

# AUDUBON CANYON RANCH



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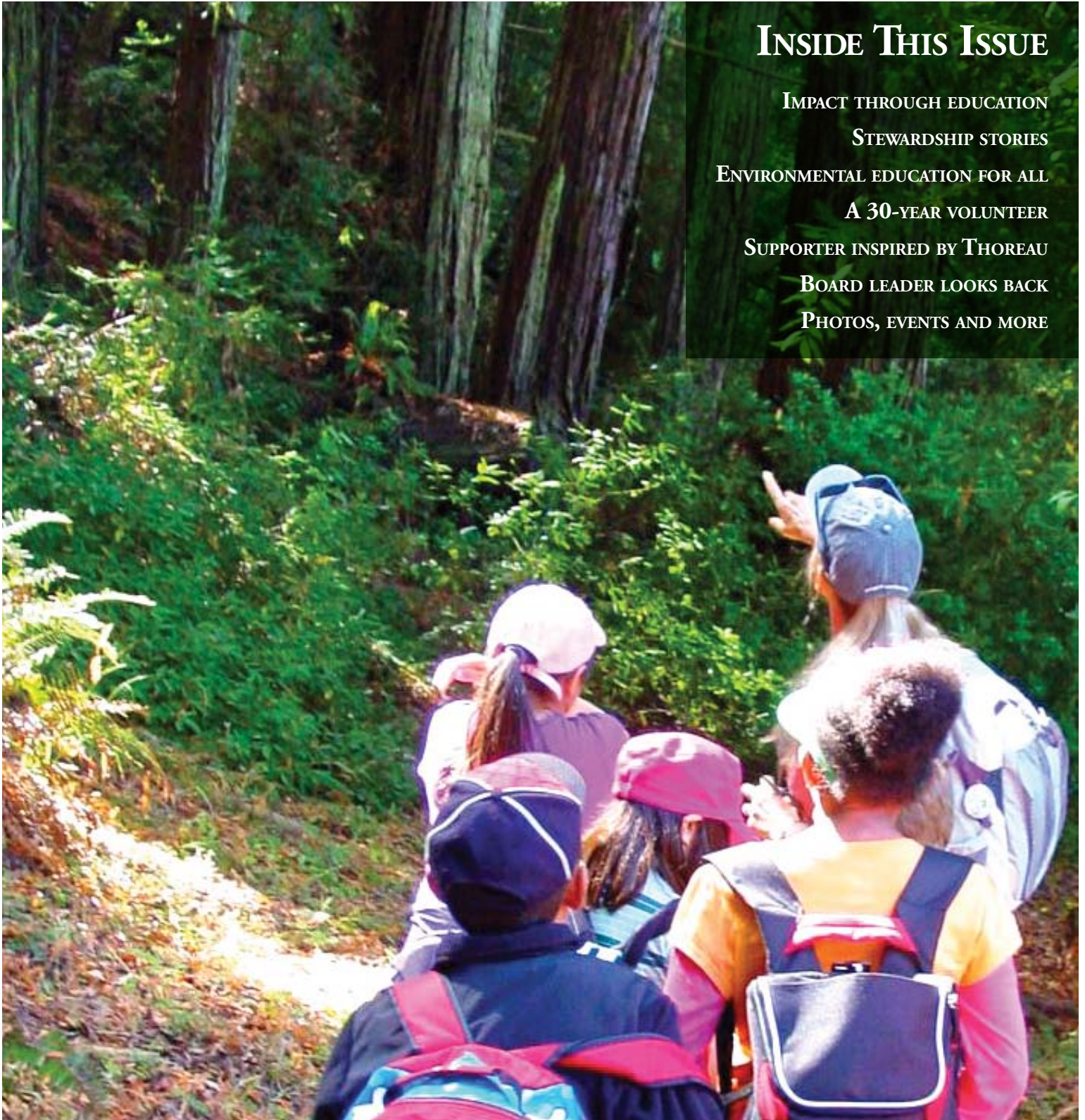
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## Leading By Teaching ACR's ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IMPACT

by Scott Feierabend

Months ago, returning from an event feting Audubon Canyon Ranch's award-winning environmental education programs, a long-time Board member, docent and education advocate turned to me and said, "Just remember, Scott. It's education, education, education!" And, while those words still ring in my ears 18 months later, I now get it!

