

**ANDERSON
VALLEY
LAND
TRUST
INCORPORATED**



P.O. BOX 141
BOONVILLE, CA 95415

TELEPHONE:
707 / 895 / 3150

www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org
avlt@mcn.org

DIRECTORS:

KAREN ALTARAS
BARBARA GOODELL
DAVID HOPMANN
PATRICIA JEFFERY
GLYNNIS JONES
PATRICK MILLER
STEVE SNYDER
DEAN TITUS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

KATHY BAILEY
CONNIE BEST
WILLIAM CHAMBERS
MICKI COLFAX
THOM ELKJER
DANIEL IMHOFF
JED POGGAN
ALAN PORTER
JOHN SCHARFFENBERGER
LAURIE WAYBURN
CLARE WHEELER
PETER WILEY

GOOD DIRT

The Newsletter of the Anderson Valley Land Trust, Incorporated
Spring/Summer 2014



Photo by Steve Snyder

PROTECTING FORESTLANDS AND A MEADOW ON THE MARTIN HOMESTEAD

"Paradise" is Fred Martin's word for his 40-acre homestead located on the high ridge on the north side of the Holmes Ranch. Fred contacted AVLT about placing a conservation easement on his property with the intention of preserving the meadow to prevent future development for agricultural purposes and to manage the forest area sustainably.



Fred Martin

Photo by Patricia Jefferey

Fred describes the property as "a residence and garden within a mini-wilderness." The property includes a recovering forest area and an expansive meadow. Fred purchased the property 15 years ago and since then has worked tirelessly to minimize intrusions onto the land. An orchard located near the residence contains semi-dwarf trees including a mix of pomegranate, persimmon, fig, apple and pear. Gardens surround the residence.

AVLT helped Fred articulate his goal to permanently protect the conservation value of his land with a conservation easement. Fred says that working with AVLT was a friendly experience and successful one in meeting all his conservation objectives. The Martin easement is AVLT's 26th conservation easement and the second on or adjacent to Holmes Ranch.

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND
RESTORATION OF OUR UNIQUE RURAL
LANDSCAPE WITH ITS ABUNDANT
NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE
BENEFIT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

President's Message: The Pages Turn at Anderson Valley Land Trust

I have served on the Board of AVLT for about 6 years, most recently as Vice-President. My fellow Board members convinced me that now it's my turn to hold the baby. I feel honored to be your new President. AVLT is a great community resource. I pledge to give it my best.

In March, our excellent administrative assistant, Shelly Englert, told us she wanted to leave AVLT. Shelly was with us for seven years. During that time she vastly improved our recordkeeping and file storage systems. She enthusiastically represented us in the community. She helped us draft and close many easements. She attended Board meetings and took thorough minutes. Her contributions were significant, and lasting. THANK YOU, SHELLY. YOU'VE BEEN GREAT. We had a nice send-off for Shelly at the Buckhorn. And she has been super-cooperative in helping us train our new administrative assistant—Trey Petrey.

We hired Trey in April, from a field of strong candidates. Trey comes with a background in working at non-profit entities. He served the San Francisco Symphony for over 19 years as manager of The Wattis Room, a private dining room for the Symphony's most valued donors. After he left the Symphony, he continued cultivating a long-standing interest in food and agriculture by working at Cowgirl Creamery and Canvas Ranch in Petaluma. He lives in Comptche and enjoys cycling and the outdoors. We're delighted to have found Trey, whose skills and experiences hold such promise for us. Please join us in welcoming Trey to AVLT.



So what else is new at AVLT? By year's end, we are hoping to close 2 or 3 new easements that are in the works. We are working on a project to develop signage for properties that are under easement—for owners who are willing to post them. You may have seen signs of this type on fences in Marin (for example). It turns out that the signage project is not simple, but we think it could help us raise visibility.

Lastly, we're hoping to increase public awareness and understanding of what we do at AVLT. All of us on the Board have fielded questions from community members—at a party, on the street, in the post office—that make us realize we need to be more clear and more transparent about our core mission. That mission is: (a) *accepting* donations of conservation easements; and (b) *effectively administering* those easements, as time passes and regardless of any change in ownership of the property. We're hoping to develop a set of FAQs and talking points including the tax aspects—that will cut the fog index on conservation easements. We hope to have the new materials up on our website within the next few months.

