

# AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

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BULLETIN

Fall 2009

## *In Her Own Words*

### PHYLLIS ELLMAN

by Loretta Zweig and Sylvia Crawford

On June 2, 2009, the evening of the Bouverie Preserve's Annual Meeting, Phyllis Ellman passed away quietly in her Glen Ellen home less than a mile from the Preserve. Phyllis knew her friends were close by, honoring her and singing of her love and commitment to the Preserve.

A longtime Audubon Canyon Ranch Board member, Advisor, supporter, member of the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle, "founding mother" of the Bouverie Preserve Environmental Education Program, Bouverie docent, and a vital member of the Quercus Quire (the ACR choir), Phyllis Ellman spent the weeks before her death carefully, and with her usual calm common sense, getting her affairs in order. This included establishing the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund, which will provide academic scholarships to graduates of the Bouverie Junior Naturalist (or Juniper) Program.

Before moving to Sonoma County, Phyllis was active in Marin County environmental issues. She was instrumental in saving Ring Mountain near Tiburon from development. The Phyllis Ellman Trail in the Ring Mountain Open Space Preserve was dedicated to Phyllis many years ago. She and her husband, George (who served as the mayor of Tiburon), also helped negotiate the preservation and improvement of Shoreline Park along the downtown Tiburon waterfront in the 1980s.



A strong and steadfast supporter of Audubon Canyon Ranch, Phyllis and George donated proceeds from the sale of their Tiburon home to the ACR endowment years ago.

After fainting at a recent Quercus Quire performance, Phyllis had only weeks between diagnosis and her death, yet she retained her characteristic positive demeanor and continued to extol the virtues of Audubon Canyon Ranch, an organization she supported, served and loved for many years. The entire ACR family misses Phyllis Ellman.

#### *In Conversation with Phyllis*

Gaye LeBaron and Loretta Zweig, two longtime Bouverie docents and friends of Phyllis, interviewed her shortly before her death. Loretta reports:

"Gaye and I had the privilege of visiting Phyllis Ellman in late May at her home in Glen Ellen, one week before she passed away. Phyllis had recently fallen ill, and she predicted that she would just "fade away". While she may have

*Phyllis and  
George  
Ellman.*

PHOTO:  
JOCELYN  
KNIGHT

➤ Please turn to **Phyllis Ellman**, page 4

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## *A Request from the President* HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ORGANICALLY

by Bryant Hichwa

As we enter into a new school year, we anticipate the change of seasons. The voices and energy of schoolchildren can be heard at both the Bouverie and Bolinas Lagoon preserves. While school budgets are shrinking, and programs and classes are being cut, Audubon Canyon Ranch continues its world-class education programs through our volunteer docents' dedication and your support.

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*As supporters of ACR, you can communicate directly with the communities we serve.*

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Sherry Adams, ACR biologist at the Modini Ranch, is excited about working with Jim and Shirley Modini. She is focused on a long-range management plan, while experiencing daily treks across the 1,725-acre ranch. Restoration work centered at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve is also in high gear. ACR's conservation science and habitat protection program is expanding to address ways to manage wetlands in the face of global climate change. ACR's commitment to preserve native habitat long-term is a fundamental part of our mission.

In short, Audubon Canyon Ranch is thriving with growth and change.

Members of *Partners in Education* and *Partners in Conservation* giving circles are a critical part of ACR's success. We rely on your generous assistance to fuel this growth.

Please remember the good work of Audubon Canyon Ranch as you consider your year-end giving. Ways to support ACR: make a donation, become a volunteer, remember ACR in your estate plans. What better way to ensure that future generations will witness and enjoy the

natural world protected in our preserves than through ACR's planned giving program, known as the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle. Please consider ACR in your estate planning process. Information on all these vehicles is available at [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org).

We also encourage you to spread the word about Audubon Canyon Ranch by representing the organization in your community. Talk to your family, friends and colleagues about the good work you support and encourage them



to get involved philanthropically or to consider volunteering. As supporters of ACR, you can communicate directly with the communities we serve.

We hope to inspire you to help us spread the word about Audubon Canyon Ranch organically. Most importantly, *thank you* for being a part of our success.

