



REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

Dedicated to protection of open spaces and natural resources from the Navarro to the Russian rivers

Two Promising RCLC Projects Underway

RCLC currently has a planning grant from the State Coastal Conservancy to support two project parcels acquired in recent years. The grant provides funding for preliminary studies, permit development and permit fees required for improvements on the coast and bluff top. The proximity of these parcels to one another and inclusion in the Mendocino County Local Coastal Plan allow these processes to run concurrently, giving RCLC some economies and efficiencies

in combining contracts with botanists, archeologists and surveyors. As studies are completed, the design of the parcels can be evaluated with sensitivity to the findings and applications for coastal development permits can be considered. Actual improvements will need to be funded by future grants and the support of RCLC fundraising once coastal development permits are approved.

Will's Rest - Botanical and archaeology survey work has been completed for "Will's Rest" a coastal parcel donated by Rita Milhollin, in memory of her son, William Craig Whiteley. This parcel lies north of Anchor Bay and sits on the bluff top with no beach access. The views are amazing and the geology is worthy of further academic study. RCLC field visits and the botanical report reveal that this two-acre parcel, donated in 2009, is an unusually rich habitat for native plants. RCLC will be very sensitive to the unique conditions and diversity in assessing how best to manage limited public access while preserving native plants. Improvements will include a memorial marker dedicating the preserved land to Will and his love of this place. The marker will also display the names of Will's family and friends who have helped fund the project.



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Getchell Cove - RCLC is closer to resolving Getchell Cove technicalities and issues with recorded easements for each of the three adjoining parcels which comprise the project. This coastal bluff access project provides access from Hwy. 1 to the bluff edge at the north end of the project boundary. The lateral trail easements provide views parallel to the bluff edge across three contiguous parcels. These easements were originally accepted by RCLC in 2010 from an Offer to Dedicate as condition of a minor subdivision. We hope to complete the planning and permitting activities with the proceeds of the same grant for Will's Rest. These easements south of Anchor Bay run parallel to the bluff top high above the beach. Beach access is impossible and prohibited but the view shed is spectacular west of the forest along Highway 1.

Please be aware that neither of these projects is open to the public as yet. Both projects will require further fundraising to support improvements and public access stewardship once the planning grant is expended. RCLC hopes to coordinate some small field trips to Will's Rest in the near future. If you would like to join us for a future field trip, we would be

pleased to show off the parcel in its most pristine condition and include supporters who have an interest in the planning process of a unique and sensitive environment. It's never too soon to identify interested volunteer monitors as part of the stewardship initiative. If you are interested in becoming a monitor, please contact Linda Bell, Executive Director.

Redwood Coast Land Conservancy

Local residents devote their time and expertise to help RCLC protect our coast.

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Linda Bell

Newsletter Editor: Linda Bell

Graphic Design: P.T. Nunn

Website Editor: Dave Jordan

MISSION

*Redwood Coast Land Conservancy works
to:*

- preserve for future generations the natural environment and sustainable land use of coastal watersheds from the Navarro to the Russian rivers
- provide public access to scenic land
- educate the public regarding the value of our natural heritage.

We envision a protected and restored coast, from the Navarro to the Russian rivers, preserved for public enjoyment and appreciation of its natural beauty, abundant diversity of wildlife, and rich cultural history.

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

From Our Executive Director

I just love a good team effort. One in which everyone is invested in the outcome, works hard, adds value and for whom failure is not an option. There have been several of these in the past year, but most recently, I speak of the inclusion of the Stornetta Public Lands with National Monument Status in the California Coastal National Monument. Every team effort needs someone to step into a leadership role. In this case, my personal vote for "regional leadership excellence above and beyond the mission" goes to Ann Cole and the Mendocino Land Trust for the coordination of Team Stornetta. Thanks Ann! We all owe you one.



Linda Bell

I'll tell you more about the boundary enlargement of the California Coastal National Monument, the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands and the expansion of the Marine Sanctuaries in a related article but the take-home message is that greater emphasis is being placed on our region of the coast. These actions may well provide new opportunities to preserve our coastlands. RCLC members and other community groups can take pride in helping make these proposals a reality.