We're grateful for your support. We welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions.

Sincerely,
David Hopmann



If you would like to be notified about our upcoming events, which include field hikes and other educational workshops and activities please contact the AVLT office.

Our e-mail address is avlt@mcn.org or you can reach us at 895-3150.

Our website is at www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org

Office hours for AVLT are Tuesday and Friday, 9-1, or by appointment

Clarkia amoena
Farewell-to-Spring

The beautiful flower farewell-to-spring (*Clarkia amoena*), adds a wash of pinkish lavender color to late spring displays around Anderson Valley and indeed in many parts of California. This flower can astound when blanketing hillsides or road banks with its stunning show resembling an Impressionist painting. Farewell-to-spring is a member of the genus *Clarkia*, which includes several of our very pretty wildflowers and was named for Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition to the Pacific Northwest in the early nineteenth century.



The farewell-to-spring, whose Latin name means “charming” or “delightful”, is also known as herald-of-summer. A true late bloomer, the farewell-to-spring favors us with a last flush of blossoms before the drier days of summer turn the hills golden with the annual grasses going to seed. Ranging from British Columbia to central California, the farewell-to-spring typically appears in coastal fields, grassy meadows and along roadsides, where it surprises and delights when in spectacular full bloom. *Clarkia amoena* grows to 1 to 3 feet tall, with narrow linear leaves about 1/2 to 2 inches long. It bears dense clusters of rather large flowers that range from pink to purplish to magenta, each of its four petals often being splashed with a crimson blotch. The noticeable pods that follow are up to an inch long and when ripened split open to release many seeds. The flower is distinguished by others of its genus by the fact that before opening, the flower buds are held upright rather than drooping. Horticultural forms of *Clarkia amoena* (usually called godetia, the flower’s former botanical name) are often sold as cut flowers for fresh floral arrangements. In the wild, this flower tolerates poor soils and thrives on annual rainfall. It also can be grown under cultivation, where it responds well to improved soils and occasional irrigation, which tends to prolong bloom time. So, for a special visual feast as spring fades into summer, look for those vibrant swaths of brilliant color as you travel about the Valley and beyond!



Welcome New Board Member Brent Levin

We are happy to announce that Brent Levin joined the AVLT board last fall. Brent’s background in environmental science and planning, coupled with his professional experience in mapping, dovetail well with AVLT’s mission of helping landowners enact a vision for their property that permanently protects their legacy and the natural resources on their land.

Brent moved to Anderson Valley in 2004 after spending 12 years creating planning maps for the Planning Department in Santa Cruz County. Within his work for Santa Cruz County, Brent converted the county zoning, biological, and natural resource information from a paper format to a GIS computer software program that links spatial information in layers with zoning maps and natural resource research. Brent can use this knowledge to create similar maps for the AV community, helping us understand where it makes the most sense to protect riparian zones, wildlife corridors, farmland, and forests. These layered maps give landowners knowledge about their own land and, further, help them see their properties within the context of the land around them.

Brent, his wife Liz, and his 7 1/2 year old daughter, Esther, live at Emerald Earth, an intentional community high up on Peachland Road. Brent helps teach hands-on workshops on sustainable natural building practices; assists in the organic garden that grows most of the community’s vegetables and fruit; and supports their dairy and meat production. Living interdependently with others has honed Brent’s excellent communication skills—a real plus for a board member. His focus is looking at land for the long term and learning, together with other community members, new and better ways to help protect AV’s wonderful rural nature.

Hopland Research and Education Field Station Tour
and 7th Annual AVLT Wildflower Walk
by Barbara Goodell

A golden eagle soared above our heads as Scientists Greg Giusti and Bob Keiffer explained the fencing project that flanked a portion of Parson's Creek preventing large ungulates (translated deer, sheep, and pigs) from entering the creek bed. Aided by the protection of this fencing, the previously denuded creek had sprouted willows and other plant life, creating a shade canopy and encouraging increased water flow with deeper pools. All this, in turn, has allowed fish to return.

