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### **Mongolian Study Tour Visits Big Sur**





A study group from Mongolia takes a break during its visit to Glen Deven Ranch to pose for photographs and show off their new Big Sur Land Trust hats. The group was on a tour of the U.S. sponsored by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to learn about conservation planning and partnerships related to rangeland management.

TNC is working with the group to develop a conservation plan for Toson Hustai, a millionacre nature reserve in Mongolia. Pictured at top are (front row, left to right) Ulziitumur Jamsran, a government enforcement representative; and Chingel Tuvsanaa, a government policy department representative; (back row, left to right) Dulamkhand Yadamsuren, a local elected official; Otgonbaatar Tsog, a local herdsman and horseman; Gala Davaa, TNC Conservation Fellow; Dagvasuren Dogdom, director of a non-governmental conservation association; and Amar Purey, a ranger.

#### **DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY** FOR AN OUTTING OR HIKE!

All members of The Big Sur Land Trust are encouraged to take one of BSLT's guided hikes and outings. The 2008 Hikes and Outings Schedule was mailed to our members in early April; copies can also be picked up at the BSLT office. Trained volunteers lead hikes almost every weekend until late October. Members are welcome to bring guests and introduce them to BSLT's conservation work and some of the region's most spectacular landscapes.



#### RAIN DOESN'T DAMPEN ANNUAL BIG SUR CHANTERELLE COOK-OFF

For the second year in a row community members in Big Sur collaborated to host the Big Sur Chanterelle Cook Off. The event celebrates the unique (and delicious) chanterelle mushroom an example of the exquisite natural offerings found in Big Sur and raises money for a special community need.

Local "culinary artists" faced off in a competition of creativity, inspiration, flavor and texture to create dishes that celebrate this mighty mushroom. The weekend event included a kickoff reception, mushroom walks and talks by local fungi specialists, recipe sharing, a silent auction, music, poetry and, of course, great food. Perhaps, best of all, the cook off spawned a great sense of community.

The Big Sur Land Trust proudly co sponsored this winter's event along with the Big Sur Lodge, Pelican Network, Realitree, the Big Sur Arts Initiative, J.Lohr Vineyards and Heller Estate. Co organizer Jack Ellwanger reported that despite a strong winter storm about 300 people attended the cook off and about \$4,500.00 was raised to support Big Sur river stewardship. Last year's cook off raised funds for a Big Sur workforce housing effort.

Ten Big Sur chefs competed for awards for their culinary artistry. Winners were:

Feature Dish: Chief Anthony Calamari, El Cielo, Ventana Inn Best Presentation: Justin Hamilton, Trail's Head Restaurant, Big Sur Lodge Most Creative: Matt Glazier, Esalen Institute

**People's Choice (tie): Michelle Rizzolo**, Big Sur Bakery

and Matt Glazier, Esalen Institute



# THE BIG SUR LAND TRI

Spring / Summer 2008

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Conserving our precious land and waters for all generations

### DORRANCE RANCH

#### CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROTECTS ICONIC LANDSCAPE AND RANCHING WAY OF LIFE

"A conservation easement - when I think about it - is for the land itself. It's how we want to view the land a thousand years from now."

Steve Dorrance

A key part of Monterey County's ranching heritage, as well as one of its NSIDE oak woodlands most beloved and familiar vistas, is now protected for generations to come critical california landscape thanks to the enduring vision and leadership of a local ranching family.



NSIDE land stewardship plant-a-thon, mapping tools,

odello fields restoration

One touch of nature

- Shakespeare

makes the whole world akin

farming family ranch protected



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**NSIDE** violini property

This past March, brothers Steve, Billy and Dave Dorrance, and their families, closed a deal with The Nature Conservancy and The Big Sur Land Trust that placed their breathtaking 4,300-acre working ranch located on Mt. Toro's northern ridge in conservation easement. This easement protects Dorrance Ranch from development, regardless of future ownership, and ensures that the family's legacy of ranchland stewardship will endure.