Throughout all this regional planning and collaboration, RCLC serves as your local land trust, always making sure that ways can be found to protect and preserve this beautiful stretch of coast line. We have our own niche projects, of course, for which RCLC is solely responsible for planning, improvements and stewardship with little grant support and great reliance on fundraising. The rub is that, even with grants for the collaboration projects with other land trusts, RCLC assumes overhead costs in the form of grant writing, reporting, communications, wrangling volunteers and staff time that also require fundraising so that we can fully participate and do our share of the work. It's simply harder to convey to our supporters that the fundraising must continue to support individual and team efforts. We absolutely rely on our member contributions and dedicated volunteer work to accomplish these objectives. Your ongoing support of RCLC will ensure that we can continue to play this unique role.

This issue of the newsletter pays tribute to outstanding volunteers who characterize the talent and willingness of the many local residents who volunteer as board members, advisors, trail monitors and work force to support RCLC's vision of preserving our coastland.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank our many members who made generous year-end contributions to RCLC. Your support has made it possible for our work to continue despite a decline in funding from other sources. It's all good work, but we must find ways to ensure that this work is sustainable in perpetuity, and perpetuity is a long time. That's why ongoing support from our donors is so important. Thanks for your help!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda A Bell".

Linda Bell, Executive Director



In Remembrance of Charles Murphy, 1944 – 2014

Contributed by Rob Alcott

Charles D. Murphy III, 70, died peacefully in his home at The Sea Ranch, CA. on February 28, 2014, after a long courageous battle with leukemia. While we mourn Charlie's passing, we also celebrate his life—the life of a bright, energetic and visionary RCLC Director.

Charlie brought his considerable knowledge and intellect to bear on RCLC's conservation agenda.

As RCLC's President (2011-2013) Charlie exhibited a strong but tender approach to organizing and guiding the Conservancy through challenging times. Charlie was RCLC's sounding board on how to fulfill the Conservancy's conservation goals in a business-like way while connecting with people about their land and their dreams. He will be remembered as a great man whose intelligence, wry wit and generosity of spirit were readily felt by those around him.

As Nancy Trissel, former RCLC Executive Director says, "There has never been a better ambassador for RCLC than Charlie. He was the thoughtful well-spoken leader who made it tick and we owe him a great debt of gratitude. We'll miss you Charlie."



Photo Credit: Seve Cardosi



Celebrating the Life of John Moelter, 1928 – 2014

Contributed by Linda Bell

When I moved to the Coast, John and Cecilia Moelter were involved in so many volunteer activities that I wondered if they ever slept. Cecelia had been a Board Director for years with RCLC and John could be found at every work party-- Gualala Arts Center, our RCLC projects, Sea Ranch activities...everything. I learned quickly to station myself with John at work parties. His wonder and enthusiasm for our coastal projects was contagious. He could keep up a running dialog while we worked, laughing and cheering the entire time. Thirty minutes spent with John meant that all was right with the world again.

John Francis Moelter died on March 27, 2014. RCLC Advisor Mary Sue Ittner wrote this introduction in a photo memorial of John given to his wife, Cecilia,

"John Moelter spent 122 hours helping to build the second phase of the Gualala Bluff Trail. He was there from the beginning, when we cleared the site, to the end when we were arranging rocks, planting, and cutting back weeds. Always cheerful and willing, he never complained in spite of the weather or when we had to repeat a task done earlier because of delays. He had a twinkle in his eyes and a smile on his face and unfailing encouragement during this difficult task. When we had to stop work for a number of years, almost every time I saw him, he would ask when we were going to finish the project. He was eager to get the job done. As the Project Manager during much of the construction, I will always be grateful for his wonderful contribution and so glad he could be there to celebrate the completion of this lasting gift to our community. He was an important part of making it happen."

John will be greatly missed by his fellow RCLC volunteers and many other friends who were inspired by his enthusiastic spirit.

Memorial and Commemorative Gifts

Gifts to RCLC in memory of friends, family members and colleagues or to honor significant events in people's lives provide a wonderful legacy for those who wish to preserve the beauty of our natural environment

In Memory of:

Nancy Anderson
Harmony & Sus Susalla

Bea Aker
Jeff & Pearl Watts
Suzanne & Stephen Whitaker
Clay Yale & Laura Cortright

Betty Bechtel
Jim & Mary Suhr
Mary Sue Ittner
& Bob Rutemoeller
John & Cecilia Moelter
Judy Garvens

Lucienne Bloch & Stephen Pope Dimitroff
David & Lucienne Allen

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Eric Bradford
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Jeff Davis
Barbara Gomes