We got to see one of the many large ancient petroglyph rocks with pecked curvilinear, and nucleated carvings found in the coast ranges of Northern California. Recent research suggests that these petroglyphs are about 8,000 years old and predate the Pomo culture.



Greg Giusti talking in front of a rock with ancient petroglyphs

Along the walk, we saw a very large, old blue oak with a hollowed-out center with a small opening about 15 feet from the ground. The tree is one of the nesting sites being studied in an ongoing turkey vulture project. Cameras placed on nearby posts monitor the opening to glean information on the little-known life of these scavenger birds. The turkey vultures make a nest at ground level inside the oak, lay their eggs, and enter to feed and nurture their white-feathered young. When the fledglings are old enough to make their way up the tree trunk to see the world, the camera records their actions. One particular young bird came up the trunk every night at 11:00 for two hours to see what there was to see.

A large fenced area, created to study the formation of ecotypes in blue oaks, also serves as an acorn bank for the blue oaks of California. Acorns were collected and planted from 27 different populations. The project will observe the difference in growth and other physiological processes of the various acorns, and record how they adapt to local habitats. Timing of bud break, nutrient uptake, transpiration, and response to drought are among the factors that will be recorded.

(continued on page 6)

Legacy of Working Lands on the Web by Barbara Goodell & Glynnis Jones



Johnson Ranch in Boonville

Photo by Rich Ferguson

Last fall, AVLT sponsored a series of well attended workshops entitled The Legacy of Working Lands—Preserving Anderson Valley’s Heritage. The workshops were designed to help farmers, ranchers, and timberland owners to write their wills, establish estates and business succession plans, reduce estate taxes, and hold productive family meetings to discuss all these steps. Hosting these workshops also allowed AVLT the opportunity to hear participants’ concerns about passing their land on to the next generation.

As the workshops progressed, it became increasingly clear that in the intergenerational transfer of working lands, honoring the owners’ lifetime legacy of work on those land is a vital concern. The greater Anderson Valley community is an important stakeholder in the succession process, as well, for this is the land that grows our food and wood and provides vital open space. As such, it is integral to our future. With all of these factors in mind, AVLT is adding a new section to our website with information related to these workshops for families making decisions about land and business succession. Though the materials will be primarily directed at “working” lands, many aspects are applicable to all landowners and their estate plans. We will update this section of our website as we receive new materials and links.

Included on our website at www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org will be pdf versions of the following:

- Workshop series brochure—explains Ties to the Land workshops in October 2013 and January 2014 and the Farm and Ranch Succession Workshop in November 2013.
- Ties to the Land poster
- September Training Session Agenda for resource agency personnel, estate planning attorneys, and land trust board members.
- Farm and Ranch Succession Planning Workshop information, including
 - a. November 22 Workshop poster
 - b. Workshop agenda
 - c. Speakers’ biographies
 - d. Speakers’ presentations
 - Olivia Boyce-Abel (Family Lands Consulting)
 - *Effective Family Meetings*
 - *Good Communications Skills*
 - *Facilitator’s Documents*
 - Reggie Knox (California FarmLink)
 - *What Is Farm Succession and Why Do It?*
 - Rod Carter (Golden State Farm Credit)
 - *Transferring the Business*
 - Steve Johnson (Mannon, King and Johnson)
 - *Revocable Living Trusts and Estate Planning*
 - e. Homework exercises to get started on succession planning at home
 - f. Farm and Ranch workshop evaluation report
 - g. Workshop sponsors/partners recognition

If you would like to know how a conservation easement might benefit the future of your land and estate plan, please call the office at 895-3150 or email us at avlt@mcn.org.