Audubon Canyon Ranch protects nature through land preservation, environmental education and conservation science, and our environmental education programs are the gold standard of the Bay Area.

### *The right ingredients*

Our recipe for success is simple. First, take a generous portion of committed, caring and passionate volunteers—some on ACR's educational front lines for 40 years. Next, add a heaping serving of seasoned staff who bring enthusiasm, talent and years of professional excellence to the mix. Finally, stir in a pinch of humor, collaboration and respect. Blend slowly, and there you have it, an environmental education program that, for generations, has touched the hearts, souls and minds of thousands of schoolchildren.

I have come to expect and understand the amazed look when I tell supporters that between 6,000 and 7,000 students from ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods visit ACR's preserves each year. I see similar reactions when telling our donors that Audubon Canyon Ranch provides in excess of \$30,000 annually for bus scholarships, which is so important during these lean economic times.

The values shared by volunteers and staff, wedded to ACR's total commitment to the success and vitality of its environmental education programs, are what allows us to be "best in class."

### *Our new education leader*

Notwithstanding ACR's effective and enduring environmental education programs, we can ill afford to rest on our laurels. Key to developing successful strategies that will keep us engaged and pioneering the frontiers is ACR's new Director of Education Beth Gurney. For more than 10 years, Beth has applied her environmental passion as a docent at ACR's Bouverie Preserve. I am confident that with Beth at the helm of our education team, great things will follow!

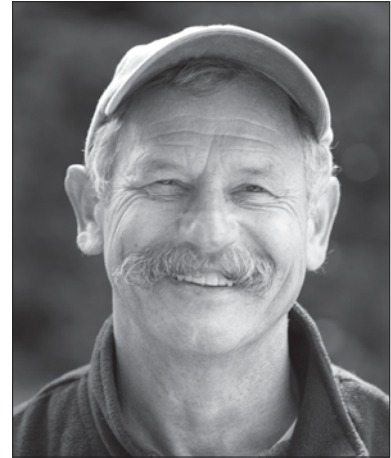


photo by Jocelyn Knight

### **Scott Feierabend**

Without a doubt, ACR's environmental education community has never been stronger, more vibrant and more relevant, and I, for one, must no longer be reminded that, "...it's education, education, education!"

*Scott Feierabend is  
ACR's Executive Director*



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## Creating Stories of Stewardship VOLUNTEERISM AT ACR's BOUVERIE PRESERVE

by Theo Michaels



Once, when I was still young enough to sit in the cradle of my father's lap, he read *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein to me. He spoke each word carefully and paused so we could look at the simple black and white pictures.

The story told of a tree that loved a boy. I could not imagine anything more exciting than to be adored by a tree. I grew up drawing the trees outside my window and making models of them

out of wire and paper-mache. Together my father and I planted trees along the creek. We climbed the neighbor's fence and tore the English ivy from



the tall redwoods in her backyard. But over time, my view of *The Giving*

*Tree* changed, and I saw the story from a different angle—a tree who loved a boy, and a boy who took from the tree because he only saw her as a resource that would create material objects and wealth. Eventually it led to the tree's demise. I did not wish to take anything from a tree. One day while on a walk, my father told me that it was important to touch a tree every day because it was the only way to be grounded.

"But what can I give the tree in return?" I asked. "How can I not be like the boy?"

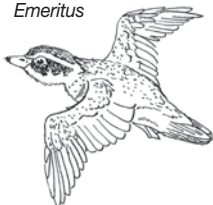
"It's easy," he said. "Stewardship. You just have to take care of the trees in return."

### *A tradition of stewardship*

Stewardship used to mean the responsibility of servants to bring

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#### Preserve Stewardship

David Greene  
Land Steward, CGRC  
John Martin  
Land Steward, BP



food and drink to the castle dining hall. Today, the word embodies an ethic of environmental planning and management to prevent loss of habitats and facilitate ecosystem recovery. But this is just the definition—it is realized through preservation, education and research.