*Bryant Hichwa is ACR's Board President.*

## *Unique Places*

# THE PRESERVES OF AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

*by Skip Schwartz*

With its preserves, Audubon Canyon Ranch captures the ecological diversity of the Bay Area. Each preserve is unique and, in sum, they produce the oneness of ACR. We asked ACR Executive Director Skip Schwartz what he believes to be unique about each of ACR's three main preserves and the Modini Ranch. This is some of what he told us:

**Bolinas Lagoon Preserve:** The headquarters of Audubon Canyon Ranch is located at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve where ACR was founded and became the focus of people's love and efforts to protect this part of the coast. It served as a catalyst and encouragement for the environmental movement that created the great parks and open spaces of West Marin. Bolinas Lagoon Preserve grew to be 1,000 acres and four canyons from the lagoon almost to the ridge. Due to the special protection of ACR's science and restoration mission, it has remained very wild.

The experience of natural wildness is accessible to our visitors, and the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve has the highest public use. For four months each year, we are open to the public and encourage people from our diverse Bay Area and the international community to explore, to be inspired, to be educated. That gives the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve a special dimension in nature education.

When visitors come back from their walk, they say 'thank you – it was a wonderful experience – it meant something to me'. That makes our jobs as staff and volunteers not only possible, but enjoyable. We work to make a difference.

I have had the pleasure of maintaining a residence at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve for 34 years, so I got to know the preserve intimately: from the soft feeling of the redwood needles

beneath my feet... to the bedrock of the rushing streams... to the many signs of the wild animals with which I shared the land.

**Bouverie Preserve:** At the Bouverie Preserve, I had the wonderful experience of getting to know David Bouverie, for whom the Preserve was named. We helped him fulfill his dream: a preserve in its natural state where ACR staff and volunteers would teach a love and respect for nature to the younger generations. The Bouverie Preserve has a riparian corridor, redwood forest and chaparral – but it also has oak woodlands with incredible displays of springtime wildflowers.

Architect David Bouverie also left ACR a sense of place... his indelible mark on the modest yet elegant facilities of the Bouverie Preserve.

**Cypress Grove Research Center:** The Cypress Grove Research Center includes wetlands, coastal grasslands, beach and shore. I usually describe going into the Clifford Conly Center (the facilities compound) as entering "Through the Looking-Glass" into Clifford's alternate reality. When I go through that cypress hedge, I enter into a difference world. There is an atmosphere of excitement and opportunity from the science staff based there, and all this is framed by important ACR-protected habitats proximate to the wildness of Tomales Bay.

**The Modini Ranch:** When you ascend the Mayacamas Mountains to the Modini Ranch, it's like traveling into a lost world of California's past ecological glory. I have had the experience of actually traveling through a sea of fog to get to the ranch. In a way, that is a fitting introduction to a rare and wonderful couple, Jim and Shirley Modini, who love their land

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**PHYLLIS ELLMAN**, from page 1

been fading physically, her spirit was strong and her mind as sharp as always.

“We chatted with Phyllis about her life. The following are excerpts from that interview.”



Sylvia Crawford  
and Phyllis  
Ellman, fellow  
Quercus Quire  
members.

PHOTO:  
JEANNE WIRKA

*Phyllis' Early Life*

**Gaye:** Tell me your life story in capsule form.

**Phyllis:** I was born in Ames, Iowa, then moved to Lawrence, Kansas.

**Gaye:** What year were you born?

**Phyllis:** 1923. My father was always at a state college, so we moved to Fargo, North Dakota. And North Dakota is

cold! We subsequently moved to Montana, where I went to high school. I wanted to go to the University of Minnesota, but I won a statewide competitive scholarship that paid all my fees at Montana State. So there was no question.

**Gaye:** Where did you meet George?

**Phyllis:** Postwar... I was a teaching fellow at Washington State, Pullman, and he had just finished at Illinois and had been a teaching fellow. Because schedules didn't match up, I taught his classes for the first three weeks. So, that's where I met him. I was lying in wait. [Phyllis laughs]

**Gaye:** What was your teaching field?

**Phyllis:** Chemistry.

**Gaye:** Same as George, so it must have been good chemistry, right?

**Phyllis:** Of course [smiles].

**Gaye:** How did you go from being a chemist to a botanist?

**Phyllis:** Both of my parents were agricultural entomologists. I grew up in a household where

everyone knew these things. When [George and I] moved to Tiburon, there was an elderly English lady. She was only 79 and finding it a little difficult to scramble up and down the hills, so she took me on as an apprentice.