Hopland Research and Education Tour and 7th Annual AVLT Wildflower Walk

(Continued from page 1)

Another stop overlooked a fire study area where researchers are looking at the effect of fuel loads, invasive species after fires, and post-fire species succession in chaparral. Our lunch spot was a knoll on the grass at 3,000 feet with a spectacular view of the Russian River Watershed from Ukiah to Cloverdale. For the wildflower walk we meandered in a protected mini valley with a creek and pond where fence had restricted sheep, but not deer, for 60 years. Clare Wheeler and Jade Paget-Seekins helped with plant identification.



As we wound around the roads on the 5,300-acre research center in the Mayacamas Mountains with tranquil, green, iconic California oak woodlands we could truly appreciate the magnificent, huge old oaks individually silhouetted against the blue sky. The 44 participants saw only a fraction of the 220 documented bird species and projects. We thank Greg Giusti and Bob Kieffer for their expertise, enthusiasm, and humor in leading the all-day tour and the cheerful, competent

Tamara for driving the AV Community Bus (895-2278 or 489-1175). Four participants parked their cars at the junction of Mountain House Road and Highway 128 and rode their bicycles to Hopland! You can read more about the research center and its projects at [www. http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland/) and check the calendar for public events.

SHELLY ENGLERT



The Anderson Valley Land Trust Board would like to publicly give a huge "Thank You" to Shelly Englert for her seven years of tireless and invaluable service to Anderson Valley Land Trust. What can we say about Shelly? During her tenure, she was often referred to as the "glue" that held the organization's many activities and events together; meticulously filing our records and documents, organizing, keeping track of reservations, paying bills, collecting contributions, taking care of the phone and emails, seeing to everyday business, and doing it all with great efficiency and unfailing cheerfulness. Dealing with all the various players involved, Shelly must have often felt that her job was akin to herding cats. We so appreciate the time she spent with us, and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

We'll miss you Shelly!

Thank You To All of Our Generous Donors

Anonymous x2
 Karen Altaras
 Deanna and Mark Apfel
 Peryl Ashton
 Kathy Bailey and Eric Labowitz
 Stephen and Zoya Barlow
 The Frederick E. and Anne R.
 Barstow Fund
 Lisa Bauer
 Connie Best and Laurie Wayburn
 Tom and Marilyn Bickell
 Moira Johnston Block
 Ronald Blum and Maria Mendoza
 Marion and Robert Blumberg
 Ric and Alice Bonner
 Maureen Bowman
 Linda Brennan
 Richard Browning
 Briana Burns
 Cakebread Cellars
 Lyman and Carol Casey
 Castello di Amorosa
 Bill Chambers
 Joel Clark
 Lynne Clenfield
 Congaree River LLC
 Mark and Mary Crozier
 Steve and Francie Curtiss
 John Daws and Steve Noack
 Dan Dodt and Linda Blacketer
 Kathy Down and Greg Kelly
 Alain DuGuay
 Edward and Marcia Dupere
 Liz Dusenberry
 Neva Dyer
 Thom Elkjer
 Todd and Marge Evans
 Robert Finkelstein and Lisa Chen
 Janet and Ken Foote
 Ron and Gail Gester
 Barbara and Rob Goodell
 Dore and Martha Griffinger
 Allen Gummer
 Franklin Graham & Margaret Bond
 Hallomas
 Lynn Halpern
 Valerie Hanelt and Hans Hickenlooper
 Laurel Headley
 Richard and Gene Herr
 Morris and Charity Hirsch
 Charlie and Maureen Hochberg
 Walter and Susan Hopkins
 Dave Hopmann and James Taul
 Nancy and John Hornor
 Rebecca Husband
 Martha Hyde
 Patricia Jeffery and Greg Chiodo
 Janine Johnson and Justine Rosenthal
 Glynnis Jones
 Kathie Kinzie
 Mary Kunkel
 David Lakes
 Christina Lech
 Kit and George Lee
 Ted and Heidi Lemon

