more quickly. The 2019 financials, as well as past years, can be viewed at: ovlc.org/financials.

It is customary for an organization to present its financial statements at least once a year to its supporters, and OVLC has usually done just that in our Winter newsletter. However, in addition to the new auditor and improvements to internal financial controls, we have restructured our chart of accounts and changed to a July 1 fiscal year to better align with our programs. Accordingly, our Annual Report with financials from 2020 was scheduled to be in our Summer newsletter following the close of our new fiscal year. However, Covid-19 is causing significant delays in getting the financials completed and we have decided to send out what is now the Summer/Fall newsletter without the final numbers.

As soon as we have the financials for FY 2020 they will be posted at: ovlc.org/financials. In the meantime, please contact us if you have any specific questions.
OVLC was founded by the community, for the community. Your continued support makes the work we do, for all of us and for Ojai, possible. Thank you.
Protecting your views, trails, water, and wildlife. The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy

MOST LIKED PHOTOS OF THE YEAR

Mike Frisk
Milan & Sandra Fuca
Mona Zaidi
Monica Pattera
Nadia Iacolino
Nancy & Glenn Perry
Nancy Aguilar
Nancy Escher
Nancy Mama
Natalie Gray
Natalie Stone
Nick Botelho
Noel Douglas-Roth
Norma Curtis
Nori Coburn
Nutmeg’s Ojai House
Ojai Blooms
Pamela Fetter
Patrick Mahoney
Patty Fry
Paul & Carol Belser
Paul & Sheila Repp
Paul Delapa & Bruce Owen
Paul Lepiane
Paul Wan
Paule & Geoffrey Clarke
Paypal Giving Fund
Peak Power Yoga & Wellness
Peggi & Dennis Wood
Peter & Heidi DiCapua
Pippa’s Print Shop
Presley Johnson Design
R.A. & A.P. Bernhahl
Ramona Mejia
Ramsey & Elise Rayner
Rebecca Gualdana
Rhianon Kingston
Richard & Sharon Rockefeller
Richard & Sherry McArthur
Richard Carlson
Richard Hiltner
Richard Parsons
Richelle Solos
Rio Vogt
Robert & Amy Dennis
Robert & Carolejo Adams
Robert Dodge
Roben Gerber
Rodney & Jean Smith
Rodney & Vicki Thompson
Roger & Susan Dickenson
Ron Stark
Ronald & Charlotte Williams
Rosemary Payne
Rowan Lommel
Rowanee Henry
Ruth Walker
Sallie G. Reynolds
Sara Zicherman
Sarah Dalbesio
Sarah Trudell
Scott Weiss
Scott White
Sreeze Farm Management
Shana Gelayek
Sharlene Smartt
Sharon Best
Sharon Madrona
Sharon Thanes
Sharon Zorlak
Shauna Hermes
Sheila McClain
Sid & Sheila Cohn
Sierra Alder
Slow Tech Labs
Soheila Kolahi
Sooz Gleedbrook
Stephanie & Don Midgett
Stephen & Judy Walker
Stephen & Sandra Selwyn
Stephanie Wald
Steve Bennett & Leslie Ann Ogden
Steve Matalin
Stuart & Kyle Crowder
Sunny Cross
Susan & Owayne McCulloch
Susan Barger
Susan Carpenter
Susan Leech
Susan Smart
Susan Westbrooks
Susan & Anthony Talmishon
Suzanne & Peter Lugotof
Sylvia Mufarre Schnapp
Take Two Software
Tanner Youd
Ted & Pearl Malos
Tee Smith
Teresa & Dick Smith
Tanza Candollo
Terry & Alan Mauenhadi
Tessa Byars
The Balm Family
The Norm Pratt Family
The Southern Los Padres Trecking Company
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Theresa Mondoza
Thomas & Lacey McCmick
Tignier Nahabedian
Tom Tinner & Barbara Hunter
Tom Rambo
Tony Burston
Travis Gonsalves
Trevor & Monica Marshall
Valerie Curtis
Valerie Yates
Vicky Clarke & Jack Scraton
Virginia Siegfried & Barry Verga
Watercolors by Patsy Van Dyke
Wayne Lattimer
Wendy & Jerry Jacobs
Wendy Bonacho
Wendy Ford
Wendy McCollb
Willa Irwin
William & Wendi Knox
Williamsthil Johnson & Victoria Mattheus
Yolande Labelle
Zara Skipagan
Zoërita & Clark Bowers
Sustaining Supporters