Rising above what John Steinbeck referred to as "Pastures of Heaven," the Dorrance Ranch offers stunning panoramic views of Big Sur, Monterey Bay and the Salinas and Carmel Valleys. The upper elevations are along the ridgeline of the Sierra de Salinas mountain range between the Carmel and Salinas Rivers north of the Los Padres National Forest. The property serves as an important wildlife corridor and as critical headwaters for streams in both Carmel and Salinas watersheds. The ranch is a showcase of what are called

"Mediterranean woodlands," noted for their tremendous biological diversity and one of the rarest and most at-risk habitats in the world. In fact, the California Central Coast is at the heart of one of only five Mediterranean woodlands regions in the world.

#### Preserving a Way of Life

As with many ranching families in Monterey County, the Dorrances have struggled to continue their livelihood in an area of tremendous development pressure. Located on the doorstep of some of the most expensive and desirable real estate in the county, the magnificent property could easily have been subdivided and sold for development. But the Dorrance family's deep connection to and love for the land the family has been on the property for three generations compelled them to seek a creative way to protect it while securing adequate funding for its long-term management and transition to future generations.





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Two Families Act from the Heart

In this issue of our newsletter, we celebrate the courage, vision and love of land that two Monterey County families demonstrated through their decision to permanently protect their family ranches for the benefit of our entire community. The stories of the Dorrance and Violini families offer us a view of what is both ordinary and extraordinary about our work with local residents to conserve the significant lands and waters of California's central coast.

Those supportive of the work of land trusts like ours are often drawn to our pragmatic and practical approach to conserving land and water through time-tested tools. Conservation easements – voluntary agreements that establish permanent protection of important lands – are one such tool. These easements are permanent collaborations between a land trust and private property owner that allow the two parties to accomplish very practical goals.

For The Big Sur Land Trust, easements are a cost-effective and well-designed means to honor and sustain the stewardship practices of ranchers and farmers. What's more, they are an effective way to compensate private property owners for the public benefit they provide. Sustaining ranches and farms in our community contributes to preserving water quality, wildlife, native plants and lifestyle benefits we often take for granted. Further, sustaining local family farming and ranching supports traditional, local economies and reduce the social costs often associated with sprawling development.

For the landowner facing a difficult decision about the long term disposition of his or her family land, easements often offer a practical and economically prudent path to pursue. If the land has public conservation value, a land trust can provide options not available in the traditional real estate marketplace. The landowner receives compensation in the form of cash and tax benefits that allow him or her to avoid selling off all or part of the family ranch or farm due to financial pressures. The family is able to effectively sustain a rural lifestyle and a ranching or farming legacy that otherwise would be threatened.

To many, land conservation actions such as easements are primarily seen as legal proceedings. But for the families involved, it is often an act of the heart, one that comes from a place of shared values. At the core, conservation easements are only possible when the people who own the land hold the deep, immutable values of stewardship, love of land and wildlife, and respect for the human being's proper place on the land. As stated by conservationist Aldo Leopold:

"A land ethic ... reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this is turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. Health is the capacity of the land for self-renewal. Conservation is our effort to understand and preserve this capacity."

The Dorrances and the Violinis have acted from the heart. And we are all richer for it.







Stepping back 100 years in time to the California of the late 1800's is something most local residents can only dream of. For many of us, the grand expansiveness of sycamore and cotton wood forests winding through the Salinas Valley and the golden grasslands blanketing the Sierra de Salinas range come to life only through the words of writers like John Steinbeck.

Today, we can still enjoy views of agricultural abundance flowing through the Salinas Valley, and rangelands and oak woodlands are still characteristic of the Central Coast. Yet, we have lost some of the essential wildness of California.

