

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

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ACR's Multifaceted Approach **CARING FOR THE NATURAL WORLD**

by John Petersen

Although philosophers over the ages have said it in many different ways, I prefer the direct and profound wisdom of Dr. Seuss. He once said, **“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”**

Though not a real doctor, Theodor Seuss Geisel was a very wise man. Unless we care enough about our natural world, for both its intrinsic value and its role in sustaining human communities, things won’t get better.

Audubon Canyon Ranch cares. In fact we consistently put our conservation mission above all else. By removing a house on our property to restore ecologically rich wetlands or temporarily closing our most popular site to protect a historic heronry, ACR reliably chooses nature first. Some people may think that these are hard choices, and sometimes they are. But with a vision and leadership that prioritizes taking the environmental high ground, our direction is clear.

The course for this year

As we move through 2015 you will see Audubon Canyon Ranch expanding its influence on conservation issues regionally and beyond. Our efforts will focus on high-impact projects both on and off our preserves.

We recognize that critical conservation issues go beyond the borders of our sanctuaries and that global environmental health requires a multidisciplinary approach that includes conservation, education and science.

Audubon Canyon Ranch is different because it approaches the

conservation crisis from all three angles.

We create change by protecting unique and valuable resources, providing the best available science to affect public policy and land use decisions, and teaching generations of inspired citizens to make responsible environmental choices.

Whether we’re advising heronry managers in Canada, working with national environmental educators on citizen science curriculum, or researching the effects of climate change in San Francisco Bay, Audubon Canyon Ranch sticks to the singularity of its mission.

Solutions for complex problems

We teach generations of conservationists—starting with the



John Petersen

third grade and moving through the senior years—preparing them to address the known and unforeseen challenges that lie ahead. These are the people who will lead us into the future. They will value wild spaces, conduct the research that will direct responsible management of our land and ocean resources, respond to the impacts of climate change, and find the answers to difficult environmental problems.

For people who care about the natural world and want to see our planet’s future built on conservation values, a science-based understanding, and an educated appreciation, Audubon Canyon Ranch provides the synergy to create a better quality of life.

Thank you for joining us in these efforts. What we do today will determine the quality of life for future generations.

Or, in the words of the good doctor, **“Only you can control your future.”**

*John Petersen is
ACR's Executive Director*



Interactions and Influence Across Generations

THE ECOLOGY OF ACR

by Theo Michaels



Bouverie Stewards pull invasive plants at Toms Point on Tomales Bay

In the half-light of winter's evening I sit on my porch, wrapped tightly in my coat and scarf, gazing toward Sonoma Mountain. I know the silhouette of its ridgeline intimately, as would any creature that makes its home there.

For the past four years I have observed the west side of this mountain from my home in Petaluma, and from my place of work at Bouverie Preserve. I have also known what the mountain holds on its eastern side—a spot on its spine that I can see from both places. It helps connect the two halves of my heart, which lie in the valleys on either side of the mountain.

Four years ago I received an email without solicitation or previous knowledge of its coming. The note from Jeanne Wirka, ACR's director of stewardship, read:

I would like to invite you to join our team at Audubon Canyon Ranch. I can assure you it will be a life-changing experience, providing you with new skills and opportunities. It will inspire innovative ways to think about the story of the land and develop your understanding of the planet. You will be called upon to fiercely toss yourself into the unknown and

reexamine the principles from which your actions are derived. Most of all, it will challenge you to know your own heart and expand your definition and expectations of community. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please contact me.

While this may not be verbatim, it does not matter. I read between the lines, and this is exactly what it said to me.

The lure of Audubon Canyon Ranch

We are all drawn to ACR because of its mission to protect nature through land preservation, nature education and conservation science. We seek to fulfill these tenets through programs such as our stewardship activities, docent trainings and science-based land management decisions. While these contributions are observed and documented, there is a particular element of ACR's identity that often goes unnoticed.

I have seen it in the children who cheer and wave to the docents as if they were rock stars, as their school bus pulls away. I have witnessed it in the twinkle of our conservation science director John Kelly's eyes as he fondly recalls stories of biologist Helen Pratt.

Connecting the generations

We don't think about cross-generational interactions every day but they are a dynamic part of ACR's culture. These interactions are especially important in the face of our age-segregated society.

Studies have shown that when different generations fail to interact their perceptions of one another become increasingly fearful. This can lead to emotional distress, intolerance and even a loss of self-worth. Without the ability to imagine a space and time beyond our own, the notion of community begins to erode.