$100+

Alex & Sarah Sheshunoff
Alan & Jeanne Templeman
Al Stroberg & Betsy Patterson
Anna Thomas
Anna Jacobs-Auric
Anna Thomas
Anne & Chad Carper
Anne & David Brown
Anne Kaplan
Anne Merritt
Annie Reeves
Anthony Vogt
Anthony & Kathleen Glassman
Amy Sepe & Phil Caruthers
Audrin Harris
Autodesk Foundation
Bakeen
Barbara & Joel Aaronson
Barbara Bowen & Sol de la Torre Bueno
Barbara Cooker
Barbara Feld
Barbara Sorem-Hughelt
Barnhart & Barnhart Insurance
Barry & Chris Bettschak
Barry & Donna Rabe
Barry & Paula Wayne
Benjamin Matt
Beth & Bruce Brown
Beth Dorenkamp
Bret & Denise Kantrowitz
Brian & Blossom Pidduck
Brian & Christine Ford
Brian & Marie Hasse
Brook Montagna
Bruce Japan
Bruce Menzel & Julie Tumsatt-Demond
Bryan Collins
Bryan Gonzales
Camille & Brian Holly
Carol Nicholson
Carole Poier & Curt Meissner
Carole Shore
Carrie Eber & Jimmy Harvey
Caryn & Charlie Beason
Catherine Lee
Cath & James Nye
Cathy Dorn
Char Man Brand Hot Sauce
Charles & Jo Spence
Charles Crofot
Cheryl & Monte Widders
Cheryl Armstrong
Chris & Anna P. Rhoda
Chris & Karen Birbeck
Chris & Mark Marmes
Christina Taylor & John Webb

Lorraine Lim Catering
Hair Stylist at Bohème
Jennifer Keeler,
Greyfox Investors
GoOjai.com
Window Washing Company
The Glass Man Professional
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Theresa Mondoza
Thomas & Lacey McCmick
Tignier Nahabedian
Tom Tinner & Barbara Hunter
Tom Rambo
Tony Burston
Travis Gonsalves
Trevor & Monica Marshall
Valerie Curtis
Valerie Yates
Vicky Clarke & Jack Scraton
Virginia Siegfried & Barry Verga
Watercolors by Patsy Van Dyke
Wayne Lattimer
Wendy & Jerry Jacobs
Wendy Bonacho
Wendy Ford
Wendy McCollb
Willa Irwin
William & Wendi Knox
Williamsthil Johnson & Victoria Mattheus
Yolande Labelle
Zara Skipagan
Zoërita & Clark Bowers
Sustaining Supporters

$100+

Alex & Sarah Sheshunoff
Alan & Jeanne Templeman
Al Stroberg & Betsy Patterson
Anna Thomas
Anna Jacobs-Auric
Anna Thomas
Anne & Chad Carper
Anne & David Brown
Anne Kaplan
Anne Merritt
Annie Reeves
Anthony Vogt
Anthony & Kathleen Glassman
Amy Sepe & Phil Caruthers
Audrin Harris
Autodesk Foundation
Bakeen
Barbara & Joel Aaronson
Barbara Bowen & Sol de la Torre Bueno
Barbara Cooker
Barbara Feld
Barbara Sorem-Hughelt
Barnhart & Barnhart Insurance
Barry & Chris Bettschak
Barry & Donna Rabe
Barry & Paula Wayne
Benjamin Matt
Beth & Bruce Brown
Beth Dorenkamp
Bret & Denise Kantrowitz
Brian & Blossom Pidduck
Brian & Christine Ford
Brian & Marie Hasse
Brook Montagna
Bruce Japan
Bruce Menzel & Julie Tumsatt-Demond
Bryan Collins
Bryan Gonzales
Camille & Brian Holly
Carol Nicholson
Carole Poier & Curt Meissner
Carole Shore
Carrie Eber & Jimmy Harvey
Caryn & Charlie Beason
Catherine Lee
Cath & James Nye
Cathy Dorn
Char Man Brand Hot Sauce
Charles & Jo Spence
Charles Crofot
Cheryl & Monte Widders
Cheryl Armstrong
Chris & Anna P. Rhoda
Chris & Karen Birbeck
Chris & Mark Marmes
Christina Taylor & John Webb

