

# REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

*Dedicated to protection of open spaces and natural resources*

## GOOD NEWS!

### HEARN GULCH BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC!

As of Friday, December 14, 2001, RCLC, on behalf of the public, is the new owner of the Hearn Gulch Beach and Headlands. Congratulations! Thanks to everyone, especially Moira McEnespy, Karyn Gear, Jack Judkins, and Hong Truong of The Coastal Conservancy, for their invaluable help, and Barbara Russell and Cecilia Moelter of RCLC for their hard work in making this happen.

The public now owns this precious

piece of coastal property at Mile Marker 10.4 on Mendocino County Highway One. It includes the Hearn Gulch bluff top and pocket beach. Dr. Jon Bell was the previous owner. RCLC thanks Dr. Bell for his patience over the several months

of negotiations. RCLC was able to buy the property through a generous grant from CalTrans and the Coastal Conservancy and would not have achieved this without their financial help. Many local persons made significant contributions. Peter Reimuller collected signatures and statements of public use and composed a book of pictures for better understanding of the site. Mary Rhyne wrote the excellent plant analysis.

The public is invited to enjoy the spectacular setting.



*Photograph by Rosemarie Hocker*

Please park autos near the road. Improvements anticipated include filling in the rutted areas, defining a parking area, restoring the disturbed land and providing a simple stairway down to the beach. The Coastal Conservancy will provide some funds for these improvements. RCLC is also seeking Stewardship donations toward maintaining this beautiful coastal access property. Call 785-3327, or write RCLC, PO Box 1511, Gualala, CA for information or to offer support. A celebration of this acquisition will be announced in the *Independent Coast Observer*. 🌲



*Photograph by Rosemarie Hocker*

## STEWARDSHIP FUND by Bob Rutemoeller

After the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy accepts a conservation easement or is given real property, its protection of the land has only just begun. From then on, in perpetuity, the Land Trust has the legal obligation to monitor the use of the land and to enforce the restrictions of the easement.

To carry out RCLC's stewardship role,

we must visit the site as needed or at least once a year, to determine the consistency of the use of the land with the easement's restrictions. For the Gualala Bluff Trail, we monitor and maintain it more frequently, usually weekly.

For new conservation easements, we request a contribution to our Stewardship Fund to provide funding for

our obligations. Some easement donors are not able to provide such a donation and we are in turn asking our members to provide contributions to the RCLC Stewardship Fund for this purpose. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, please indicate that in a note or check that box on our reply envelope. 🌲

## REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

PRESIDENT: Shirley Eberly  
 VICE PRESIDENT: Laurie Mueller  
 SECRETARY: Rosemarie Hocker  
 TREASURER: Bob Rutemoeller  
 DIRECTORS: Cecilia Moelter, Jerry Powers, and Ray Van de Water, Bill Wiemeyer  
 HISTORIAN: Ramona Crooks  
 BLUFF TRAIL COMMITTEE: Bill Chapman, Fiona O'Neill and Bill Wiemeyer  
 ADVISORS: Sharon Burningham, Bill Chapman, Roger Dingman, Kristen Drake, Vivian Green, Doug Hammerstrom, Jerry Immel, Mary Sue Ittner, Ray Jackman, Jim Lotter, Fiona O'Neill, Brian Regan, Mary Rhyne, Barbara Russell, Dorothy Scherer, Doug Simmonds, Kristine Thomure, Florence Van de Water, Jan Venolia and Julie Verran  
 WEB DESIGN: Darrell Paige

MAILING VOLUNTEERS: Dwight and Shirley Eberly, Ruth Hayflick, Doug Hammerstrom, Rosemarie Hocker, Claire McPherson, Mary Rhyne, Bob Rutemoeller, San Smith, Lillian Thomas, Flo and Ray Van de Water and Jan Venolia

TRAIL MONITORS: Shirley and Dwight Eberly, Kristen Drake, Mary Sue Ittner, Sue and Bob Lease, Cecilia Moelter, Bob Rutemoeller and Flo and Ray Van de Water  
 CONTRIBUTORS to this issue include Shirley Eberly, Rosemarie Hocker, Laurie Mueller, Mary Sue Ittner, and Bob Rutemoeller

RCLC is a member of the National Land Trust Alliance, California Land Trust Council, Redwood Coast Chamber of Commerce.

## REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY OBJECTIVES

The specific purposes of this corporation include, but are not limited to:

- The conservation of lands for recreational, educational, ecological, agricultural, scenic and open space opportunities. Conservation of lands shall be accomplished by acquiring real property or partial interests therein, including conservation easements as defined in California Civil Code Section 815.2, and recording appropriate instruments necessary to protect in perpetuity the physical environment of the area for wildlife, ecological and aesthetic purposes beneficial to the public interest;
- To promote, activate and develop public coastal accesses to the ocean, rivers and other natural or scenic features, including developing trails, paths and walkways;
- To study, project and develop plans for future needs in respect to public recreational lands, accesses and facilities;
- To determine open space and conservation needs in the coastal areas of Mendocino and Sonoma counties and to arrange for necessary stewardship and conservation by easements, agreements or other mechanisms;
- To publicize local needs of the type mentioned above and to raise funds by public subscriptions, grants or other means as necessary to meet such objectives.