In the intersection of these social constructs is ACR. Just as our protected lands are dynamic spaces for ecosystem conductivity and conservation, these spaces serve to promote healthy and thriving cross-generational interactions.

A personal perspective

As someone who has been deeply touched by these interactions at ACR, I can speak to their power. I find myself in the midst of these exchanges on Monday mornings when I meet with the Bouverie Stewards to explain the restoration task of the day.

Whereas our elders are often pushed to the periphery of society where their wisdom cannot be utilized and their potential contributions lie mute, this is not true at ACR. Together the Stewards collectively hold the history of the restoration projects at Bouverie Preserve. I have relied on this history many times as we repair irrigation systems and hunt for dwindling patches of yellow star thistle.

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And while we often think of our elders as keepers of the past, the Stewards also help us understand our futures. They give feedback on restoration techniques and help us prioritize restoration tasks.

Listening across the generations

For all of their wisdom and hard work, the Stewards are also spirited and mischievous. They are not a two-dimensional picture, stoic and fragile. To the contrary, as I listen across the generational divide, I hear the way each of them has adapted and changed, I hear the complex dimensionality they have experienced throughout their lifetimes.

What I have learned in working with the Stewards is that if we are to have a compassionate and informed future then we must integrate cross-generational interactions into our daily lives.

Sometimes I wonder if the divide between our generations is somehow connected to the fragmentation of the landscape. With land development comes the displacement of vegetation, mammals and even soils. But it can also result in the displacement of people, their stories and their culture.

For that reason, ACR's conservation efforts not only help to reinstate ecosystem function and conductivity, but in the process facilitate cross-generational connections.

Stewards leading Junipers

For the past several summers I have had the opportunity to work with ACR's Juniper program. It allows high school students to interact and support each other in their science explorations.

Last year our Stewards joined the Junipers at Toms Point, an ACR property on Tomales Bay, to help with the beach grass removal project. Toms Point lies at the intersection of water and wind and the meeting of tectonic plates. In other words, it is a place of movement, where past and present collide. So it makes sense that it would also be the gathering place of generations.

As I watched the Stewards and the Junipers work side by side, the elders showing the youngsters different techniques, the students were eager to learn and demonstrate that they could keep up with the work.

In an age-segregated society both of these generations are subjected to stereotypes. To be an elder is to disappear, to become intangible and without purpose. This makes the prospect of aging joyless and daunting to younger generations.

In turn, our youth may be stereotyped as technology driven and lacking respect for tradition and face-to-face interactions.

But the interactions surrounding our workday broke down these prejudices. The actions by both groups showed that self-growth is a process not bound by time. Indeed, lifelong learning is a choice, rather than something that ends with school or must subside with the responsibilities of adulthood.

Healing the divide

As we sat up on the sunny bluff at the end of the workday, one thing became clear: cross-generational



Photo by Bob Alwitt

Junipers learning in the field at Bouverie Preserve

interactions help us explore and understand who we are and who we want to be in our community. In our attempts to address the problems of a fragmented landscape, we are asked to look at the fragmentation of ourselves. It is this rebuilding of the landscape through community that generational fragmentation will also subside.

I look upon the spot where Bouverie Preserve trails called Yellow Brick Road and Woodland Trail meet, and I see a multitude of generations. The rings in the large trunk of the coast live oak tell passersby it has been there long before the junction.

The Madrones that sit in the shade and drip line of the oak will one day outgrow it and become the overstory. The thick layer of leaf litter that is worked by the soil microorganisms will become soil. There is a word for these generations, these interactions: ecology.

At ACR, we are a part of this ecology. And in the same way that the land endures because of its ability to utilize the generations of vegetation, insects, mammals and soils, so too will our cross-generational interactions help sustain and enrich us.

Theo Michaels is ACR's Resource Ecologist at Bouverie Preserve

Role Model, Researcher and Benefactor **THE TRIPLE LEGACY OF HELEN PRATT**

by Phil Murphy

The late Helen Pratt left a legacy—to her family, her fellow naturalists and Audubon Canyon Ranch—well before her formal bequest to ACR arrived.

Known for three decades of observation of Great Herons, Great Egrets and Snowy Egrets at ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve, Helen left a legacy of love for the natural world to her children and two granddaughters.

Carrying on the family tradition

"We both chose to go into science as a profession," says Helen's granddaughter, Darcie Larson of Seattle, citing herself and her sister Sandy Johnson, a physician's assistant.