Lorraine Lim Catering
Hair Stylist at Bohème
Jennifer Keeler,
Greyfox Investors
GoOjai.com
Window Washing Company
The Glass Man Professional
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Theresa Mondoza
Thomas & Lacey McCmick
Tignier Nahabedian
Tom Tinner & Barbara Hunter
Tom Rambo
Tony Burston
Travis Gonsalves
Trevor & Monica Marshall
Valerie Curtis
Valerie Yates
Vicky Clarke & Jack Scraton
Virginia Siegfried & Barry Verga
Watercolors by Patsy Van Dyke
Wayne Lattimer
Wendy & Jerry Jacobs
Wendy Bonacho
Wendy Ford
Wendy McCollb
Willa Irwin
William & Wendi Knox
Williamsthil Johnson & Victoria Mattheus
Yolande Labelle
Zara Skipagan
Zoërita & Clark Bowers
Sustaining Supporters

$100+

Alex & Sarah Sheshunoff
Alan & Jeanne Templeman
Al Stroberg & Betsy Patterson
Anna Thomas
Anna Jacobs-Auric
Anna Thomas
Anne & Chad Carper
Anne & David Brown
Anne Kaplan
Anne Merritt
Annie Reeves
Anthony Vogt
Anthony & Kathleen Glassman
Amy Sepe & Phil Caruthers
Audrin Harris
Autodesk Foundation
Bakeen
Barbara & Joel Aaronson
Barbara Bowen & Sol de la Torre Bueno
Barbara Cooker
Barbara Feld
Barbara Sorem-Hughelt
Barnhart & Barnhart Insurance
Barry & Chris Bettschak
Barry & Donna Rabe
Barry & Paula Wayne
Benjamin Matt
Beth & Bruce Brown
Beth Dorenkamp
Bret & Denise Kantrowitz
Brian & Blossom Pidduck
Brian & Christine Ford
Brian & Marie Hasse
Brook Montagna
Bruce Japan
Bruce Menzel & Julie Tumsatt-Demond
Bryan Collins
Bryan Gonzales
Camille & Brian Holly
Carol Nicholson
Carole Poier & Curt Meissner
Carole Shore
Carrie Eber & Jimmy Harvey
Caryn & Charlie Beason
Catherine Lee
Cath & James Nye
Cathy Dorn
Char Man Brand Hot Sauce
Charles & Jo Spence
Charles Crofot
Cheryl & Monte Widders
Cheryl Armstrong
Chris & Anna P. Rhoda
Chris & Karen Birbeck
Chris & Mark Marmes
Christina Taylor & John Webb

Lorraine Lim Catering
Hair Stylist at Bohème
Jennifer Keeler,
Greyfox Investors
GoOjai.com
Window Washing Company
The Glass Man Professional
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Theresa Mondoza
Thomas & Lacey McCmick
Tignier Nahabedian
Tom Tinner & Barbara Hunter
Tom Rambo
Tony Burston
Travis Gonsalves
Trevor & Monica Marshall
Valerie Curtis
Valerie Yates
Vicky Clarke & Jack Scraton
Virginia Siegfried & Barry Verga
Watercolors by Patsy Van Dyke
Wayne Lattimer
Wendy & Jerry Jacobs
Wendy Bonacho
Wendy Ford
Wendy McCollb
Willa Irwin
William & Wendi Knox
Williamsthil Johnson & Victoria Mattheus
Yolande Labelle
Zara Skipagan
Zoërita & Clark Bowers
Sustaining Supporters

$100+

Alex & Sarah Sheshunoff
Alan & Jeanne Templeman
Al Stroberg & Betsy Patterson
Anna Thomas
Anna Jacobs-Auric
Anna Thomas
Anne & Chad Carper
Anne & David Brown
Anne Kaplan
Anne Merritt
Annie Reeves
Anthony Vogt
Anthony & Kathleen Glassman
Amy Sepe & Phil Caruthers
Audrin Harris
Autodesk Foundation
Bakeen
Barbara & Joel Aaronson
Barbara Bowen & Sol de la Torre Bueno
Barbara Cooker
Barbara Feld
Barbara Sorem-Hughelt
Barnhart & Barnhart Insurance
Barry & Chris Bettschak
Barry & Donna Rabe
Barry & Paula Wayne
Benjamin Matt
Beth & Bruce Brown
Beth Dorenkamp
Bret & Denise Kantrowitz
Brian & Blossom Pidduck
Brian & Christine Ford
Brian & Marie Hasse
Brook Montagna
Bruce Japan
Bruce Menzel & Julie Tumsatt-Demond
Bryan Collins
Bryan Gonzales
Camille & Brian Holly
Carol Nicholson
Carole Poier & Curt Meissner
Carole Shore
Carrie Eber & Jimmy Harvey
Caryn & Charlie Beason
Catherine Lee
Cath & James Nye
Cathy Dorn
Char Man Brand Hot Sauce
Charles & Jo Spence
Charles Crofot
Cheryl & Monte Widders
Cheryl Armstrong
Chris & Anna P. Rhoda
Chris & Karen Birbeck
Chris & Mark Marmes
Christina Taylor & John Webb