It is no accident that these three things are at the heart of Audubon Canyon Ranch and its mission. Within ACR, the Habitat Protection and Restoration Program (HPR) is tasked with protecting the land, whether by means of invasive plant removal or restoring an old vineyard to oak woodlands.

### *It takes a community...*

About a year ago, I joined ACR to assist HPR project leader Jennifer Potts at ACR's Bouverie Preserve. I quickly observed that the HPR program was rooted in the passion and commitment of its volunteers. Indeed, stewardship is only as successful as the community that enacts it. HPR staff empowers volunteers through education of restoration efforts, fostering teamwork and cultivating environmental awareness and responsibility.

This year Bouverie Preserve set out to broaden our stewardship opportunities. As a team, Jennifer Potts and I worked with schools and other local groups, businesses such as REI and Agilent, and nonprofit partners like Conservation Corps North Bay and Social Advocates for Youth. In total, these volunteer groups have contributed more than 2,000 hours of service to the Bouverie Preserve.

### *Giving back*

Years have passed since my father and I first read *The Giving Tree*, and

I find myself working in a wonderful place where I can support others in stewardship, while deepening my own practice. My father, who lives near the Bouverie Preserve, comes to help me check irrigation lines, walk the trails and improve our tool shed.

On any given day, I can look around and see the actions of the HPR team and its volunteers. Together we are dispelling the myth found within the pages of *The Giving Tree*. The land is not simply for us to use. Instead, at the Bouverie Preserve we are writing our own stories of stewardship. Below you will find a series of these stories from an amazing year.

### *What if the tree had said to the boy...*

***"Plant what you love, so that years from now you can still enjoy my shade."***

#### **GIRL SCOUT TROOP 10406**

As part of their council-wide Take Action Plan to plant one hundred trees, Troop 10406 decided to adopt one of the Project GROW habitat restoration sites at Bouverie Preserve (Bulletin, Spring 2010). The troop learned to identify the five oak species of Project GROW, worked with irrigation methods and collected data needed to assess oak health.

Once the data was evaluated, the troop returned to the preserve to transplant the trees that did not make it in the initial planting in their site. The troop members are excited to know that years from now, they will be able to visit the preserve and see their trees. In the meantime, the troop will continue to monitor their site, and we are working to develop other restoration projects.

***"I am more than just wood. I am a tree. I am a home."***

#### **SONOMA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL AND THE NEST BOXES AT BOUVERIE PRESERVE**

Cavity nesting songbirds, such as the Western Bluebird, face many challenges in today's environmental climate. This includes loss of habitat and competition from introduced bird species.

After consulting Bouverie Preserve docent and citizen scientist Karen Nagle, we made 15 nest box kits with specified dimensions that would favor and protect these songbirds. These kits were then constructed and installed around the preserve by Sonoma Valley High School students participating in the SLEWS program through Project GROW.

This project not only educated students about cavity nesting songbirds, but was an exercise in teamwork, and



photo by Jessa Rank

**Megan Oleson & Kyrie Dawson from Troop 10406 plant oaks for Project GROW.**

empowered students with new skills and directly connected their actions to stewardship. To date, 12 of the 15 nest boxes either have nests or have a brood already fledged. Several of them have a second brood. The nest boxes are registered with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. They are monitored and the data collected is shared with the larger science community through the program.

***"Care for the planet beyond the reach of my branches."***

BOUVERIE STEWARDS AT TOMS POINT, CYPRESS GROVE RESEARCH CENTER AND THE MODINI INGALLS ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE



**Volunteers remove teasel at Cypress Grove**

Stewardship knows no bounds. Supported with tools, snacks, instructions and guidance by Modini Preserve Biologist Sherry Adams and HPR staff, the Bouverie Preserve Stewards (the preserve's habitat restoration volunteers) recently made field trips to three other ACR preserves.

In May, we traveled to Toms Point in West Marin where we planted over 250 beach strawberry plants in the morning and pulled European beachgrass in the afternoon. Several weeks later, we returned to the edges of Tomales Bay to tackle teasel at the Cypress Grove Research Center.

At the end of June and before the heat of summer could set in, the Stewards went inland to the Modini

Ranch in Sonoma County and worked with Sherry to remove yellow star thistle. The most common phrase at the end of the workday: When are we coming back?