"I feel like I continue my grandmother's work in my job every day," says Darcie, who is a manager for the Seattle Aquarium in marine conservation outreach.

Calling Helen a "citizen scientist," Darcie adds, "My first passion was whales and dolphins, but I find that I'm more and more interested in birds. It feels like my grandmother's love of birds is in my DNA."

Helen's groundbreaking research

ACR Director of Conservation Science John Kelly describes Helen's scientific legacy: "Her research established much of what is known

about the nesting behaviors of herons and egrets."

Author of *Hérons and Egrets of Audubon Canyon Ranch* and several scientific papers on bird ecology, Helen's observations informed research leading to the ban of DDT.

Her master's degree from UC Berkeley was in child psychology, but Helen spent 30+ years in the field as an ACR volunteer, an astonishing legacy of service. "She did not have formal training, but was incredibly curious and intelligent," says Darcie, "and seemed to find her true calling in doing the heron and egret work at Audubon Canyon Ranch."

A lasting passion and contribution

John describes her impact as a volunteer: "Helen became an outstanding naturalist who showed ACR how connecting with nature can be the key to lifelong learning. She placed the natural history of herons and egrets within reach of everyone



John Kelly with Helen Pratt

who visits ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve."

As a member of ACR's Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle, Helen's final legacy was a sizable gift to Audubon Canyon Ranch in her estate plan. Crowning her long years of service, Helen's bequest will continue to sustain a cause that was close to her heart.

ACR is grateful to Helen and her family for their ongoing support.

Phil Murphy is ACR's planned giving consultant

Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle

ACR's Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle honors supporters who have included Audubon Canyon Ranch in their estate plans at any amount. For more information, contact the ACR Development Team at support@egret.org. We welcome your questions.

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

ACR Membership

Audubon Canyon Ranch members and corporate sponsors think globally and act locally through ACR's land preservation, nature-based 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 to join.

“When I’m gone, this place is going to the birds!”

HELEN McLAREN & ACR GIVE BACK SOME INVERNESS SHORELINE

by John Kelly, Ph.D.

As you approach the village of Inverness, CA, near Point Reyes National Seashore, the spectacular tidal marshes and sloughs of southern Tomales Bay are close at hand. Ducks, egrets, shorebirds, rails and raccoons—even river otters and Bald Eagles—move about emergent marshland immediately near the road.

Several small streams drain the steep slopes of Inverness Ridge, forming tributary brackish marshes and ponds to nourish the western edge of the estuary. The busy affairs of a zillion tiny mud and marsh creatures pack this landscape with life. I always appreciate the occasional glimpses of the marsh and shoreline along this route to Inverness, and especially enjoy the sense of following the margin of this expansive and thriving wetland.

However, much is shielded from view. Long ago, the construction of low levees and drainage channels,

combined with introduced layers of upland fill, narrowed the estuarine edge for numerous shoreline homes. Despite these changes, intermittent sections of transitional habitat persist along the upland boundary of the marsh.

Saving valuable shoreline

Near Inverness, close to where the broad tidelands open to the bay, a generous land donation by Helen McLaren has presented Audubon Canyon Ranch with a rare opportunity: to give back to nature a previously developed section of shoreline.

So, we are reestablishing native vegetation and promoting the natural interplay of runoff and tides to enhance and sustain the richness of the wetland edge.

In addition, Audubon Canyon Ranch owns and manages numerous shoreline properties around Tomales Bay. These include the Toms Point headland and marsh at the north end



McLaren restoration site on Tomales Bay

of the bay, the tidal delta of Walker Creek and Livermore Marsh at ACR’s Cypress Grove Research Center in Marshall.

Helen McLaren’s inspiration

One of ACR’s earlier acquisitions was near the mouth of Papermill Slough in Inverness. Forty-five years ago, William Page Shields contacted ACR Founder Marty Griffin with an offer to help fund efforts to prevent diking of the vast tidelands on the delta of Lagunitas Creek (north of the Giacomini Wetlands) in southern Tomales Bay. The offer came just before 500 acres of this marsh were saved by the State of California, establishing the Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve (TBER).

The funds provided by Mr. Shields were subsequently used to establish ACR’s Shields Marsh, a four-acre preserve adjacent to the TBER. Helen McLaren, the neighboring resident, was so inspired by this and ACR’s other conservation work that she decided to give her two acres of waterfront property “to the birds.”