Duane Gordon
Kathi Gordon

Jack Hardy
Hardy Family

Dora Fong Heinrich
Gareth Fong

Christian Herman
Trudy Armer

Roger Jones
Barbara Gomes

Ellen & Mac McCann
Joan Hoffman
& Tim Balambao

John Moelter
Harmony & Sus Susalla
Mary Sue Ittner
& Bob Rutemoeller
Barabara Gomes
Lois & Harry Lutz
Laurie & Leigh Mueller

Charlie Murphy
Barbara Gomes
Mary Sue Ittner
& Bob Rutemoeller
Harmony & Sus Susalla
Mary Heibel

Lois & Harry Lutz
Michael & Anne Nevard
Irene Leidner & Bill Davy
John & Gail Banigan
Laurie & Leigh Mueller

Ray and Florence Van de Water
Ken & Marian Brown
Richard & Roberta
Van de Water

Robert Woodbury
Barbara Gomes

In Honor of:

Harmony Susalla
Mirka Knaster & Larry Jacobs

Mary Sue & Bob & Foxie
Bob & Linda Ittner

Gualala Bluff Trail Volunteers
Mary Sue Ittner & Bob Rutemoeller

Mary Sue Ittner & Bob Rutemoeller
Pete & Harriet Hanauer

Gifts from September 2013 to May 2014

RCLC wishes to thank the following people and organizations for their contributions.

Rob & Craven Alcott
David & Lucienne Allen
Arkin Tilt Architects
Trudy Armer
Betty Athens
Lenny Balter & Colleen Casey
Frank & Linda Bell
Robert & Judith Biehler
Max Bollock
Iris Borg
Charles Bouril
Dave & Diana Bower
Dale & Laura Bowman
Steve & Gayle Brugler
Betty & Bill Burns
Jill Butler
Joel & Pat Chaban
Brad & Linda Clayton
Bob & Phyllis Clement
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Eric & Leslie Dahlhoff
Annette Daroczi
Janis Dolphin
David & Kristine Donadio
Jeff Duckham
John & Mary Sue Erickson
Fred & Jocelyn Euphrat
William & Dorothy Euske
Jay Faulkner
Jim Finn
Gareth Fong
Tim Gallagher & Marghi Hagan
Judy Garvens
George & Pat Haas
Barbara Gomes
Kathi Gordon
Richard Halley
Pete & Harriet Hanauer
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Joan Hoffman & Tim Balambao
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Gale Hooper
John & Mary Hooper - Oz Farm
John & Katy Horn
Dard & Mary Hunter
William & Mary Inouye
Bob & Linda Ittner
Mary Sue Ittner
& Bob Rutemoeller
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Jeanne & Richard Jackson
Dave Jordan & PT Nunn
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Cindy Kennedy -
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Mirka Knaster & Larry Jacobs
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Irene Leidner & Bill Davy
Linda Lichter & Norman Marck
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Kathy Kretschmer
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Janet & Fred McElroy
Barbara & Jerry Meral
Marcia Metcalfe
John & Cecilia Moelter
Susan Moon
Kathryn Morris
Charles Murphy
& Kathleen Sandidge
Kathleen Nangle
Michael & Anne Nevard
David & Evelyn Osteraas
Bill & Jeanne Osterland
Jake & Nicole Ours
Miriam & Buzz Owens
Linda & Tony Perez
Chuck & Kati Quibell
Roberta Rams
Peter Reimuller &
Leslie Lindborg
Bruce & Nancy Reitz
David & Barbara Rice
Massomeh Roberts
Mary & Donald Rozenberg
Subir & Mary Elizabeth Sanyal
Dorothy & Dick Scherer
Kathryn Schubeck &
Monroe Robinson
William & Anne Schwarzer
Sandy Scott
Larry & Susan Seymour
Jim Shaw
Doug & Jane Simmonds
Barbara & Coleman Smith
State Coastal Conservancy
Martin Steinpress
Lynn & Janet Stevenson
James & Bridget Strachan
Jim & Mary Suhr
Harmony & Sus Susalla
Gail Taylor
Jeri Taylor
Beverley Thompson
Kenneth Thompson
Thursday Ramblers
Karen Tracy
Richard & Roberta Van de Water
Julie Verran
Jeff & Pearl Watts
Suzanne & Stephen Whitaker
Thomas White
Bill & Sandy Wiemeyer
Clay Yale & Laura Cortright
Theresa & Pasteur Yuen
Norman Zucker

Regional Groups Play Major Role in Stornetta Expansion of National Monument

National Monument status doesn't happen overnight. Land has to be identified and placed in conservation with the help of willing landowners; then someone has to request review for national monument status; then the Bureau of Land Management has to agree to hold and manage the new federal property; then the BLM has to gather support from Gateway Communities and Gateway Partners that agree to preserve, protect and defend the National Monument; then someone has to keep the pressure on the issue and sustain public support and enthusiasm for a declaration of national monument status competing with many other worthy monument prospects from Coast to Coast. Obviously, this is a gross simplification of the process, the effort and the angst.