***"Foster the stewards of tomorrow."***

YOUTH CORPS AT BOUVERIE PRESERVE

This past summer, the Bouverie Preserve sponsored Project ReGen and the Sonoma Youth Ecology Corps. Participants of Project ReGen spent four weeks working on restoration projects and learning about environmental issues.

Several ReGen teams—students in grades six through nine—took part in Project GROW, checking the irrigation system and weeding around the trees. The Sonoma Youth Ecology Corps restores local habitats while teaching at-risk youth the skills needed to find and keep employment.

Over a period of three weeks, this team of 11 helped us clear trails and weed our native grass restoration site. Teams from both organizations explored the preserve and learned about different oaks through a guided scavenger hunt. In all, teams learned valuable skills and left with a better understanding of ecology and stewardship.

***"My roots are part of a larger community."***

COMMUNITY PARTNER REI AND BOUVERIE PRESERVE'S PUBLIC WORKDAY

This year Bouverie Preserve partnered with REI of Santa Rosa for its public workday. In addition to the employees who joined us, the REI team promoted the event, provided nourishing snacks, equipped our volunteers with t-shirts and celebrated the day with raffle prizes.

Together, 30 volunteers weeded and mulched over 250 oak trees. We also installed 100 T-posts, the beginnings of a fence to protect our vernal pools. It was a day of restoration, stewardship and community. Since then, Bouverie Preserve was honored to receive a grant from REI. We look forward to working with REI on projects made possible by this grant.

***Volunteers make a difference***

The Bouverie Preserve wishes to thank all its volunteers for a wonderful year. To create your own story of stewardship, please contact the Bouverie Preserve at 707.938.4554 or [bouverie@egret.org](mailto:bouverie@egret.org) to learn about our volunteer opportunities.

*Theo Michaels is a Resource Ecologist at the Bouverie Preserve*



**Project ReGen in the shade of a Blue Oak after a day of work on Project GROW.**



## Revealing the Wonders of Our Preserves THE EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

by Amy Blackstone

“How do spiders know how to make hinges?” A student asked this after looking closely at the delicate door flap on the trapdoor spider’s home. As a maker of gates, this question was music to my ears. The six wide-eyed fourth graders were stunned silent as they considered this mystery. All eyes looked at me, their docent, for an answer that lovely spring day at ACR’s Martin Griffin Preserve.

Of the wide array of Audubon Canyon Ranch’s education programs, one common denominator is the aspiration to ignite just such wonder in all our preserve visitors, both young and experienced.

The ACR audience spans from folks stopping by for an hour-long visit during nesting season, to committed volunteers who visit the Martin Griffin or Bouverie preserve weekly for six months of docent training.

It started as a humble single bloom in the form of Clerin Zumwalt —ACR’s first naturalist who took schoolchildren on nature hikes at Audubon Canyon Ranch in 1969. Forty-two years



later, our education programs have blossomed into a composite flower of many facets. It’s

worth reviewing these programs, which ultimately spring from the organization’s mission: to protect nature through land preservation, environmental education and conservation science.

### *The ACR Education Programs*

Whether you are nine or ninety, the actual age range of the Ranch Guide volunteers of the Martin Griffin Preserve, Audubon Canyon Ranch offers you an educational opportunity. Life-long learning is core to ACR’s education programs.

### *Docents and the school programs*

The Martin Griffin and Bouverie preserves have 23-week docent training programs for anyone 18 years or older. ACR’s two exceptional biologists, Gwen Heistand and Jeanne Wirka, are responsible for much of the content and delivery of our stellar docent training on both preserves.

Docents are central to ACR School Programs. They visit students in their elementary school classrooms, then welcome them to the preserve and lead them on nature hikes, providing hands-on environmental education. For a select few classes each season, docents at Martin Griffin Preserve organize an Overnight Program, which allows for a deeper and broader outdoor learning experience. These school programs are the foundation of the ACR education curriculum, reaching over 6,000 students annually.



Photo by Maris Purvins

**A Juniper displays her Andy Goldsworthy-style artistic abilities.**

### *Junipers*

Bouverie Preserve’s Junior Naturalist (Juniper) Program is a five-Saturday environmental science training course for stand-out fifth grade students, selected from third and fourth grade visitors to the preserve.