Lorraine Lim Catering
Hair Stylist at Bohème
Jennifer Keeler,
Greyfox Investors
GoOjai.com
Window Washing Company
The Glass Man Professional
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
Theresa Mondoza
Thomas & Lacey McCmick
Tignier Nahabedian
Tom Tinner & Barbara Hunter
Tom Rambo
Tony Burston
Travis Gonsalves
Trevor & Monica Marshall
Valerie Curtis
Valerie Yates
Vicky Clarke & Jack Scraton
Virginia Siegfried & Barry Verga
Watercolors by Patsy Van Dyke
Wayne Lattimer
Wendy & Jerry Jacobs
Wendy Bonacho
Thank you for your Business, helping to protect our open space!
Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Pushing up Poppies

Just by including the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy in your estate plans, you can help protect the beauty of Ojai for generations to come. A bequest is a simple way to support the OVLC in the future while retaining control of your assets during your lifetime. By making the OVLC a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or financial accounts, you ensure your values will be passed on after you.

The real beneficiary, of course, is Ojai.

Carrie Ruschenkky
Charlene & Ken Hartenstein
Chelsea Sudia
Chip & Sheryl Lasch
Christine White
David & Elizabeth Silve
Dennis & Holly Mitchem
Donna & Ted Miller
Eutrepe Farms
Everard Schley
Firestick Pottery
Fred & Dana Fleet
Friend’s Ranch
George & Debbie Watson
Glenda & Darrell Jones
Jane & Steve Murray
Jerry & Linda Bruckseimer
Jerry Marynuk & Diane Berney
Jessica & Stephen Schutzman
Jim & Kris Finch
John Davis & Lorraine Brown
Julie Rischer
Jorgen & Gerry Gramkow
Katharine Holden & Tom Aherton
Kathryn & Jason Headley
Kristen & Alan Bell
Larry Rose & Lisa Larramendy
Lezlie Z Toban
Liberty Hanson-Wild & Jason Wild
Linda & Margaret Lynn Bratina & Robert Moir
Mary & Steve Toscher
Mark Silbernagel
Masha & Paul Fonteyn
Martha Grossweiner
Marti & Don Reid
Mary Thompson & Don HOPR
Maureen Grace
McDaniel Insurance Services
Meredith & Eric Bell
Michael & Arlene Ross
Michael Steverson – Grand East Oak-Axis
Micha Mitchell
Nancy Vanioti
Paul Fortune
Paula Spellman
Peter & Barbara Bonomi
Phil & Suzanne White
Randrop Pool & Spa
Randy Banchik & Jannell Greene-Banchik
Riverview Ranch
R egion Ericson
RKC NY
Terry & Cindy Wright
The Glass Man Professional
William & Sue Gilbret
WestCoast Air Conditioning
William Burnside
Friends of the Ojai Valley
$1,000+
Alan & Carol Saltman
Amazon Smile
Amy Schneider
Ann & Harry Oppesheimer
Anne & Garrett Clifford
Balian-Chom Family Charitable
Bank of the Sierras
Barbara Barry
Bill Brothers & Susie Ault
Bruce & Virginia Hibberd
Bryan & Jessica Scordamaglia
Carol Bishop
Catherine Ann Jones
CF Engineering Contractor
Channel Islands Sportfishing
Charles & Barbara Jerviss
Chevron Humankind Matching
Program
Chris Hacker & Wll Thomas Claudia Wunderlich
Conor Eaton & William Hart
Cynthia & Byron Grant
Darlene Patrick & Jim Selman
Dave & Sally Hacket
David & Deborah Junod
Deric & Barbara Washburn
Diederik van Hoogstraten
Don & Susie Allman
Doug & Mary Jo McIntand
Francis (Jack) Pepper
Gail & Erik Peterson
Garbain & Jill Hoeksma
Google
Huora L. Williams
Island Packers
James & Wendy Schutzman
Janat Jacobs
Jim & Becky Campbell
Joan Kemper
John & Kathy Broesamle
Judith Meleliat & Reilly Jensen
Karen Courington & Dan Courington
Karen Hofheinz & Bob Velters
Kay & Jack Chotkowski
Kerry Miller (Designer/Builder, Inc.)
Kitty & Johnny Johnson
Linda Deuch
Linda South
Liz & Jason Goldman
LoebF Family Fund
Lorraine Lim Catering, Inc
Lu & Jonathan Talmach
Mary Bergen
Michael Newkirk & Olivia Garfield
Mike & Erika Swimmer
Mike Sullivan & Melissa Bishop
Niel & Robin Nyborg
Ojai Valley Inn
Oliver Wilson & Karin Rietmann
Pam & Alan Bergman
Peter Seary
Phil Monarchich & Diane Zuzmen
Phillip Bradley
Rei
Robert Talley & Betty Bachman
Roger & Pat Eckiv
Ruth Lavel & Bob Bonewitz
Sandi Bunchley
SCIA Insurance Services LLC
Scott Bevens & Valerie Dyker
So Hum Foundation
Susan Bee
Susan Foster
The John L. Miller Family Foundation
Tom & Mary Drisni
Tora Peraltla Real Estate
Trent & Kris Greco
William H. Painter, Jr.*
Wyset & Claudia Harris