Looking east from the McLaren property across Tomales Bay

INVERNESS SHORELINE, cont'd

part 1 of a 2-part series

Now we're excited to expand the protection of the Inverness shoreline by restoring the McLaren property to its natural condition, removing all evidence of human use.

Not a typical wetland restoration

In addition to restoring habitat values and promoting the natural flow of water through the McLaren property, we are removing the house, a nearby building, the driveway, the layer of fill beneath the building site and all gas, electric, water and septic systems on the property.

A grove of acacias and other non-native trees draped with tangles of non-native holly, English ivy and wisteria will be replaced with native riparian vegetation—primarily red alder trees, augmented by arroyo willows planted from cuttings collected onsite.

The soft, pale light of the restored red alder canopy will fall over a newly restored, multilayered understory of native shrubs, such as California coffeeberry, blackberry and poison oak, and a carpet of stinging nettle, meadow barley, miner's lettuce, and other native riparian ground cover.

Revegetation is expected to enhance the associated fauna of ground and foliage insects and other invertebrates, improving the foraging conditions for wintering and nesting songbirds. In addition, we are targeting the elimination of invasive, herbaceous plant pests such as periwinkle and forget-me-not.

Key benefits of the restoration

Restored conditions on the property will incorporate the uninterrupted flow

of runoff and tides, which circulate through an array of transitional wetland habitats. Dense thickets of arroyo willow lead into a willow swamp. A brackish marsh marked by a thick vein of cattails flows outward toward the bay, blending into secondary tidal sloughs.

Tributary tide channels lined with sticky gumweed intersect the lower pickleweed

and saltgrass marsh. Higher portions of this lower marsh support two rare plant species: Point Reyes bird's beak (*Chloropyron maritimum* ssp. *palustre*) and Humboldt owl's clover (*Castilleja ambigua* ssp. *humboldtensis*).

Papermill Slough, the bayside boundary of the property, is a primary artery for tidal circulation in the western half of the larger wetland landscape. The slough connects intermittent patches of intertidal cordgrass favored by rails, common yellowthroats and song sparrows. A network of brackish and tidal ponds along its length is frequented by greater yellowlegs, dabbling ducks and dowitchers.

During alternate phases of the tidal cycle, the slough provides open-water feeding areas for hungry waterbirds and exposed mudflats for foraging shorebirds.

The McLaren restoration will not only enhance shoreline habitat for the birds, but by expanding the width of transitional shoreline, it will facilitate



Photo by Len Blumin, Gordon Sherman Photo Library of ACR

Greater yellowlegs frequent the shores of Tomales Bay

adaptive shifting of the wetlands with increasing sea level.

Because the future extent of many coastal wetlands is limited by hardened edges associated with human development, conservation efforts must prioritize the protection of sites such as the McLaren property. Here, the elevational gradient is large enough to sustain an interwoven mix of peripheral wetland habitats as sea levels rise.

Ongoing stewardship

The recovery of native vegetation on the McLaren site will continue gradually for several years, and ACR will provide ongoing oversight. Initial restoration work will be completed in about a year.

We encourage you to visit Shields Marsh in Inverness to see this beautiful part of Tomales Bay. Like ACR's other properties in the area, the protection of the McLaren property helps to enhance the overall health of the bay.

John P. Kelly, Ph.D.,
is ACR's Director of
Conservation Science

Introducing New Volunteer Coordinator IRMA CUEVAS JOINS ACR STAFF

We are honored to use this space—traditionally reserved for highlighting ACR volunteers—to introduce and hear from Irma Cuevas, our newest member of the Education Team.

In Irma's words

I came to Audubon Canyon Ranch to continue my work as a bridge

between people, ethnic communities and our environment. I want to help eliminate barriers to nature that many people experience. I believe that volunteering at ACR is a gateway to nature and provides opportunities for individuals to establish a relationship with the natural world.

ACR's incredible volunteer community is what drew me to the organization. Audubon Canyon Ranch is fortunate to have a dedicated, knowledgeable and adept community of volunteers. Many of our volunteers



Irma Cuevas

THANK YOU, ACR VOLUNTEERS!

Audubon Canyon Ranch salutes the hundreds of individuals listed below for their dedication to ACR and for generously donating time and energy as Docents, Ranch Guides, Ranch Hosts, Field Biologists, Citizen Scientists, Stewards, Work Day Volunteers, Directors, Emeritus Directors and Advisors. You are the backbone of this organization. For all you do, we thank you!