## PLEASE CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER LABEL

If there is a "01" or "02" in front of your name, that means you have sent RCLC a contribution or membership donation for that year. If there is no number to the left of your name, or if it shows a contribution for 2001, please consider helping us this year. A contribution form is printed on the return envelope in this issue. Thanks for your help.

## RCLC RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

*By Bob Rutemoeller*

On January 13, 2002, RCLC conducted the Annual Raffle at the Sundstrom Mall. Local businesses, artists and many other individuals donated fine prizes to help RCLC accomplish its mission. RCLC thanks the donors and all of the people who purchased the raffle tickets. And now, here is the list of donors and prize winners.

Grace McMaster—original watercolor (matted), won by Lucie Marshall  
 Margi Ingersoll—hand painted art tile, won by Pat Haas  
 Pacific Rain handmade soaps—gift crate, won by Ray Jackman  
 Ansel Adams calendar for 2002, won by Bill Ackermann  
 Gualala Pharmacy—one pound of fudge, won by Jim Suhr  
 Bill Perry—matted 11x14 color photograph "Sea Fog at Dawn", won by Floyd Cotton  
 Ellen Soule—rock art, won by Margery Anthony  
 Everything Under the Sun—\$25 gift certificate for selected items, won by Van de Water children  
 Alinder Gallery—book by Franz Lanting, won by Tom Ingersoll  
 The Sea Ranch Golf Links—18 hole round of golf for two with a cart, won by Heidi & Don Endemann  
 Gualala Video—\$15 gift certificate good for 4 new releases, won by Gloria Mikuls  
 Village Fitness Center—2 books with 10 visits in each book at \$120 value for each, these are two raffle items, won by Mary Kimble & Linda Keir  
 Gordon Smith—a 20-minute chair massage, won by Ed & Barbara Tonningsen  
 Food Company—lunch for 2, won by Donna Dell  
 Gualala Nursery and Trading Company—\$25 gift certificate, won by Ron at Jay Baker Hardware.

Green World Nursery—\$25 gift certificate, won by Dick Warren  
 Shirley Eberly—ceramic bowl, won by Lena Bullamore  
 Rumors—haircut, won by Gene and Wanda Weston  
 Upper Crust Pizza—one large pizza, won by David Arkin & Anni Tilt  
 Ken Browning—Chimney Sweep, won by Ramona Crooks  
 Doni Tunheim—art work, won by Priss Ellingboe  
 Adventure Rents—a half-day float trip on the Gualala River, won by Susan Miletich  
 Lunch and a Walk, guest of RCLC, won by Jerry Powers  
 One case of Anchor Steam Beer, won by Ursula Jones  
 Jay Baker Hardware—gift certificate, won by Lynn Davis  
 Anchor Bay Village Store—gift certificate for wine, won by Lenny Balter  
 Sea Ranch Lodge Store—Sea Ranch Cap, won by Ruth Moore  
 Village Bootery—\$25 gift certificate, won by Richard & Jeanne Jackson  
 Java Point—lunch for two, won by Jean Lackey  
 3 sets of photo note cards by Rosemarie Hocker: won by Laurie Patterson, Peg Frankel & Patricia Lynch  
 Sea Ranch Lodge—2 gift certificates for a night's stay midweek for two, won by Vivian Green & Claire McPherson  
 Susan Field—small artwork, won by Bev Thompson  
 High Low Media—Learn to play Harmonica video, won by Doug Donmon  
 Potted plant from Flo Van de Water, won by John D Royce 🌲

## RCLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2002

Among the many volunteers who serve to fulfill the RCLC mission are the Board of Directors. From left to right, they are, in the front row: Bob Rutemoeller, treasurer; Rosemarie Hocker, secretary; Shirley Eberly, vice-president; Flo Van de Water, advisor.

Back row: Jerry Powers, director; Bill Weimeyer, president; Ray Van de Water, director; Laurie Mueller, director. Cecilia Moelter, director, was unable to be present. 🌲



*Photograph by Bob Hocker*

## RCLC PROFILE - Mary Rhyne

*interviewed by Rosemarie Hocker*

Mary Rhyne is a long time volunteer with the California Native Plant Society and RCLC. Since her father worked for the National Park Service, as a child Mary spent summers living in whatever national park he was assigned to. "We were lucky and learned so much," she said. "Wild land's conservation was so important to him."

Mary earned her undergraduate degree at UC Berkeley and studied at UCLA, University of Hawaii, and UC Davis, from which she received her MS in Horticulture. Vocationally, she was a Landscape Contractor, licensed to practice in California. One of her jobs was working at the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden in Strawberry Creek Canyon.