**Gaye:** Where did you and George live?

**Phyllis:** We lived in Pullman for a couple of years, and then George was a graduate student at Cal Tech. We were there until 1952. Then we went to Midland, Michigan, which is Dow Chemical. Alden Dow, one of the sons of the founder, was one of Frank Lloyd Wright's first students. So, young architects came from everywhere to do their apprentice time. We went to parties where the theory and practice of architecture were argued with great enthusiasm.

[Because of allergy problems] George said, “We are going west.” He subsequently got a position at UC Medical in pharmacology. But Langley Porter Clinic had decided they needed a biochemist... and so he was there for over 30 years.

**Gaye:** And did you live in Tiburon?

**Phyllis:** Yes, we didn't know the area at all and somehow found this little apartment. It was pouring rain. When the rain lifted, behold! There was the Bay; there was Belvedere. It was just before Christmas, and the yacht clubs had put strings of lights up and down. It was spectacular.

We came to Glen Ellen in 1980.

*The Bouverie Preserve*

IN 1979, David Pleydell-Bouverie donated his 500-acre Glen Ellen property in the Sonoma Valley to Audubon Canyon Ranch. Phyllis Ellman, along with others, helped establish the Bouverie Preserve's environmental education program, modeling it after the program of ACR's Bolinas Lagoon Preserve. Phyllis then served as a docent, docent instructor, board

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*“Phyllis' energy, grace, intelligence and commitment have made a lasting contribution to environmental education and the preservation of our natural world. Because of her, generations of Californians will better know the land in which we live.”* – Loretta Zweig

member, and helped to develop and manage the Bouverie Juniper Program.

Phyllis' dedication and commitment to the Bouverie Preserve has served as a sterling model for all future docents. Her common sense and calm demeanor were valued by all.

**Gaye:** What was your first encounter with the Bouverie Preserve?

**Phyllis:** We had known Flora Maclise in Marin when George was on her board. Flora was chairman of the Bouverie Committee, which was all there was for a couple of years. So, when we moved up [to Glen Ellen], she said, "Boy, I have just the place for you!" And you know I like a preserve close to home.

**Gaye:** The first docent class: did you meet over at the Preserve?

**Phyllis:** Oh, no. We were only allowed on the Preserve for taking walks. We held our training in the Glen Ellen churches. I was chairman for the day that Ray Peterson [former long-time biologist at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve] was the speaker. We usually had the speaker, and then we carpoled to the Preserve for the walk. Well, as we came out of the building Ray saw an insect, and we never got any further.

We graduated our first [docent] class in 1982, I think. We found our first class mostly by notices in other people's newsletters, and there are a few of us still inching along. The first year we took almost any [school class], anytime, because we were not known. Then we would take third and fourth grades. It was based on the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve education model.

**Gaye:** Was [ACR Associate Director] John Petersen there since the beginning?

**Phyllis:** No, John came, I think, in 1986. In fact, I helped hire John. And we didn't know he did these marvelous pictures when we hired him. We were hiring him as an ornithologist.

### *The Juniper Program and The David Bouverie Scholarship Fund*

LAUNCHED IN 1994, the Bouverie Junior Naturalist (or Juniper) Program offers in-depth nature education and mentoring opportunities to students who have exhibited a special interest in the natural world. The brainchild of Phyllis Ellman, the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund was launched this past summer to provide academic scholarships to Juniper graduates. Phyllis knew that education is critical in today's world and how encouragement can inspire students to seize the opportunity for further educational success.

**Gaye:** Tell us about the Juniper Program.

**Phyllis:** The Juniper Program came out of one of the docent dialogues. Somebody said, "Can't we do something for these bright kids?" So I said, "I'll put together a committee, and we'll see." One thing we really firmly decided was that nobody but a docent could nominate [a student to the Juniper Program]. So, we called for some nominations. We thought we would get about seven or eight applications. We got 25. We probably weren't terribly organized but the kids had a good time, so it was successful.