*Sally Jewell with RCLC Director, Bill Clement and ED, Linda Bell
Photo Credit: RCLC*

Team Stornetta and Point Arena Gateway Partners

Redwood Coast Land Conservancy is a member of two strong working groups, Point Arena Gateway Partners and Team Stornetta, which played key roles in the expansion of the California Coastal National Monument to include the adjoining Stornetta Public Lands.

Team Stornetta is a group of individuals, nonprofits, businesses, land trusts, cultural groups, Native American Tribes, the school districts, representatives from all levels of government and many others, with support of Visit Mendocino County, The Trust for Public Land and



*Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, addressing the crowd.
Photo Credit: Blake Androff*

Conservation Lands Foundation, who assigned local representation for the team many months ago. Our charge was to coordinate, organize and integrate the tremendous enthusiasm for expansion of the CCNM and inclusion of the Stornetta Public Lands. When notice came that President Obama would use his power under the Antiquities Act to make the proclamation, Team Stornetta had only 72 hours to notify an entire region, send five local citizens to the White House, coordinate local and national press releases, get everybody back here, and throw a terrific celebratory event with Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, to commemorate the historic designation by President Obama!

It was a tremendous effort and a tremendous success that served to galvanize the region around a common cause and gave us all good reason to celebrate. It also has some lessons for future regional collaborations with projects of a size that no conservation group can do single-handedly. Community-based initiatives and communication for community support are very time intensive but hugely important for these large conservation projects.

Team Stornetta is still an active group formed largely to advocate for national monument status and bring the region



*The Manchester Band of the Pomo Tribe performed ceremonial dances.
Photo Credit: Blake Androff*



The Celebration
 Photo Credit: Blake Androff

together in support and celebration. Team Stornetta may morph now that its initial objectives have been achieved, but its goal of community unification is so sound that both groups will benefit from all the new partners generated by the effort.

Gateway Partners and Gateway Communities have entered a formal memorandum of understanding with the Bureau of Land Management to serve, steward, protect and preserve various areas of the coast within the CCNM. They are now working with BLM to draft the Resource Management Plan that will guide public comment regarding the Stornetta lands on such issues as access, use, grazing, vehicle access, trails/trailheads, and visitor information. RCLC is proud to be a member of Team Stornetta and a Gateway Partner. Both are unique collaborations where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Great Potential for Future Preservation

As of the date of proclamation, March 11, The Point Arena-Stornetta Lands are now the first land-based, mainland inclusion of the California Coastal National Monument, adding 1,665 acres. This is a very important distinction. The BLM's policy shift to include mainland holdings in the CCNM opens an entire new realm of conservation possibilities with federal protection and the possibility of federal funding. Imagine the possibilities! That's just what Team Stornetta did – we all imagined.

Another promising expansion is proposed for the National Marine Sanctuaries, the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones. This expansion will extend permanent protection from off-shore drilling further north from Bodega

Bay to more than 60 miles north of Point Arena. We think there is great potential for the boundary expansion to encourage more conservation of coastal lands, more public access and even greater potential for economic improvements through tourism and recreation.

We all need to be in strategic planning mode now, to identify potential conservation opportunities arising with the expansions. This is a great time to renew efforts in support of the California Coastal Trail, the Pacific Coast Bike Trail and other great projects that transcend any one community and capture the regional momentum.

The photos from the dedication ceremony tell a great story of the pride and support generated in this area. We hope you had a chance to join in. Contributions from

our members helped support RCLC's participation in this significant effort. If you are interested in the next stages, stay tuned and stay involved with the public comment necessary to move local projects forward. There should be ample opportunity to get involved and support the many groups that need our help.