When long time Salinas Valley farmers Henry & Johnny Violini invited The Big Sur Land Trust and our partners at The Nature Conservancy to visit their family ranch outside of Gonzales, we all felt as though we had traveled back in time. For more than 30 years, J.J. & H. Violini Company have owned this 4,000 acre property that stretches over the Sierra de Salinas ridge line into Carmel Valley. With a profound respect for both the native landscape and the wildlife that uses that habitat as home and safe haven, the Violini brothers have cared for this land with a gentle hand and impressive stewardship ethic.

The Violini property supports a diversity of blue and valley oak woodlands, native grasslands, savannas and wetlands—all of rare quality. The property's rolling hills and narrow canyons also serve as an important link in the wildlife corridor connecting the Ventana Wilderness to the northern edges of Salinas Valley. Biologists with The Nature Conservancy immediately



recognized the ecological and biodiversity values of the land and joined with the Land Trust to purchase a conser vation easement this past December that will help the Violini brothers preserve their ranch forever.

"My brother and I love this land and have spent decades exploring every part of it,"

said Henry Violini. "We've enjoyed the views of the Salinas Valley and Monterey Bay and relished seeing bucks and other wildlife. We wanted to make sure this land stays just the way it is, forever. That's why working with The Big Sur Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy made good sense. The easement helps us meet our goals for the property and provides us an economic benefit."

The conservation easement covers 3,200 acres of the property and ensures that the land will remain in a natural state. Valued at \$1.865 million, the easement was purchased for \$1,000,000 with private monies raised by The Big Sur Land Trust with a lead gift from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The difference between the two values represents a donation from the Violini family.

The Violini brothers chose to take advantage of a 2006 federal law that expanded federal tax incentives. This law allowed farmers and ranchers who donated conservation easements in 2006 and 2007 to deduct a larger percent of their income over a longer period of time. This enabled property owners to offset capital gains and take advantage of future income tax incentives. We are happy to report that Congress just acted to extend this tax incentive, ensuring that this valuable tool for voluntary land conservation continues through 2009.

The conservation easement allows the Violini brothers to maintain ownership of the entire property, while permanently preventing development from occurring on the portion included in the easement. The easement supports continued cattle grazing and low impact recreation; all activities must be conducted in ways that do not threaten the ranch's natural resources. The 800 acres of the ranch not included in the easement are well down slope of the most sensitive habitat. Any eventual conversion of this land is not expected to have a negative effect on the protected acres.

Under the terms of the agreement, The Big Sur Land Trust will hold and monitor the easement. The Nature Conservancy, which provided assistance in developing the easement and monitoring guidelines, has dedicated a \$100,000 endowment for future monitoring and management expenses.

"Henry and Johnny Violini have made a remarkable gift to the community by deciding to place their land in a conservation easement," said Bill Leahy, executive director of The Big Sur Land Trust. "In desiring to keep the oak woodlands, open grasslands, ponds and streams in a protected state, they have helped our community maintain a vital piece of what makes Monterey County unique. We are deeply grateful to the Violini brothers for their willingness to collaborate with us and to ensure that their legacy of land stewardship endures."

For up to date information on conservation easement tax incentives, go to the Land Trust Alliance website at www.lta.org.

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## In Memoriam



Jeff Norman, a dear friend and beloved and trusted advisor to The Big Sur Land Trust for more than 20 years, passed away last October at the age of 56.

Jeff was a passionate and captivating storyteller of "all things Big Sur." As a biologist, historian, researcher, teacher, author and explorer he craved knowledge of Big Sur's natural and cultural history, and enthusiastically and generously shared what he learned. He spent countless hours with Land Trust staff hiking the hillsides while volunteering his knowledge of plants, wildlife, people and history. During the late 1980's and early 1990's he authored a series on Big Sur in the Land Trust newsletter called "Names on the Land," sharing stories of place and of people.

It was only fitting that this past March, hundreds of people came together in a packed room at the Post Ranch Inn in Big Sur to share "Norman stories" and to celebrate, united in a common love for Jeff and all things Big Sur.