But now meanwhile, time has passed. I have been an advisor on a fund of the Marin Community Foundation, and we have made several grants to ACR. I wanted something for my Junipers, and I was perfectly content to let it inch through the system, until my time was short. The initial grant from the Marin Community Foundation has [just today] gone through.

We are calling it the David Fund. So [with the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund], we will have funds not for a big scholarship, but enough to help those who couldn't do anything otherwise.



*Phyllis' gardening tools.*

PHOTO:  
JOCELYN KNIGHT

**Hear Phyllis tell her story in her voice: visit [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org).**

*Loretta Zweig and Sylvia Crawford are Docents of the Bouverie Preserve.*

## *The Modini Ranch*

# STALWART LAND CONSERVATIONISTS INSPIRE CONTINUED PRESERVATION



A Vesta's  
Mariposa lily.

*In early June, Audubon Canyon Ranch Biologist Sherry Adams moved from the Bouverie Preserve in Glen Ellen to Healdsburg to establish an Audubon Canyon Ranch conservation science collaboration with Jim and Shirley Modini on their 1,725-acre property. Since her transition, Sherry has begun work on a natural resources management plan for*

*the pristine property and is learning about the land, thanks to the contributions of knowledge, wisdom and history from the Modini family and friends. Here is Sherry's account of what she's been up to.*

**The mapping of ecological and human history of the ranch:** I spend a few hours each week driving around the ranch with Jim and Shirley Modini so that they can tell me place names and the ecological and human history of the ranch. Concurrently, I'm using GIS to put together a comprehensive spatial database of place names, natural resources, infrastructure, and other notable features.

**The discovery of rare and endangered species:** There are numerous serpentine outcrops on the ranch. Serpentine, the California state rock, gives rise to very harsh soils at the earth's surface. A specialized suite of plants grow here, including quite a few rare plants, some with very limited distribution. I have already found several rare plants, and surveys for additional species will continue in the coming year. The plants we discover will be ensured long-term protection.

**Controlling introduced species of plants and animals that have the potential to do damage to the native ecosystem:** Yellow starthistle is a problematic invader of grasslands in California. It can lower the water table, artificially creating drought conditions for other plants. The Modinis are very concerned about the impact of yellow starthistle and have already initiated a control program. I have found quite a few additional patches of the plant, and once I am done mapping the infestation, we will be

➤ Please turn to **Modini Ranch**, page 10

### *The History of a Place*

Earlier this year, Audubon Canyon Ranch signed a collaborative agreement with Jim and Shirley Modini to acquire the 1,725-acre Modini Ranch property through a planned giving arrangement. The property is located in Sonoma County's Mayacamas Mountains near Healdsburg.

Audubon Canyon Ranch will conduct conservation-based scientific research and identify habitat protection opportunities, in keeping with ACR's mission to preserve the land as a sanctuary for native plants and animals.

The property, which has been in the Modini Ingalls family since 1867, is spread across a remote and scenic landscape with a rich blend of undisturbed native habitats including oak woodlands, pine forests, perennial grasslands, chaparral, serpentine outcrops, riparian forests and wild streams. It is home to abundant and diverse wildlife including deer, black bears, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes and nesting golden eagles. Audubon Canyon Ranch is honored the Modinis have entrusted us to protect this special part of California's natural heritage.

In order to maintain the true wilderness values of the Modini Ranch, no public access is contemplated at this time.

## LEAVING LEGACIES

by Phil Murphy

In 1989, Phyllis Ellman and her husband, George, included Audubon Canyon Ranch in their estate plan, becoming members of the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle.

In this way, they fulfilled the common definition of "legacy": a gift at death of money or personal property.

But Phyllis left a second legacy to Audubon Canyon Ranch. "Just before her death, Phyllis was instrumental in the establishment of the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund," said Jack Harper, ACR Emeritus Director.

The Fund provides academic scholarships to graduates of the Bouverie Junior Naturalist (Juniper) Program. Junipers is an intensive environmental education mentorship program for young naturalists.

Some would add a third legacy to the list: her thirty years of volunteer service to ACR.

"Phyllis and George were dedicated to environmental issues and to the mission of Audubon Canyon Ranch," Harper said, adding that Phyllis was involved in the beginnings of the Bouverie Preserve. "She worked on training the first Bouverie docent class."

Audubon Canyon Ranch is honored to acknowledge the legacies of Phyllis Ellman: the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund, her years of volunteer service, and her bequest to ACR through the Ellman charitable remainder trust.