RCLC Director Bill Clement & ED Linda Bell
 Photo Credit: RCLC

Many Thanks to Our Gualala Bluff Trail Volunteer Monitors

They pull weeds, they plant beautiful things, they water, they pick up trash, they talk to visitors, they watch for problems/hazards and they pick up after canines – THEY are the faithful GBT Monitors and our unsung heroes. Every monitor captures the highlights of their scheduled visit in an email to us; RCLC then uses the individual monitoring reports to generate the annual report to the State Coastal Conservancy, justifying our stewardship and continued good standing with the grant funders. We really couldn't do it without you. A heartfelt thank you to:

Marilyn Alderson
Kathie Anderson
Trudy Armer
Carol & Steve Chell
Joanne & Wendell Corey
Paula Gordon
Chris Howard
Mary Sue Ittner & Bob Rutemoeller
Don Kemp
Nancy Killian

Annie & Eric Mills
Moya, Scout & Bailey Mitchell
Susan Moore
Jackie & John Petersen
Elizabeth Redfield
Patty Simila
Gary Sprague
Harmony & Sus Susalla
Ginger Thompson-Veys & Maurie Veys
Lynn & John Walton

If you would like to be a volunteer monitor for any of our projects, please contact Linda Bell at (707) 331-2172. We have some time-tested ideas and cautions before you head out. We are always pleased to have feedback from any of our visitors.

CALL TO ARTISTS Art Show Scheduled at Gualala Arts -- January 2015 An Artistic Celebration of RCLC's Public Access Points

RCLC is pleased to announce that Gualala Arts has approved an art exhibit scheduled for January 2015 to celebrate the public access it sponsors: Gualala Bluff Trail, Cooks Beach, and Hearn Gulch. Art submitted should be inspired by one of these three locations. This will be a non-juried exhibit displayed in the foyer with the opening reception scheduled for January 9th and the exhibit remaining through February 1st. The public will have an opportunity to vote on their favorites with small prizes awarded to the favorite three. All art forms are encouraged (photographs, paintings, drawings, fiber art, sculpture, poetry, haiku, etc.). We hope many of you will enter.

The entry fee will be \$25 for up to three pieces. We are giving you advance notice of this event so you can be thinking ahead and preparing before the holiday rush. Art work does not need to be current. It will be possible, but not required, for artists to donate a portion of the proceeds of any artwork they sell to RCLC. We hope this event will bring greater attention and understanding of the work RCLC has done locally to ensure access to our coastal treasures.



Scott Chieffo of Gualala won the 2013 RCLC Environmental Award in the Art In the Redwoods Festival for his photo of Bowling Ball Beach entitled "The Alleys".

A Little Goes a Long Way... Redemption for RECYCLING

Our recycling proceeds total for last year was \$274. Thanks to all of you who pick up trash along the road and who either turn over bottles and cans for Mary Sue Ittner to recycle or donate the redemption money. Special mention goes to Denny Gold, the Physical Gym, Four-Eyed Frog Books and the wonderful team of highway cleaners, Marilyn Alderson and Kathy Anderson for their contributions. The money all goes to the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy for trail maintenance. This is a terrific way to score double "feel-good points" for care of the environment. Since 2003, this effort has raised \$2058.50!



P.O. Box 1511, Gualala, CA 95445-1511
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Please share your email address with us!

We won't share it with others – this will update our internal database for communications with YOU.

As an environmental organization, we want to reduce direct mail and paper waste as much as possible. We will continue to share our newsletter by direct mail a couple times each year.

Send us an email at rclc@rclc.org with the email address you prefer and the names attached to that email. If your mailing address and phone have changed, please send that along as well.



Mark Your Calendars

June 2014

Expansion of the Marine Sanctuaries – Public Hearings by conducted by NOAA. To expand the northern boundary from Bodega Bay to more than 60 miles north of Point Arena.

June 16, Point Arena City Hall, 6pm;

June 17, Gualala Community Center, 6pm

July 2014

Discover the Coast - highlighting the California Coastal National Monument and the Point Arena - Stornetta Unit. Tours and activities are planned from Elk to Gualala on **July 19**. For updates on planned activities in this region, and for other Discover the Coast celebrations in California Coastal Communities, please visit www.blm.gov/ca and see Discover the Coast.

August 2014

Art In the Redwoods Festival – Gualala Arts Center, **August 16 & 17**. RCLC presents an environmental award for an entry that captures the beauty and spirit of our local natural environment. See www.gualalaarts.org/AIR/Festival-2014 for information to artists on “How to Enter”.

January 2015

Art Show - “An Artistic Celebration of RCLC’s Public Access Points” Gualala Arts Center **January 9 to February 1**. Call to Artists – see related article and contact the Gualala Arts Center at (707) 884-1138 for more info.

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