Long Valley Ranch/William
 and Abbie Burton
 Helen Longino and Valerie Miner
 Dale Lottig and Eunice Azzani
 Kathleen MacDonald
 and Michael Nissenberg
 Jim Martin and Pete Caldwell
 Laurence Mattison/Nest Environmental
 Services in Honor of Fred Martin
 Nancy Mayer
 Elizabeth Mayrisch
 Kimberly McGovern & Frank
 Scherkenbach
 Kathleen McKenna and Tom McFadden
 Debby Mefford and John Gaudette
 Michelle and Rolf Mehlhorn
 Patrick and Jane Miller
 Cynthia Morris
 Marshall Newman
 Susan Newstead
 Gilman Ordway
 Karen Ottoboni
 Dave and Helen Papke
 Lanny and Sandy Parker
 Parker Design
 Thomas and Nancy Patten
 Joyce Pease
 Petit Teton Foundation
 PG&E Corporation Foundation
 Donna Plunkett
 Jed Pogran and Gary McGregor
 Alan Porter and Paul Hoge
 Thomas Powell

Daniel Reed
 Rhys Vineyards
 Ron Rice
 Mike Rielly
 Roger and Ann Romani
 Peter and Collette Rothschild
 Jon and Karin Rubenstein
 Brent and Donna Rudin
 Norman and Joan Rudman
 Thomas and Nona Russell, MDs
 Debra and Brent Salmi
 Savings Bank of Mendocino
 John Scharffenberger
 R. Timothy Scully
 Lee Serrie and Robert Giuliani
 Daniel Sicular
 Barry Allen Smith, MD
 Phillip Smith, MD
 Margaret Snyder
 Steve and Janet Snyder
 Jane Staw
 Gregg Tossello
 Susan and Raymond Triplett
 V. Sattui Winery
 Walt and Ginger Valen
 Warren and Janis Watkins
 Cindy and Kirk Wilder
 Bradford and Linda Wiley
 Peter Wiley and Valerie Barth
 Rita Walsh-Wilson
 Toni and Dale Wise
 Steven and Deborah Wolfe
 Gene Zanoni

AVLT 2013 Financial Statements

Assets – December 2013	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Operating Accounts	42,479.00	
Pioneer Stewardship Fund Stewardship Endowment*		18,577.00
Furniture/Equipment	1,153.00	273,694.00
Total Assets	43,632.00	292,271.00
Total Liabilities	-	
Net Assets		
At Beginning of Year	261,516.00	
Change in Net Assets	74,387.00	
At End of Year	335,903.00	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	335,903.00	
Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2013		
Support & Revenue	Unrestricted Funds	
Donations & Grants	49,139.00	
Rent	2,160.00	
Interest	14.00	
Total Support & Revenue	51,313.00	
Expenses		
Insurance	2,482.00	
Easement Expense	456.00	
Office	2,058.00	
Payroll	14,713.00	
Postage	662.00	
Printing	1,562.00	
Rent & Utilities	7,136.00	
Professional Fees	1,206.00	
Special Events (workshops)	6,134.00	
Website	2,486.00	
Total Expenses	38,895.00	

* restricted funds for the protection of our easements.

Note: \$67,207 increase in our Stewardship Endowment Funds



Thank you to the following volunteers for helping out at the 18th Annual Anderson Valley Brewing Company Beer Fest

Patrick Miller
 Jane Miller
 Glynnis Jones
 Patricia Jeffery
 Barbara Goodell
 Rob Goodell
 Mimi DuVigneaud
 Aaron Sawyer
 Andy DuVigneaud
 Adam Sullivan
 Wesley Porter
 Helen Bowman
 Jenta Russell

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

INSIDE DIRT

Martin Easement by Patricia Jeffery	page 1
President's Message by David Hopmann	page 2
<i>Clarkia amoena</i>	page 3
<i>Welcome New Board Member Brent Levin</i>	page 3
Hopland Research and Educational Tour by Barbara Goodell	page 4
Legacy of Working Lands on the Web by Barbara Goodell and Glynnis Jones	page 5
Hopland Tour(cont.); Thank You Shelly Englert	page 6
Donors and Financials; Thank You, Volunteers	page 7



This newsletter was printed and mailed by Printing Plus in Willits and Express-It Mailing Services in Ukiah
Thank you Tim and Terry
Editing by Barbara Goodell and Jerry Karp
Layout by Trey Petrey

Newsletter is printed
on 30% recycled paper