Confidential planned giving information is available at no cost and with no obligation from Audubon Canyon Ranch's planned giving specialist. Contact Phil Murphy at 415.457.7482.

*Phil Murphy is ACR's planned giving specialist.*



*Phyllis and  
George Ellman.*

PHOTO:  
SYLVIA CRAWFORD

The David Bouverie Scholarship Fund of Audubon Canyon Ranch has been established in memory of Phyllis Ellman. The Fund will provide academic scholarships to graduates of the Bouverie Junior Naturalist (Juniper) Program. Phyllis requested the Fund be named after David Bouverie, who, she remembered, talked about the need to provide financial support to motivate students with a sincere interest in higher education and the natural sciences. The Dennis and Carol Ann Rockey Fund of the Marin Community Foundation awarded ACR a grant of \$25,000 to establish the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund, to which many in the ACR community have also contributed and which ACR hopes to grow. Audubon Canyon Ranch is honored to remember Phyllis Ellman through the David Bouverie Scholarship Fund. § Donations to the Fund can be made online at [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org), via credit card by phone at 415. 868.9244 or via check with the memo "David Bouverie Scholarship Fund" to ACR, 4900 Shoreline Highway One, Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE CLERIN ZUMWALT LEGACY CIRCLE, WHO HAVE REMEMBERED AUDUBON CANYON RANCH IN THEIR ESTATE PLANS.

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## ☞ 25 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

In ACR's almost-50-year history, many community members have offered their steadfast and ardent support. We are honored, grateful and humbled by the dedication of these folks, who have been supporting ACR programs and preserves consistently for over 25 years. *Thank you.*





**FRIENDS OF BOUVERIE**

FRIENDS OF BOUVERIE MAKE A SPECIAL ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$500 OR MORE TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, HABITAT PRESERVATION, AND CONSERVATION SCIENCE PROGRAMS OF THE BOUVERIE PRESERVE IN GLEN ELLEN.

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**PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION**

ACR'S PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION DIRECTLY SUPPORT CONSERVATION SCIENCE AND HABITAT PROTECTION WORK BEING CONDUCTED ON ACR'S THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF PROTECTED WILDLANDS IN MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTIES. WITH ANNUAL GIFTS OF \$5,000 OR MORE, PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION ARE HELPING ACR SCIENTISTS PROVIDE SOLUTIONS TO REGIONAL PROBLEMS IN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY THAT AFFECT THE ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES IN CENTRAL COASTAL CALIFORNIA.

- |                              |                             |
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AUDUBON CANYON RANCH PARTNERS IN EDUCATION MAKE AN ANNUAL COMMITMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE TO DIRECTLY SUPPORT ACR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, WHICH INSPIRE RESPECT AND APPRECIATION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES IN THOUSANDS OF SCHOOLCHILDREN AND ADULTS EVERY YEAR.

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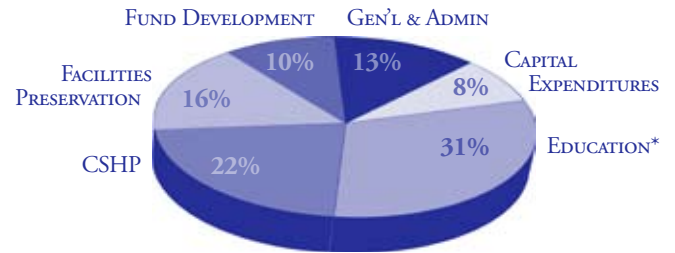
*ACR keeps careful records of every contribution we receive. We regret that limited space makes it impossible to publish the name of every donor. In case of errors and omissions, we apologize and ask that you contact us with corrections.*

**THE MISSION OF AUDUBON CANYON RANCH**

Audubon Canyon Ranch protects the natural resources of its sanctuaries while fostering an understanding and appreciation of these environments. We educate children and adults, promote ecological literacy that is grounded in direct experience, and conduct research and restoration that advances conservation science.