In the early 1960's, she helped start the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). "A lot of people saw a need for it—botanists, foresters, others. Everything jelled at the same time. I was on the state board." It was at that time she started the first plant sale in Berkeley, helping to make CNPS financially secure.

After getting her masters and moving to the coast where she had visited as a child, she planned to do tissue culture research. "I could do the research and send my samples to the laboratory. Tissue culture intrigued me because you could eliminate plant diseases." The plan was a good one; however, she found that sitting still for hours was miserable for her back, so she changed course. "I love propagating plants, so that's what I did." For thirteen years she lived in her ocean bluff home, where both the soil and climate were fine for the exotic plants she loved growing.



*Photograph by Rosemarie Hocker*

She moved to her Lindal Cedar home near the ridge six years ago and helped with its design. Conservation extends to many parts of Mary's living style. Her home is off the grid. Radiant and solar heat warms the rooms. Large windows and skylights bring in light by day. Fluorescent light serves at night.

"When I moved up here I said, all right, stay with natives. I hoped the poor soil would let things grow. Manzanita, shore juniper, rosemary, baccharis, ribes (native currant) love it. So do succulents from the Catalina Islands. Huckleberry and coast rhododendron do well. The sand and rock provide good drainage."

Several years ago the Lions Club and CNPS made a plan to eradicate pampas grass. "I was among the Native Plant Society volunteers. Our job was to cut and spray the plants. I was the lightest weight, so I was selected to go over the bank. Someone had to do it. It's foolish to get

rid of plants in the easy places and not spray in the hard places on the banks."

With a tree trimmer's leather band around her waist, a two-gallon pump sprayer on her back and a rope hitched to the band at the back, Mary was lowered over the bank. "I knew then I was going to need to go down farther so I called 'Gimme five!'—give me five more feet. I kept on going, but when I found I was up to my armpits in shrubs, and I couldn't lift a leg to take a step, I thought this is crazy. That's when I stopped." Although the community effort was effective,

it was not continued.

Mary feels she's been most helpful to RCLC by doing botanical surveys. A year ago she and Dorothy Scherer completed the survey on the Dobbins Conservation Easement and last fall she made a report on the Gualala Bluff Trail. Her advice is that when trails are made, "keep the 'good' natives, such as ceanothus, arctostaphylos (manzanita), myrica (wax myrtle), ferns, and fringed corn lily."

Being outdoors, camping, hiking, traveling, and puttering around in the garden are what brings her great peace. "Weeding is a form of meditation", she claims. As for the future, Mary wants to support efforts like RCLC. "I see more and more interest in conserving the land. We have a lot to look forward to." Mary's life work in conservation is an ongoing gift to our coastal community. We are happy Mary is an Advisor and supporter of the RCLC mission. 🌲

## RCLC TO SPONSOR AWARD

RCLC will again sponsor the Environmental Award at the Art in the Redwoods (AIR) art show. The cash prize of \$75.00 will be given to the artist who, in the opinion of the AIR judges, best expresses the coastal environment. Shirley Case won in 1999, Lollu Petroni in 2000, and Dawn Kenney in 2001.

Entry forms must be postmarked no later than July 26. Delivery of work is Sunday, August 11. Entry forms for the exhibit will be available at Gualala Arts Center in June.

For further information call Shirley Eberly at 785-3327. 

*Your contribution to the RCLC will help preserve our local open space and natural resources.*

## FINANCIAL REPORT Final for 2001

Income	
Donations	\$6,583
Grants*	\$301,549
Other	\$ 929
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$309,061</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4,443</b>

\*The year 2001 brought a sudden increase in income, and thus in Assets. This was due to the grant for the acquisition of property at Hearn Gulch.

## Memorial Gifts

*In memory and honor of Robert Anderson by Janann Strand. Jan writes, "This gift is in appreciation for launching Friends of the Forest."*

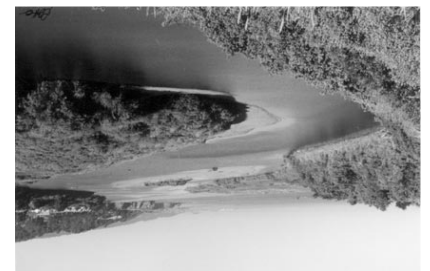
*In honor of Harmony Susalla by Merit and Kim Herman. Merit is Harmony's brother who sent this gift as a Christmas present.*

*In honor of Karen Patrone, a gift was made by Abigail Jensen.*

*With grateful thanks to Ray and Flo Van de Water for their generous gift to the Stewardship Fund.*



*The scenic beauty of the lower portion of the Estuary as the Gualala River winds westward toward Gualala and the Pacific.*



*Special Place*  
By Rosemarie Hocker

**Return Service Requested**

REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY  
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