After their initial training, Junipers may participate through high school in natural history activities, field research and resource management projects, including assisting Bouverie docents in leading guided nature walks on the preserve.

### *Ranch Guides*

Ranch Guide volunteers provide nature interpretation for weekend visitors to Martin Griffin Preserve.



Photo by Wyn Hoag

**With the outdoors as their classroom, Bouverie Docents learn about the preserve’s natural history.**



Photo by Russ Hartman

### **Bouverie Preserve gopher snake**

The eight-week Ranch Guide Training focuses on the Preserve's natural history.

### *The Quercus Quire*

The Quercus Quire is made up of docents who like to sing. The choir visits schools throughout the year, engaging eager students through songs about nature and the environment.

### *Nature-based Education for All*

The Bouverie Backyard Naturalist Series, Guided Nature Walks and Science Salons at Bouverie Preserve are environmental education programs that offer learning opportunities and hiking access on this remarkable nature sanctuary. They are open to the public by reservation. Information is available on [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org).

### *Exciting News for ACR Education*

With the burgeoning of its education programs, ACR recently hired a new Director of Education, Beth Gurney. As a docent at Bouverie Preserve since 1998, Beth is already steeped in ACR's school program and docent training. Between her environmental ideals and her professional background in ecological protection and organization development, this position is a perfect match for Beth and ACR.

In the coming months, Beth will be working with staff and volunteers at Martin Griffin and Bouverie preserves to map ACR's education programs

and clarify their content and goals. The project also includes finding ways to increase collaboration between the programs at the two sanctuaries, while preserving what is unique to each. Beth continues to focus on ways to measure our impacts and communicate who we are and what we do.

### *A public education leader visits*

This past July, Tom Torlakson, California's Superintendent of Public Instruction, visited the Martin Griffin Preserve. He was impressed by ACR's education programs, which offer so many Bay Area residents a hands-on outdoor education experience. Superintendent Torlakson, a committed environmentalist, spearheaded the California Education and the Environment Initiative, which created a K-12 curriculum to increase environmental literacy and encourage responsible stewardship of the earth.

On the day of his hike, Superintendent Torlakson talked about education as a way for people to truly connect with the environment. Beth was inspired by his comments and elaborated, "ACR is an antidote to the depression and paralysis that our environmental issues can create. It's not just doom and gloom—we are a very capable and ingenious species. It's about connecting the dots and helping people realize they have the ability to take steps in their own lives to protect the planet...and that their actions matter."

Superintendent Torlakson invited ACR to participate in his symposium for environmental educators in October. It will provide a wonderful opportunity for networking and learning ways that our programs might

further connect students with their environment through nature education.

### *Creating relationships with nature*

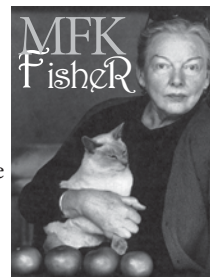
In the meantime, we welcome our visitors into a natural world that is pulsing with life. Children can eat their lunch under a canopy of towering trees, by a small waterfall and giant chain ferns. In this primeval, pristine place, they come to know what they have seen in movies or read about in fairytales.

What once might have felt foreign and fearful becomes familiar and safe. Wetting their hands to hold a newt and crouching low lest it fall quickly translates into protecting it. Protecting it means protecting its home, a sanctuary worthy of safe keeping.

*Amy Blackstone is a Martin Griffin Preserve Docent and co-president of the preserve's Docent Council*

## *the Art of Eating:* A TRIBUTE TO MFK FISHER

The fundraiser for the education programs of Audubon Canyon Ranch held in May 2011 was a huge success, exceeding the event's fundraising goal. The ACR community extends its deepest gratitude to everyone who gave generously to support its programs. We are especially grateful to our sponsors for their thoughtful stewardship of the ACR mission.