Jeff was conservation and community minded to the core of his being. It was with these values foremost in his mind that he guided the Land Trust in creating positive outcomes for Big Sur. The Land Trust is a better organization for it and we will never forget what Jeff taught us. His death brings the loss of a real Big Sur treasure and he will be deeply, deeply missed.

Steve Fossett (left), adventurer, record-breaker and Big Sur Land Trust President's Circle member, was declared dead on February 15, 2008, five months after he and his plane went missing over Nevada.

The Fossetts' have been members of the Land Trust since 2003. We offer our condolences to his wife Peggy.





Pat Brown and son Brian with Bill Leahy at Dorrance Ranch

#### IN MEMORY OF PATRICIA BROWN

Patricia "Pat" Brown, who with her husband, the late Bob Brown, was a major donor to The Big Sur Land Trust, died December 26 at her home in Portola Valley.

Pat and Bob were members of the Land Trust since 1990. They were Major Donors to the acquisitions of Point Lobos and Notley's Landing and were the Lead Donor to the Marks Ranch acquisition.

Pat was born in Washington and graduated from Stanford University with a Bachelor's degree in Education. While at Stanford, she met her future husband, Bob Brown. For more than 50 years, the Browns lived in Portola Valley, where they raised their four children.

An avid storyteller and puppeteer, Pat is remembered by many for her puppet shows and story hours at local schools and libraries. Pat was President of the Friends of the Portola Valley Library from 1983 to 1989 and the Browns were among the major donors to the library's children's section.

In addition to her love for storytelling and puppetry, Pat enjoyed reading, gardening, beachcombing, hiking and theater, especially on the Monterey Peninsula where the couple had their second home after retirement. Her lifelong traits of generosity and kindness touched all who knew her, say family members.

Pat and Bob were active and dedicated conservationists and environmentalists. Their family spent many happy hours at county parks picnicking and hiking. One of the last BSLT events Pat participated in was a tour of the Dorrance Ranch with her son Brian. Steve Dorrance and Pat had a lively discussion of the wildflowers on the ranch as Pat was an expert on the many varieties in this area.

A trail at the Marks Ranch will be named and dedicated to Pat and Bob for their visionary contribution to the project.



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Rolf Lygren & Katherine Heller "Ranching is a tough business, but we couldn't bear David Herrick seeing our land sold and developed," said Steve Connie & Ken Hess Dorrance. "It became clear that a conservation ease-Dick & Feesie Heuer ment would keep the ranch in the family and pre-James N Heuerman serve the landscape we've worked so hard to protect." Jim & DeeDee Hicks Harvey & Margaret Hinman

The Nature Conservancy paid six million dollars for the conservation easement, nearly one million dollars less than its appraised value and likely less than half the value the family could have realized if they had sold the property for development. Under current state law, the difference between the appraised value and the purchase price represents a charitable gift by the landowners. The funding was provided by the State of California's Wildlife Conservation Board, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and private donations to both The Nature Conservancy and The Big Sur Land Trust. The Land Trust's contribution of \$500,000 was supported by a substantial gift from the Barnet Segal Charitable Trust.

"The Dorrances are a truly remarkable family," said Bill Leahy, Executive Director of The Big Sur Land Trust. "We are honored to work with them and The Nature Conservancy to help the family realize its dream to conserve and care for the land. When the economies of land use drive local families from ranching, I believe we all share a sense of loss of land and tradition. The Dorrance family's story is an inspiration for all of us who share their deep abiding love for the land and a long-standing desire to sustain our open spaces."

#### Progressive Pioneers, Exemplary Stewards

The Dorrance family is well known and respected within the local ranching community as pioneers of progressive, environmentally sound practices. In the early 1990's they adopted Holistic Management™ practices at both Dorrance Ranch and their farm in Hollister. Holistic Management<sup>™</sup> offers farmers and ranchers a comprehensive framework for managing healthy land. It helps them identify and achieve specific goals related to farming, grazing, financial planning, land management and environmental monitoring. (More information on Holistic Management™ can be found at www.holisticmanagement.org.)