Champions $500+

Adays Walsh
Alan & Jan Rams
Allison Birdswold & Aiden Bristow
Ann & Peter Costigan
Ara Guselman
Brenda Tuggle
Brittany Sanders & Robert Pollock
California Solar Electric
Cari Guerrero Shore & Peter Shores
Carol Langford
Carolyn Lieber

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
Protecting your views, trails, water, and wildlife.

ovlc.org

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you volunteers

In the field, in the office, and wherever else we need help—our amazing volunteers put in 1,972 hours in our 9 month fiscal year, even with months of volunteer projects on hold this spring. We are so grateful for every minute you take to help us conserve Ojai. We are grateful for each and every one of you.
The Green Valley Project (GVP) is an environmental initiative led by The C.R.E.W. in partnership with Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, Once Upon a Watershed, Pax Environmental, and Watershed Progressive. The GVP plans to restore ecosystems in the Ojai Valley over the next 20 years, so they can provide habitat for abundant wildlife and improve Ojai’s resilience to drought, fire, and climate change. Principal funding comes from a generous multi-year grant from the Cotyledon Fund, a private donor-advised fund. The partners are also committed to raising support from community donors, and state and local grants.

The GVP also strives to create future generations of environmental leaders. Local teens and young adults will be tasked with restoring and enhancing habitats so that native plants and animals can thrive. These participants will have the opportunity to be involved in every stage of restoration, from the collection of native seeds, to the planting and long-term care of the plants. Projects include oak woodland restoration and pollinator habitat plantings in the Ojai Meadows Preserve, on school campuses, along Middle Stewart Canyon Creek, and open spaces throughout the Ojai Valley. Over the years, this work will help build resilience in the Ojai Valley where water flows more freely, carbon is sequestered, extreme fire behavior is mitigated, and biodiversity is abundant.

Since one of GVP’s primary goals is to provide young people with valuable life and career perspectives, and hopefully create environmental stewards, a holistic approach will be taken. In addition to working to restore the lands, participants will have the opportunity to work on additional projects including: wildlife studies, native plant and tree nurseries, and internship programs with professionals in ecology, environmental communications, and more. Leadership development is woven into all GVP activities.

To learn more about the GVP and opportunities for teens and young adults, please visit greenvalleyproject.org and sign up for their mailing list.

Pictured above: The initial GVP project began earlier this December at the Ojai Meadows Preserve, where participants began restoring three acres to oak savanna woodlands. A total of 36 oak circles will be planted here and cared for by GVP youth. As they plant the trees and plants, and continue to care for them, young participants will gain leadership opportunities, learn about the environment in a hands-on way, understand more deeply how to be good stewards of the land, as well as open their eyes to future job and career paths.
CREATURE FEATURE

RED COACHWHIP

Have you been out on the trails and seen an unforgettable flash of pink go by? It was likely a red coachwhip (Coluber flagellum piceus). These beautiful, fast snakes are one of the most cryptic snakes in Ojai. The coachwhip's color varies by region, but the majority of them in Ojai are reddish-pink. Something unique about this snake is its ability to climb quickly—OVLC field staff have often seen these snakes retreat into laurel sumac or other trees, making them difficult to spot since they look similar to branches. They mate in late spring, lay eggs in summer, and hatchlings emerge late summer to early fall. This snake is not venomous, but just like all wildlife, it does not wish to interact with humans. If you come across one sunbathing, don't try to move or touch it. Chances are it will race away to another sunny location.