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Patricia Barton		Linda Clark	Fairfax Donovan	Miriam Frye			Karen Knudtsen

have been with ACR since the organization's inception in the 1960s and '70s!

Our longtime volunteers have a rich and deep perspective on our organization, an insight that comes from many seasons of experience. I am humbled by ACR volunteers' dedication and desire to offer their time and expertise to make ACR an amazing organization.

And I am here to help!

My goals are to help recruit new volunteers, retain the amazing volunteers we have, recognize our volunteers and inspire pride in their work.

I would like to support new and seasoned volunteers in perpetuating a love of nature and by providing opportunities within ACR's varied and vast education programs.

Share your insight with me

I welcome and encourage volunteers to contact me (irma.cuevas@egret.org)

and share their insight and experience. Let's work together to carry out ACR's mission.

As a land conservation and nature education organization, we already attract individuals who are dedicated to the protection of our environment. I look forward to bringing in new nature enthusiasts. And I thank Audubon Canyon Ranch and its volunteers for providing me with the opportunity to continue my efforts to work as a bridge—and not a barrier—to nature.

Gary Kohlhaas	Conor Mahoney	Angela Morgan	Jenna Parsons	Diana Rhoten	Syanne Siler	Farhad Taleghani	Cara Wasden
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Martin Griffin Preserve PUTTING NATURE FIRST: PICHER CANYON AND HISTORIC HERONRY TEMPORARILY CLOSED

ACR is committed to protecting the natural resources of its properties using science-based management. In an effort to promote reestablishment of the heron and egret nesting colony that was abandoned by the birds after 60 years, ACR will continue closure of Martin Griffin Preserve's Picher Canyon during the 2015 nesting season.

This decision was based on 20 years of regional Great Egret nesting data, which shows that abandoned colonies in areas with very low levels of human activity are more likely to be recolonized. The studies also show that although the nesting birds could return at any time, the chance of recolonization persists for several years.

ACR biologists continue to monitor nesting activity at Martin Griffin Preserve, as well as activity elsewhere in Bolinas Lagoon and throughout the northern San Francisco Bay Area. At the Bolinas heronry, the number of nesting Great Egrets increased in 2014. This year, Great Blue Herons are already in the initial stages of breeding. More about the heronry is available at www.egret.org/thebirds.

Open for Exploration: Volunteer Canyon

In keeping with ACR's pledge to provide nature experiences, Volunteer Canyon will be open for public access. Available for exploring for the first time in decades, the canyon is adjacent to the temporarily closed Picher Canyon. ACR is excited to give our community access to this special coastal Marin landscape and offer



A Taste for Conservation

2015

Celebrating the ACR Preserves

Sunday, May 17th, 2015

*Benefitting the conservation,
preservation and education programs
of Audubon Canyon Ranch*

Sponsorship opportunities available

Please visit www.egret.org for more information

special learning opportunities. See the Calendar of Events for days and times.

ACR's Education Programs for students also continue in Volunteer Canyon, with no interruption to nature-based learning.

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EXPLORE

Martin Griffin Preserve**Volunteer Canyon****Guided Nature Walks and Learning Stations****10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Guided hikes at 10:00 a.m., noon and 2:00 p.m.****April 11 & 12, 2015** *Exploring and Orienting to the Wonders of Martin Griffin Preserve's Volunteer Canyon***May 23 & 24, 2015** *Birds and Beyond: Exploring the Diversity of Martin Griffin Preserve's Volunteer Canyon***June 13 & 14, 2015** *Exploring Nature and a Changing Climate***July 18 & 19, 2015** *Life on the Lagoon: Exploring the Connections between Martin Griffin Preserve and Bolinas Lagoon*Directions: www.egret.org/directions_martin_griffin Donations appreciated**Mother's Day Picnic****Volunteer Canyon****Sunday ~ May 10, 2015: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Food and fun in the magnificent meadow of Volunteer Canyon. Proceeds benefit ACR and Marin Audubon Society. Space is limited. RSVP by May 7. Carpooling strongly encouraged! Call Mary Anne Cowperthwaite at 415.453.2216 for information.

\$28 per adult, \$12 children 12 and under. Mail your check payable to: Marin Audubon Society, 141 Oak Avenue, San Anselmo, CA 94960 or visit www.marinaudubon.org to reserve online.**Bouverie Preserve****Open House****Two Saturdays ~ March 14, 2015: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. & June 20, 2015: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.****Guided hikes begin at 10:00 a.m., noon, 2:00 p.m.**

Join ACR staff and volunteers and discover the hills, habitats and hidden treasures of the 500-acre Bouverie Preserve. Enjoy a docent-guided hike and a nature activity at the education center.