### *Event Sponsors: thank you*

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Nancy & Tony Lilly



## Inspiring a Love of Nature VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

by Emiko Condeso

In the fall of 1980, Binny Fischer joined Audubon Canyon Ranch as docent trainee. Thirty years later, she is still an active docent and research volunteer.



photo by Lauren Patterson

### Binny Fischer in the field

What inspires her to give so much time and heart to an organization? For Binny, it's all about the people she works with and the connection to place she gains from volunteering at the Martin Griffin Preserve in West Marin.

### *The rewards of being a docent*

"It's always fun, and I always learn something," Binny says of her experience as a docent. "[Resident Biologist] Gwen Heistand is amazing." Binny devotes several days per year to hosting school groups at the Martin Griffin Preserve. "I love being with the children, helping them learn," she says. "My goal is to show them the outdoors and inspire a love of nature." Binny is particularly devoted to the students of San Rafael's San Pedro School, with whom she also works as an English tutor.

### *Tracking herons and egrets*

In addition to sharing her skills as an educator, Binny volunteers with ACR's research programs. Already an avid watcher of the herons and egrets on West Marin Island (which she can see from her home), she began keeping detailed records of their nesting activity when she learned about the Cypress Grove Research Center's Heron and Egret Project.

Binny also spends a day nearly every winter monitoring waterfowl on Tomales Bay. Although it can be difficult to keep track of the thousands of birds encountered on a waterbird census, especially in the cold, she says with a smile, "Who wouldn't want to spend a day watching birds with [ACR Director of Conservation Science] John Kelly?"

### *A big heart and many talents*

Binny has also helped shape ACR as a five-year member of the Board of Directors and as an Advisor. She says simply, "I love what ACR does."

Audubon Canyon Ranch is very lucky to have the support of Binny and all our volunteers.

*Emiko Condeso is ACR's Ecologist/  
GIS Specialist.*



## Ranch Guide Training at Martin Griffin Preserve

Become a Ranch Guide at ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve and share your knowledge and appreciation of nature with our Bay Area community during the awe-inspiring heron and egret nesting season.

### Orientation

Saturday ~ January 21, 2012

### Training

Saturdays ~

January 28 – March 17, 2012

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*After training, Ranch Guides provide information to visitors about the preserve and its many unique natural features during the public season, which spans from mid-March through mid-July.*

*Learn about birding, biology, natural history and the environmental victory to save this preserve. Great for birders, nature enthusiasts, novices and experts alike!*

### Commitment

Graduates of the Ranch Guide training program commit to work four weekend days per season for two years.

### Sign up

Call 415.868.9244 or email Julie Keating at [julie.keating@egret.org](mailto:julie.keating@egret.org) for more information.

## Greening ACR

Audubon Canyon Ranch is shifting to electronic communications wherever possible. If you are a member or volunteer and do not receive email from ACR, contact us at 415.868.9244 to ensure we have your email address.



## *Planned Giving at Audubon Canyon Ranch* **A PROFILE OF CHARLES GRESHAM**

by Dan Murphy

"My interest in and love of nature go back at least to high school when I read Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*," said Charles Gresham recently. He was captivated by Thoreau's ability to live simply with nature, he says, and has adopted it as a model for his life.

A longtime and generous supporter of Audubon Canyon Ranch, Charles remembers his first visit to West Marin years ago and "thought it was incredible." He returned years later to see the first traces of development on what he believed to be the most beautiful part of California.

### *Fears of development*

Charles worried what development might mean for West Marin: the kind of development that covers country lanes with vast rivers of pavement ... the kind that buries nature with housing tracts and strip malls ... the kind that changes not only the land, but the people who use it.

Fortunately his fears didn't come true. Shortly thereafter, Point Reyes National Seashore was founded, thanks in part to Charles's congressional representative, Phillip Burton. Around then, in the early 1960s, other local conservation and land acquisition

efforts were in place that formed Audubon Canyon Ranch and, later, the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT).

### *Committed to West Marin*

It was with MALT that Charles began what has become a career of giving to help preserve West Marin. He learned of ACR through MALT, eventually came to the Martin Griffin Preserve for a hike and was so impressed, he added ACR to his list of philanthropic commitments.

A long-time resident of San Francisco, Charles is an ardent walker, and at 90, has been participating in the Bay to Breakers for over 20 years. His home is filled with treasures collected throughout his North Beach neighborhood. His 1907 house is on a small lot without a garden, which he remedied by creating a rooftop garden of plants rescued from the neighborhood.