IT’S UNBELIEFABLE!

Achoo! This might be a sound you make when exploring OVLC’s Confluence Preserve, and the western sycamore (Platanus racemosa) may be responsible for your sneezing. This tree supports many wildlife species, including a variety of birds. Growing to be more than 100 feet tall, the larvae of the Western Tiger Swallowtail (Papilio rutulus) survive by eating its leaves. It’s colorful bark is thin and constantly shedding; the older bark is dark while the younger is lighter. One reason for this constant shedding is that it tends to grow at a fast rate, with height increases of more than two feet annually. Next time you’re out on a preserve, look at a sycamore’s height and try to guess how old it is!

IN MEMORY OF

Allan Dobel
In loving memory of Uncle Allan from Brenden, Toni and Jack
What an extraordinary man! from Laurel Burkhartd
John & Julia Perry, Julie Rischar, Marti & Dan Red, Michelle & Matt Demaria, Paul & Inga Dobel, Rachel & John Cernevsky
Allan Jacobs
Missing Papa A today and everyday. Grateful for the legacy he left in Ojai. from Jessica Jacobs
Barbara Sunderland from Susan Bee
Bob and Sylvia Emhardt from Janis Emhardt
Bud White
In honor of my late husband, Bud White who loved the OVLC and enjoyed volunteering while he was still able to do so. from Christowe White
David Kille
It was an honor to know this fine man. May he be at peace. from Nancy & Pat Kroy
from Bill Brothers & Susie Ault, Carrie Starks
Dorothy Voogd from Anthonie Voogd
Eugene Steiner from David & Monika Clemens
Guy Morris from Gary Nichols
James Bracioni Missing you, Jim. from Diana Kelly
Mum from David Wappler
Robert A. Dreger from Paul Dreger
Sara Roxanne Schneider from Elizabeth & Wayne Ogden
Sheila Cluff
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love, Eden, Addie and the Neil Family.
My deepest condolences, your mother was a great lady and industry pioneer. from Francis Acuana
Sonja Beam from Susan Harvey
Zorby
Laurie Edgcomb’s beloved Zorby gave joy and inspired all who met him out on the trails. A well trained Arabian, who wore a hand carved twirled wooden Unicorn horn, Zorby was beloved by all and is always remembered. from Ailsa Shari, Carolyn & Ted Moore, Deborah Murphy, John Brooks, Laughing Dog Ranch, Laurie Edgcomb, M. Kathryn Waldman, Ojas Lily, Sandra Miller, Rachel Kondor & Brian Segee, Rowan Lommel, Susan Borges, Tana Parker, Anonymous

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Elisabeth Richardson from Anne Richardson
Kelly Merriman & Diederk Van Hengstraten from Eric & Wendy Lockwood
Rheina Rogart from Anonymous

IN HONOR OF

Amy Jupiter
Happy Birthday and Happy Ojai! from Joe Rohde & Mal Malmberg
Caitlyn Barrera
Happy, happy birthday! Thank you for being my inspiration to make the world a better place through supporting the good work of OVLC. Love, jma from Jan Chase
Clyde Blair
Happy birthday Clyde! from Clyde Blair, Marcelina Sais, Barbara Eberhart, Akio Uyechi, Loen Eib, John North, Jeffrey Herffans, Krysoe Soaring: Eagle, Cheri Nagle
Stefanie Coeler
Happy Birthday Stefanie! from Anonymous, Barbara Coeler, Benedictine Schuyen & Ned Clark, Carina Hansen, Deborah Whorf, Diane & John Thomasen, Herb & Amber Courtney, Holman, Tina Calby, Kevin Dodd, Kathryn Walters, Jessica Martinez, Debbie Koldrody, Edward Bealekite, Iris Himmel-Koldrody, Deborah Coeler, Koldrody, Angie Myszki, Linda Lee, Lynn & George Malone, Marie, Pierre Agostini, Marti & Dan Reid, Roger & Pat Essick
The Sanchez-Grossman Family and all they do for our Valley! from Susan Hardenbergh & Rod Jacobsen
William Seabody
Enjoying the fresh air, wildlife and hikes.... Love you! Happy Birthday! from Monica Pattera
Marti Reid from Jill Forman & David Young

Acknowledgments: 5/22/20-10/29/20

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

IN HONOR OF

Amy VanHouten from Bill Brothers & Susie Ault, Carrie Starks
from Anonymous
IN MEMORY OF