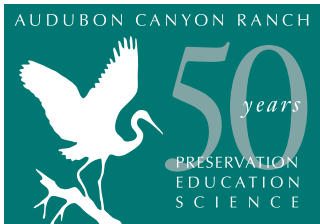
Learn about volunteer opportunities, including Docent Training, which begins in September 2015. *No RSVP necessary, donations appreciated***Guided Nature Walks****Saturdays ~ April 4, May 2, May 9, 2015: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**Experience the beauty and rich natural history of this 500-acre preserve. *Reservations required and accepted one month before each respective hike date: rsvp@egret.org or 415.868.9244 ext. 110. Donations appreciated***Backyard Naturalist Series****Saturday ~ March 28, 2015: 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.—Wildflowers with Jeanne Wirka**Geared to the adult amateur naturalist, this seminar includes time in the classroom and a one- to three-mile hike. Mildly to moderately strenuous. Bring lunch and water. Class size is limited. \$25 per seminar, discount for members at Sponsor-level or above. Registration required: rsvp@egret.org or 415.868.9244 ext. 110**Modini Mayacamas Preserves****Nature Hikes**Explore the rugged terrain of ACR's newest nature sanctuaries, near Healdsburg. Join a natural history, local history or birdwatching hike guided by a local naturalist. Learn more at www.egret.org/calendar or contact ACR Resource Ecologist David Self at david.self@egret.org. *No RSVP or fee, but donations appreciated*

GET INVOLVED

Bouverie Preserve**Docent Training**

Bouverie Docents inspire a love of nature in the children they teach. Join us! Come to a Recruitment Day...take a hike with an experienced docent and learn more about volunteering. Training starts in September.

Docent Recruitment Hikes - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**April 15 & 25, 2015, May 13 & 16, 2015, June 10, 13 & 24, 2015, July 8, 11 & 22, 2015, August 5, 8 & 12, 2015**RSVP to Volunteer Coordinator Irma Cuevas at volunteer@egret.org**ACR Habitat Protection & Restoration Stewards****Martin Griffin Preserve****Thursdays ~ 9:00 a.m. – noon**Help with ecological restoration and resource management projects in the preserve's Four Canyons. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Irma Cuevas at volunteer@egret.org**Bouverie Preserve****Mondays ~ 8:30 a.m. – noon**Bouverie Stewards work intimately with the land throughout the year. This dedicated crew assists with habitat protection and restoration work, while learning about the ecology behind the project. Call 707.935.8417 or e-mail Jen Potts at jennifer.potts@egret.org**Modini Mayacamas Preserves****1st Saturdays and 3rd Thursdays ~ 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**The Modini Mayacamas Stewards remove invasive plants and prepare restoration sites, collect seeds for restoration, maintain trails and more. We work together, have a good time, and learn about the preserve. Contact Dave Self at 707.431.8184 or david.self@egret.org**Modini Mayacamas Preserves****Members Hike****Saturday ~ March 28, 2015 ~ 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**By invitation only. ACR members and supporters at the Patron level or above are invited to join Preserve Biologist Sherry Adams for a rare VIP tour of ACR's newest property near Healdsburg. *Not a member?* Become a *Patron* today, and join us for this members-only event!**More detail on these nature exploration opportunities is available at www.egret.org.**



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Our Mission

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

VISIT US

To visit these preserves, see the Calendar of Events inside

Bouverie Preserve

Woodlands in the Valley of the Moon

Martin Griffin Preserve

Sweeping Coastal Views in West Marin

Modini Mayacamas Preserves

Wilderness in the Mayacamas Mountains

By appointment only

Cypress Grove Research Center

Call 415.663.8203 to schedule

SAVE THE DATE

Annual ACR Appreciation Picnic

Volunteer Canyon, Martin Griffin Preserve
Saturday - September 12, 2015, 11:30 a.m.

By invitation only

Audubon Canyon Ranch welcomes its supporters—volunteers, members (Sponsor level+) and donors (\$250+ annual gift)—as we **thank you** for your support of our programs and preserves.

Not a Sponsor-level member or supporter? Visit www.egret.org to make a donation today!

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(see article related to Bob's photos on page 3)

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of ACR's Education Programs

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Conservation in Action



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