As his plant collection grew, Charles took to planting on a nearby bit of unused land on an alley called San Antonio Place. A neighbor provides a hose and water, and Charles maintains this little community garden.

### *A shared history*

Over the years, Audubon Canyon Ranch has had some exceptional opportunities to share its lands with Charles. "The most memorable was the walk over boulders to visit the pool at the bottom of Bouverie Preserve's Stuart Creek waterfall," said Charles recently. ACR's Toms Point, at the mouth of Tomales Bay, is another of his favorites. "I'm so grateful to the ACR staff who interpreted the lands during my visits," says Charles.

Charles's wonderful friendship with Audubon Canyon Ranch is reflected in his history of support. A donor since 1998, he joined the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle in 2001, became a Grove of Honor member in 2005, and joined the Partners in Conservation circle in 2008. "It's all about preservation of the beauty of nature," says Charles.

We are honored that Charles is among the 120+ members who have remembered Audubon Canyon Ranch in their wills. We are grateful for his—and all our members'—support.

*Dan Murphy is a longtime ACR Director and Host at the Martin Griffin Preserve*

## **CLERIN ZUMWALT LEGACY CIRCLE**

ACR's Clerin Zumwalt Legacy circle honors supporters who have included Audubon Canyon Ranch in their estate plans. If you name ACR in your estate plan—at any amount—you become a member of the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle. For more information, contact Didi Wilson, Director of Development and Communications, at 415.868.9244. We welcome your call.

**ACR is in strict accord with the ethical guidelines of the National Planned Giving Committee.**

## *The ACR Board* **REMEMBRANCE OF PRESIDENCY PAST**

*by Andy Lafrenz*

It is hard to believe nearly two years have passed since I took over as President of the Board of Audubon Canyon Ranch. The experience has been exhilarating and gratifying, and I am honored to have served.

Reflecting upon the many significant events that occurred during my presidency, these stick out in my memory:

- Transferring leadership to new executive director Scott Feierabend and watching him smoothly and professionally grow into the position
- Renaming Bolinas Lagoon Preserve in honor of ACR founder Dr. Martin Griffin
- Working with a superbly dedicated and knowledgeable group of Board members

### *Expert leadership*

I started my tenure as president in October 2009, just after the Board appointed Scott as executive director. On January 1, Scott was to succeed our longtime Executive Director Skip Schwartz. It was a daunting task since the organization had known no other leader. Scott immersed himself in the



**Andy Lafrenz**

the imprint of Scott's leadership. The staff has a new, invigorated organizational structure. The volunteer groups are continuing their wonderful education, habitat protection and conservation science missions.

The Board works closely with Scott, who keeps us fully apprised of all of his efforts and initiatives. It has been very rewarding to see how well he has stepped into his new position and brought to bear all of his leadership skills.

### *Aptly named Martin Griffin Preserve*

The renaming of Bolinas Lagoon Preserve is particularly heartwarming. Marty Griffin is a giant in the environmental community and was instrumental in founding Audubon

immensely complicated functions of ACR with zeal, friendliness and professionalism.

Now the organization bears

Canyon Ranch. We found it a fully appropriate honor to name Bolinas Lagoon Preserve after him.

The entire ACR family—staff, volunteers and supporters—have embraced the new name. We look forward to working with Marty and his wife, Joyce, in advancing ACR's mission for many years to come.

### *Talented Board members*

I have been blessed and taken great pleasure in working with Board members who have many valuable talents and experience. Audubon Canyon Ranch and the Board are well positioned to move forward in advancing the organization's mission with confidence and enthusiasm.

ACR is healthy, vibrant and doing superb work in its mission of land preservation, environmental education and conservation science. As we approach the 50th anniversary, I am confident that Audubon Canyon Ranch will continue its wonderful and unique work far into the future.

*Andy Lafrenz is a Ranch Guide and President of the ACR Board of Directors*

## **MEMBERSHIP WITH AUDUBON CANYON RANCH**

Audubon Canyon Ranch members and corporate sponsors think globally and act locally through ACR's land preservation, environmental education and conservation science programs. Please join today, and together we will protect wildlands in Marin and Sonoma counties.