Allan Dobel
In loving memory of Uncle Allan from Brenden, Toni and Jack
What an extraordinary man! from Laurel Burkhartd
John & Julia Perry, Julie Rischar, Marti & Dan Red, Michelle & Matt Demaria, Paul & Inga Dobel, Rachel & John Cernevsky
Allan Jacobs
Missing Papa A today and everyday. Grateful for the legacy he left in Ojai. from Jessica Jacobs
Barbara Sunderland from Susan Bee
Bob and Sylvia Emhardt from Janis Emhardt
Bud White
In honor of my late husband, Bud White who loved the OVLC and enjoyed volunteering while he was still able to do so. from Christowe White
David Kille
It was an honor to know this fine man. May he be at peace. from Nancy & Pat Kroy
from Bill Brothers & Susie Ault, Carrie Starks
Dorothy Voogd from Anthonie Voogd
Eugene Steiner from David & Monika Clemens
Guy Morris from Gary Nichols
James Bracioni Missing you, Jim. from Diana Kelly
Mum from David Wappler
Robert A. Dreger from Paul Dreger
Sara Roxanne Schneider from Elizabeth & Wayne Ogden
Sheila Cluff
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love, Eden, Addie and the Neil Family.
My deepest condolences, your mother was a great lady and industry pioneer. from Francis Acuana
Sonja Beam from Susan Harvey
Zorby
Laurie Edgcomb’s beloved Zorby gave joy and inspired all who met him out on the trails. A well trained Arabian, who wore a hand carved twirled wooden Unicorn horn, Zorby was beloved by all and is always remembered. from Ailsa Shari, Carolyn & Ted Moore, Deborah Murphy, John Brooks, Laughing Dog Ranch, Laurie Edgcomb, M. Kathryn Waldman, Ojas Lily, Sandra Miller, Rachel Kondor & Brian Segee, Rowan Lommel, Susan Borges, Tana Parker, Anonymous

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Elisabeth Richardson from Anne Richardson
Kelly Merriman & Diederk Van Hengstraten from Eric & Wendy Lockwood
Rheina Rogart from Anonymous

IN HONOR OF

Amy Jupiter
Happy Birthday and Happy Ojai! from Joe Rohde & Mal Malmberg
Caitlyn Barrera
Happy, happy birthday! Thank you for being my inspiration to make the world a better place through supporting the good work of OVLC. Love, jma from Jan Chase
Clyde Blair
Happy birthday Clyde! from Clyde Blair, Marcelina Sais, Barbara Eberhart, Akio Uyechi, Loen Eib, John North, Jeffrey Herffans, Krysoe Soaring: Eagle, Cheri Nagle
Stefanie Coeler
Happy Birthday Stefanie! from Anonymous, Barbara Coeler, Benedictine Schuyen & Ned Clark, Carina Hansen, Deborah Whorf, Diane & John Thomasen, Herb & Amber Courtney, Holman, Tina Calby, Kevin Dodd, Kathryn Walters, Jessica Martinez, Debbie Koldrody, Edward Bealekite, Iris Himmel-Koldrody, Deborah Coeler, Koldrody, Angie Myszki, Linda Lee, Lynn & George Malone, Marie, Pierre Agostini, Marti & Dan Reid, Roger & Pat Essick
The Sanchez-Grossman Family and all they do for our Valley! from Susan Hardenbergh & Rod Jacobsen
William Seabody
Enjoying the fresh air, wildlife and hikes.... Love you! Happy Birthday! from Monica Pattera
Marti Reid from Jill Forman & David Young

Acknowledgments: 5/22/20-10/29/20
VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Over the years, the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy has had many outstanding volunteers. Rob Young is one of them. He has been instrumental in many projects throughout the preserves, yet his leadership and commitment shined even brighter in his work on the construction of the Allan Jacobs trail and bridge. We would like to thank Rob for his years of volunteering and dedication to the OVLC. Volunteers like him and countless others are instrumental to our success protecting the preserves’ open spaces and trails. Rob was generous to take some time to talk to OVLC Land Steward, Linda Wilkin, about his experience volunteering and the building of the Allan Jacobs bridge.

Q: Good morning Rob! Please tell me a little bit about yourself.
A: I am originally from Australia. I grew up in Southeast Queensland and started my career as a schoolteacher. However, after a year of teaching I was called up for National Service to do two years in the Australian Armed Force, where I served in Vietnam. This experience improved me and helped make me who I am today. Upon return, I obtained a degree in geology and started working at Chevron as a wellsite geologist, working my way up to management.