## AUDUBON CANYON RANCH STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FISCAL YEAR 2008-09



REVENUE	(in 1,000s)
Contributions & Grants	\$ 748
Endowment	1,246
Volunteer Contributions (in hours)	412
Bequests	425
Other	39
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,870</b>

EXPENSES	(in 1,000s)
Education*	\$ 853
Conservation Science & Habitat Protection (CSHP)	601
Facilities Preservation	442
Fund Development	269
Gen'l & Admin.	356
Capital Expenditures	238
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,759</b>

\*ACR Education Program expenses include volunteer hours, which are valued at \$412,000.

### ACR PRESERVES, from page 3



Gumplant.

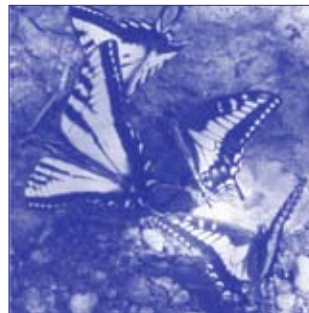
(Right) Swallow-tail butterflies.

and the native plants and wildlife so deeply and want to see it protected and cared for forever. I feel privileged to be able to walk the ranch and experience stands of native grass and see the same kind of vistas and species that our Native American predecessors may have experienced at this environmentally-rich junction of mountains, canyons and streams.

Not only are these places unique ecologically and physically, but they also hold great memories for me. The real reason for the good work of ACR's volunteers, staff, board members and visitors is sharing enthusiasm for the beauty of the natural world.

*Maurice A. "Skip" Schwartz is ACR's Executive Director.*

### MODINI RANCH, from page 6



able to put together a plan of recommendations for the management of yellow starthistle on the ranch. Surveys for invasive species will continue in the coming year and recommended management actions for these species will be a part of the management plan.

The Modini Ranch is a wild and wonderful place, and Audubon Canyon Ranch is fortunate and honored to be entrusted to carry on the legacy of conservation that the Modinis initiated more than half a century ago. Jim and Shirley Modini have generously provided the foundation of support to begin the important work of guaranteeing the protection of California's natural heritage. Gifts to further support the protection and preservation of the Modini Ranch can be directed to Audubon Canyon Ranch.

## Calendar of Events

<p>Guided Nature Walks § <b>Bouverie Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturdays</b> ~ Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 2009 Mar. 13, April 17, May 1, May 8, 2010 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.</p> <p>Experience the beauty and rich natural history of this 500-acre preserve. Reservations required: <a href="mailto:bouverie@egret.org">bouverie@egret.org</a> or 707.938.4554. Accepted one month before each respective hike date. <i>Donations appreciated.</i> § <i>Docent Council of Bouverie Preserve</i></p>
<p>Fall &amp; Spring Work Days § <b>Bolinas Lagoon Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday</b>, October 3, 2009 ~ meet in Picher Canyon <b>Sunday</b>, March 7, 2010 ~ meet in Picher Canyon 9:15 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. – lunch</p> <p>Help us with trail and library work, pulling weeds, planting native flowers or cooking lunch (we provide). Bring your favorite tool and gloves for outdoor projects! Registration required: <a href="mailto:rsvp@egret.org">rsvp@egret.org</a> or 415.868.9244. § <i>ACR Staff</i></p> 
<p>Under the Heronry § <b>Bolinas Lagoon Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday</b>, October 31, 2009 9:30 A.M. social, 10:00 A.M. start ~ ends at noon.</p> <p>Join former Resident Biologist Ray Peterson for a short walk and exploration under the heronry at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve to see the architecture of Great Egret and Great Blue Heron nests. Space is limited to 20 participants. Registration required: <a href="mailto:rsvp@egret.org">rsvp@egret.org</a> or 415.868.9244. <i>Donations appreciated.</i></p>
<p>Ranch Guide Training § <b>Bolinas Lagoon Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturdays</b> ~ January 30 – March 20, 2010 ~ (Orientation: January 23, 2010)</p> <p>This eight-Saturday program prepares volunteers to share knowledge and appreciation of nature with Bolinas Lagoon Preserve visitors during weekends. Learn about Audubon Canyon Ranch human and natural history, trail teaching techniques, pond life and the historical herons and egrets nesting colony. Interested? Email <a href="mailto:rsvp@egret.org">rsvp@egret.org</a> or call 415.868.9244. <i>Gwen Heistand, Co-Director of Education / BLP Resident Biologist</i></p>
<p>Backyard Naturalist Series § <b>Bouverie Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturdays</b> ~ 9:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 31, 2009 ~ <b>Spider Safari</b> with Gwen Heistand</li> <li>• November 14, 2009 ~ <b>Nature Journaling</b> with Nina Antze</li> <li>• January 30, 2010 ~ <b>Geology of Sonoma County</b> with Scott Lawyer</li> <li>• March 27, 2010 ~ <b>Wildflowers</b> with Jeanne Wirka</li> <li>• April 10, 2010 ~ <b>Digital Nature Photography</b> with Bryant Hichwa</li> </ul> <p>Geared toward the adult amateur naturalist, these Saturday seminars include time in the classroom and on the trail. One to three mile hike on mildly- to moderately-strenuous terrain. Bring a bagged lunch and water for the trail. Class size is limited. \$25 per seminar. Registration required: <a href="mailto:rsvp@egret.org">rsvp@egret.org</a> or 415.868.9244.</p> 
<p>Open to the Public § <b>Bolinas Lagoon Preserve</b></p>	<p><b>Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays</b> ~ March 20 – July 11, 2010 Weekends ~ Open 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Weekdays (except Mondays): Open by reservation ~ Call 415.868.9244</p> <p>Come hike the more than eight miles of trails at Audubon Canyon Ranch's Bolinas Lagoon Preserve. Visit the newt ponds, view the nesting Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets and enjoy the wildflowers. Knowledgeable Ranch Guides will answer your questions.</p>