"By employing sustainable ranching techniques over the years, and now ensuring that their property is protected for the long-term, The Dorrances have shown tremendous leadership," said Christina Fischer, Monterey area project director for The Nature Conservancy. "This is a wonderful example of how conservation and ranching interests can work together to help both human and natural communi-

The conservation easement builds on the Dorrances exemplary stewardship of the property by protecting the landscape's natural resources regardless of ownership. It also ensures that the Dorrance Ranch can continue as a working cattle ranch, as it has been for three generations. The easement enables the Dorrance family to continue to provide benefits to the land through sound livestock grazing and other land stewardship practices. (For more information on the important role that ranchers and ranchlands play in our environment and community, see the fall 2007 BSLT newsletter). Other private land uses consistent with the protection of sensitive habitat will also be allowed.

"This ranch has been exceptionally well-cared for by the Dorrance family," said Fischer. "As a result, the oak savannas, grasslands and wildflower fields support healthy populations of a beautiful array of wildlife. We have everything from bobcats to badgers, songbirds to salamanders, golden eagles and the occasional California condor flying overhead. It is really an amazing place."

The Dorrance ranch is an excellent example of how a well-







continued from page 1



managed private ranch can provide exceptional public benefits watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and scenic values.

"This ranch is a part of me," said Drew Dorrance, Steve's son. "Partnering with organizations that share our core values helps us preserve this beautiful land and will give me and future generations an opportunity to carry on the family legacy."

BSLT's Bill Leahy hopes other ranchers and farmers follow the Dorrance's lead.

"We hope that the action the Dorrance family has taken to place this stunning landscape in conservation easement will serve as an example for other ranchers and farmers who share their values," he said. "Conservation easements provide a hopeful and financially feasible path for conserving and stewarding working ranchlands throughout Monterey County."

Clockwise, from top left: the Dorrance family today and (below) with horses; BSLT Executive Director Bill Leahy is interviewed by KSBW-TV during a media tour of the ranch; a view from the ranch with fog-shrouded Monterey Bay in the background.

#### **DORRANCE FAMILY HISTORY**

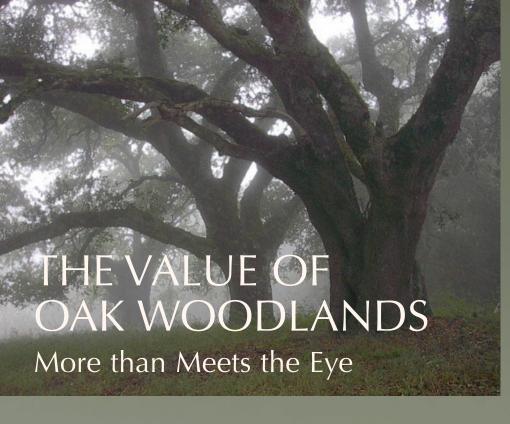
The Dorrance Ranch has been in the family since the 1940s. Brothers Bill (the late father of Steve, Billy and Dave) and Tom Dorrance are considered among the founders of the modern "natural horsemanship" movement. They promoted natural, gentle methods of horse training emphasizing "feel" of the horse and observation of its responses to the handler. Their techniques were one of the inspirations behind the book and motion picture, The Horse Whisperer. More informa tion about the remarkable Dorrance brothers can be found at www.billdorrance.net and www.tomdorrance.com

#### WHAT IS A CONSERVATION EASEMENT?

A conservation easement is a legal agreement voluntarily entered into by a landowner and a land trust that permanently limits uses of the landowner's property in order to protect its conservation values. It allows landowners to continue to own and use their land and to sell it or pass it on to heirs. The easement restricts development on the property to the degree that is necessary to protect the land's significant conservation values.