Q: What fostered this sense of community?
A: As a youth, I was active in the Scouts. I had a fabulous scoutmaster who led us through all sorts of interesting exercises and drills - typical Boy Scout stuff. I became a Rover Scout after becoming a Queen’s Scout, which is the equivalent of the Eagle Scout in the U.S. On weekends, we would assist Search and Rescue, the Forest Service’s fire department, and ambulance and police services. This formative experience taught me to contribute to whatever community I am living in. Now that I am retired, I am fortunate to have the time and the energy to give back—not to mention I can still wield a Pickmattock!

Q: You are a long-term volunteer with the OVLC. What got you into volunteering with us?
A: Back in 2009, I literally almost ran into Rick Bisaccia, then Stewardship Director for the OVLC. I was riding my bicycle and I nearly T-boned his car, as he popped out of the OVLC gate. I was in the wrong, so I got back on my bike and took off for home. Two weeks later, there was a call to help scout a new trail with Brendan. I offered to help scout a new trail with Brendan. Cutting the trail was solid work and we kept running into these dastardly scrub oak stumps, which had massive root systems that needed to be extracted. When we finally met up with the existing trail we were ecstatic, but the work was not quite done.

Q: What were the biggest challenges and successes with your work on the bridge?
A: Poison oak was always a challenge, but we had to maneuver them down to the ravine. There was still a ravine that was difficult to cross; I witnessed people scrambling, slipping on their backsides, and dismounting horses and bicycles to cross safely. We needed to build a bridge over Olive Creek to make the trail more accessible. I was involved in the engineering, design, and the guidance from the blueprints. Together with community volunteers we had built the pylons—the support structures at each end—when Covid-19 hit. Building the bridge came to an abrupt stop, but the community was relying on this trail more than ever. OVLC staff continued to work on the bridge, but without the aid of a large volunteer crew, progress was slow. Once the OVLC had new Covid-19 volunteer procedures in place, we had a massive volunteer effort and got all the planks nailed down. After that, I came out a few more days to put some finishing touches on the bridge, and then it was finally ready.

Q: What do the stringers do?
A: The stringers were towed by a little tractor. You can probably still see sludge marks from when they were pulled in. They were deposited on the trail above and we had to maneuver them down to the ravine. We used a tree over to the east and a scrub oak up the hill to haul them across.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about volunteering for OVLC?
A: Seeing the results! At the end of the day you are dirty and tired but you’ve made 100 yards of new trail. And most of the people who use the trail say thank you—this keeps me going.

Q: How did you get the stringers out to the bridge site?
A: The stringers were towed by a little tractor. You can probably still see sludge marks from when they were pulled in. They were deposited on the trail above and we had to maneuver them down to the ravine. We used a tree over to the east and a scrub oak up the hill to haul them across.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about volunteering for OVLC?
A: Seeing the results! At the end of the day you are dirty and tired but you’ve made 100 yards of new trail. And most of the people who use the trail say thank you—this keeps me going.

Q: What do the stringers do?
A: Underneath the visible planks, which are substantial themselves, there are four stringers. The stringers are 2’ x 5 1/2’ massive blocks of wood that are 30 feet long; they hold the bridge up and safely allow the weight of two horses on the bridge at a time.

Q: What would you tell people who were thinking about volunteering for OVLC?
A: Just do it! With Covid-19, there are special protocols regarding distancing, wearing masks, bringing your own gloves, and so on, but volunteering is something that everyone should consider. It makes the place better for everyone and gives back to the community. It is a safe environment and no experience is necessary. The OVLC provides tools and training.

Q: What are your favorite OVLC trails?
A: I regularly hike Oso and Chaparral Crest, and enjoy bringing visitors out there. I’m practicing birding now with fellow volunteer Jerry Maryniuk. If my grandson is with me, we go down to the Ventura River to play in the water and rock hop. We also enjoy watching the wildlife.
It is often said that the only constant is change. This last year has been a striking testimony to that axiom! However, thanks to OVLC’s conservation and stewardship, one constant for those lucky enough to call the Ojai Valley home is our plentiful open space. This past year has made one thing abundantly clear—spending time in nature is extraordinarily well-suited and necessary to maintain and restore one’s spirit.

As the year comes to an end, we hope you will continue your commitment to conservation and protecting Ojai’s wealth of wild places for everyone to enjoy by making a generous year-end gift today.

OVLC.ORG/GIVE