More information on all these nature exploration opportunities is available at [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org).

To keep up to date on the latest ACR happenings, **sign up for our e-newsletter**. Published once every two months, this free email newsletter highlights updates from the Preserves, including school group visits, latest findings from science staff, volunteer opportunities, and ways to come explore ACR's nature sanctuaries. To sign up or to view past issues, visit [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org).



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STINSON BEACH, CA 94970  
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www.egret.org  
acr@egret.org

**Audubon Canyon Ranch — wildlife sanctuaries and centers for nature education and research**  
Bolinas Lagoon Preserve • Cypress Grove Research Center • Bouverie Preserve

The headquarters of  
Audubon Canyon Ranch is located  
at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve.  
www.egret.org  
email: acr@egret.org

## WHEN TO VISIT

### **Bolinas Lagoon Preserve**

Mid-March to mid-July: Saturday, Sunday  
and holidays. 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Weekdays by appointment only;  
415.868.9244. Closed Mondays.

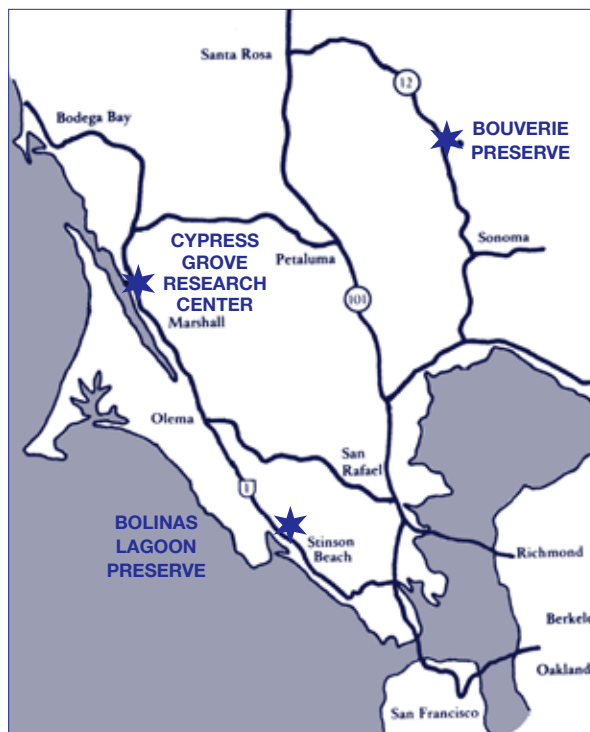
Bolinas Lagoon Preserve is adjacent to  
Bolinas Lagoon on Shoreline Highway One,  
three miles north of Stinson Beach.

### **Cypress Grove Research Center**

By appointment only. 415.663.8203

### **Bouverie Preserve**

See calendar of events inside.



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Drawings by Ane Carla Rovetta  
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