Landowners and land trusts work together to write an easement agreement that reflects both the landowner's desires and the need to protect conservation values. Most easements "run with the land," binding the original owner and all subsequent owners to the easements restrictions. A landowner can sell or donate a conservation easement. If the donation meets certain criteria it can qualify the landowner for significant income and estate tax benefits.

Buying easements is less expensive then buying land outright, so using this tool enables land trusts to protect more land for the dollar. The land trust is required to monitor the property usually once a year to determine that it remains in the condition prescribed by the easement agreement. To find out more on easements and other land conservation tools contact BSLT or the Land Trust Alliance at www.lta.org.



Here on the central coast, many of us are fortunate enough to live within sight of majestic oak trees. Many more of us admire them scattered across rolling hills during our morning and evening commutes. To some, oaks are a beloved feature of a working landscape or a much favored place to relax or recreate.

But the value of our native oaks goes well beyond the visual landscapes we readily enjoy. Indeed, our native oaks play a critical role in supporting an abundance and diversity of wildlife and maintaining the health of our local watersheds.

#### FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW

Oaks are in the plant family Fagaceae and in the genus Quercus. In Monterey County the three most common species are coast live oak (Q. agrifolia), blue oak (Q. douglasii), and valley oak (Q.lobata).

Coast live oaks are evergreens that grow primarily in coastal forests, but can also range inland. Blue and valley oaks, both of which are deciduous, like warmer, dryer interior foothills such as upper Carmel Valley. Under the right conditions oaks live 200-300 years; a few make it more than 600 years.

Dense wooded areas where the dominant trees are oaks are referred to as "oak woodlands." "Oak savannas" occur where oaks are more widely

According to the California Oak Foundation, Monterey County has over 550,000 acres of oak woodlands, covering one-quarter of the two million acres found within the County's borders. And with oak woodlands comes a remarkably rich multiplicity of life.

"California has an incredible diversity of native species, and much of it is because of oak woodlands," says Dr. Mark R. Stromberg, Director of the University of California's Hastings Reserve in Carmel Valley. "For example, one can find more than 80 species of reptiles and amphibians in California oak woodlands alone - more than can be found in some states, like Minnesota or New York."

Oak woodlands also support more than 60 species of mammals, 100 species of birds, 4,000 species of insects and several thousand species of plants, including flowers, native grasses, fungi, lichens and mosses.

"Acorns are perhaps the most important food for wildlife produced in California's many diverse habitats," says Stromberg.

A typical oak tree will produce tens of thousands of acorns and seedlings to be eaten by birds, mammals and insects. Historically, acorns sustained many Native American cultures as food and medicine.

The benefits of oaks go far beyond being a source of food. Oaks canopies increase the water holding capacity of soil by providing shade and wind protection. Many oaks are covered with lace lichen which catches nitrogen from coastal breezes. Rains rinse this nitrogen into the soil, increasing its fertility. Oak woodlands reduce erosion and sediment flowing into streams. They also play an important role in sequestering carbon from the atmosphere, reducing the buildup of greenhouse gases.

#### OAKS FACE MANY CHALLENGES

Today, poor regeneration and disease threaten to irrevocably affect oak populations and alter our landscape. In many areas of California, oak populations are experiencing little or no tree replacement. This is particularly true for valley and blue oaks. Factors that may be responsible for this lack of reproduction include alteration in natural fire cycles, inadequate rainfall, and an increase in ground-dwelling acorn predators. Also, because oaks cross pollinate, as trees become more isolated from one another they fail to reproduce.

Our coast live oaks are also threatened by Sudden Oak Death (SOD). First detected in 1995, SOD is a fungus-like pathogen that has spread and now killed tens of thousands of coast live oaks. The disease is not well understood and there is currently no cure. It is easily spread by spores transported by wind-driven rain, by animals, down streams, and in mud on tires and shoes. The severity of the disease and ease of transmission could have serious ecological impacts on coast live oaks in Monterey County and elsewhere.