Call **415.868.9244** or visit **[www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org)** to join.

*We are especially grateful to  
ACR Corporate Sponsors*





## Calendar of Events

## Guided Nature Walks

**Bouverie Preserve**

Saturdays ~ 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

September 17, September 24, October 15, October 29, November 12, 2011  
March 17, April 14, April 21, May 5, May 19, 2012Experience the beauty and rich natural history of this 500-acre preserve. Reservations required and accepted one month before each respective hike date. [bouverie@egret.org](mailto:bouverie@egret.org) or 707.938.4554.*Donations appreciated. \$ Docent Council of Bouverie Preserve*

## Fall Science Salon

**Biomimicry:**

What can nature teach us?

**Bouverie Preserve**

Saturday ~ October 8, 2011

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. — salon

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. — reception

\$35 (includes salon and reception)

*Discount for members at Sponsor-level or above.*Registration required. [rsvp@egret.org](mailto:rsvp@egret.org) or 415.868.9244

Carpooling encouraged.



## Backyard Naturalist Series

**Bouverie Preserve**

Friday ~ October 14, 2011

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Twilight Trails with Jeanne Wirka

Join us for this rare opportunity to hike Bouverie Preserve at dusk, when we can witness different wildlife communities emerge. Wear comfortable hiking clothes, bring layers, a flashlight and water for the trail. One to three-mile hike, moderately strenuous. Class size is limited.

\$25 *Discount for members at Sponsor-level or above.*Registration required. [rsvp@egret.org](mailto:rsvp@egret.org) or 415.868.9244

## Trail Work Day

**Bouverie Preserve**

Saturday ~ October 22, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Join Bouverie Preserve staff and Santa Rosa REI for a day of moderately strenuous trail maintenance and improvements. Snacks and tools provided. Wear sturdy shoes, and bring lunch, water and gloves (if you have them). Appropriate for volunteers 14 and older.

## Under the Heronry

**Martin Griffin Preserve**

Saturday ~ October 29, 2011

9:30 a.m. social, 10:00 a.m. start. Ends at noon

Join former Resident Biologist Ray Peterson for an exploration *under* the heronry at the Martin Griffin Preserve. See the architecture of Great Egret and Great Blue Heron nests and learn about the history of this special place. Limited to 20 participants.Registration required. [rsvp@egret.org](mailto:rsvp@egret.org) or call 415.868.9244

## Work Day

**Martin Griffin Preserve**

Sunday ~ March 4, 2012 — Picher Canyon

9:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. lunch

Help with trail and library work, pulling weeds, planting native flowers or cooking lunch (we provide). Bring your favorite tool and gloves for outdoor projects! Limited to 80 participants.

Registration required. [rsvp@egret.org](mailto:rsvp@egret.org) or call 415.868.9244

## Habitat Protection &amp; Restoration Stewards

**Bouverie Preserve (BP):** Mondays ~ 8:30 a.m. – noon**Martin Griffin Preserve (MGP):** Thursdays ~ 9 a.m. – noon

Assist with habitat protection and restoration while learning about the ecology behind the project (BP). Help with ecological restoration: collecting seeds, propagating native plants, preparing project sites, out-planting and ensuring survival of plants, and renovating facilities (MGP).

Bouverie Preserve: call 707.935.8417 or e-mail Jennifer Potts at [jpotts@egret.org](mailto:jpotts@egret.org)Martin Griffin Preserve: call 415.868.9244 or e-mail Michelle Krieg at [michelle.krieg@egret.org](mailto:michelle.krieg@egret.org)**More information on all these nature exploration opportunities is available at [www.egret.org/volunteer](http://www.egret.org/volunteer).**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/newsletter](http://www.egret.org/newsletter)**.



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## Our Mission

Audubon Canyon Ranch  
protects nature through  
land preservation,  
environmental education  
and conservation science.

## WHEN TO VISIT

### Cypress Grove Research Center

By appointment only 415.663.8203

### Bouverie Preserve

See calendar of events inside.

### Martin Griffin 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

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

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Inspiring Nature Lovers and Land Stewards