There is also continued pressure to convert oak woodlands for development. With over 80% of oak woodlands in private ownership, working collaboratively with private landowners on stewardship and restoration

#### THE OAK WOODLANDS CONSERVATION ACT

In recognition of the value of oak woodlands and the threats to them, the State of California passed the Oak Woodlands Conservation Act in 2001. The Act established a bond fund and mandated that the State's

Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) award grants to support voluntary long-term private stewardship and conservation of oak woodlands. Importantly, before local government entities, private landowners and nonprofit land trusts can apply for funds, a county must have an Oak Woodlands Management Plan approved by the WCB.

In January 2008, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors directed its staff to prepare an Oak Woodlands Management Plan for submission to the WCB. As California's Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires counties to mitigate the environmental effect of proposed development projects that will have a significant impact on oak woodlands, the Board also directed staff to develop a suite of mitigation options consistent with state law. Mitigation alternatives could include conservation easements, tree replacement, monetary contributions to the state's Oak Woodlands Conservation Fund, or other reasonable and effective measures.

The Big Sur Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, California Rangeland Trust, Elkhorn Slough Foundation, and Ag Land Trust strongly support the Board's actions. BSLT looks forward to continuing its collaboration with these groups, the County and landowners in developing plans to help protect the future of California's, and Monterey County's, oak woodlands.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the WCB's California Oak Woodlands Conservation Program, go to www.wcb.ca.gov/Pages/oak woodlands program.asp.

For landowners who want to know what they can do to conserve their oaks, read "Living Among the Oaks. A Management Guide for Landowners," University of California Cooperative Extension, Natural Resources Program. Copies may be obtained at 163 Mulford Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720 or by calling 510/643-5428.

For more information on California oaks, visit the California Oak Foundation at www.californiaoaks.org. Or pick up a copy of Oaks of California by Bruce M. Pavlik, Pamela C. Muick, Sharon G. Johnson and Marjorie Ropper, Cachuma Press, Revised January 1993.

For more information on the UC Hastings Reserve go to www.hast-



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#### 2008 BSLT DONOR EVENTS

The Big Sur Land Trust is very pleased to present the 2008 Donor Events Calendar. These special events are one of our ways of saying thanks for the support of our generous members.

\$250 DONORS AND ABOVE

with Executive Director Bill Leahy

- OCTOBER 14 / Full Moon Hike at Glen Deven Ranch
- \$500 DONORS AND ABOVE MAY 10 / Breakfast and Wildflowers Hike at Marks Ranch
- \$1,000 DONORS AND ABOVE SEPTEMBER 6 / Fall Harvest Festival – Odello Fields at Palo Corona Ranch
- \$5,000 DONORS AND ABOVE
- OCTOBER 4 / Annual Presidents Circle Event BBQ at Dorrance Ranch

For additional information, please call Todd Farrington at 831.625.5523, ext 100.

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#### Land and Legacy Circle **Annual Luncheon** October 17, 2008

The Land and Legacy Circle honors and acknowledges those families and individuals who provide us support by including The Big Sur Land Trust in their charitable estate plans. These legacy gifts make a personal and lasting statement by protecting our glorious, irreplaceable landscapes for generations to come.

For more information about our Annual Luncheon or the Land and Legacy Circle, please contact Lana Weeks at 831.625.5523 ext. 102.

#### The Big Sur Land Trust **30th Anniversary Celebration** Thursday, November 20, 2008 Carmel's Sunset Theatre

Mark your calendars as BSLT marks 30 years of "conserving the significant lands and waters of California's central coast for all generations."

Enjoy a celebratory evening including the beautiful voice of award-winning folksinger/songwriter Erica Wheeler as she fosters the emotional connection between People and Place.

Stay-tuned for more details!

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