

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH



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# Conservation in Action

The Bulletin | Number 58 | Spring 2016

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## Insights from the Executive Director

### ACR Leads Regional Conservation with New Mountain Lion Project



*John Petersen,  
Executive Director*

For over 50 years ACR has been a leader in conservation science, spearheaded by our long-term research on herons, egrets and waterbirds in the Bay Area.

Now, with our expanded science program designed to find solutions to critical conservation issues, we are launching a new mountain

lion study in Sonoma County. As top predators, mountain lions serve as an important keystone species. They play a critical role in the function of terrestrial ecosystems and are indicators of the overall health of the natural environment.

The ACR Mountain Lion Project will use leading-edge science and technology to collar and GPS-track these animals. We expect to gain a better understanding of their ecology, connectivity in this fragmented landscape, and identification of priority areas for conservation.

#### Mountain cat expert joins our team

We are very fortunate to have Dr. Quinton Martins, an expert on large mountain cats, leading this research project. Dr. Martins, who has studied big cats in numerous countries, founded the Cape Leopard Trust in South Africa.

The group used research as a tool for conservation, finding solutions to human-wildlife conflict. They also inspired interest in the environment through an interactive and dynamic environmental education program. Dr. Martins will be working with ACR science staff, as well as an expert advisory team, in implementing this exciting study.

### Research meets education and outreach

Conservation is most successful when people feel personally connected to nature. We already know of the terrific level of interest in large mammals living within the mountain ranges of Sonoma, Napa and Lake counties through reactions to our wildlife camera postings on social media, trailside conversations with docents and visitors, and our informal chats with preserve neighbors. There's little doubt that mountain lions inspire awe, curiosity and sometimes fear in a way that few other animals do.

That is why our research will be paired with an extensive education and outreach program. I urge you to deepen your own understanding of this iconic and charismatic species by attending one of our upcoming ACR Mountain Lion Project events (details on page 4).



Photo by Sebastian Kennerknecht

ACR relies on donations and the ongoing support of our members to fund programs such as the Mountain Lion Project. Learn more about our giving levels on page 5.

ACR continues to lead regional conservation and, through a greater understanding and appreciation of our natural world, creates a better environment for all communities. ■



Redwoods, Picher Canyon



Pacific tree frog



Brown lacewing

## Martin Griffin Preserve's Picher Canyon Open for Spring and Summer Hiking

### Extended hours in June and July

Hike the more than eight miles of trails, visit the newt ponds and enjoy the wildflowers. Knowledgeable Ranch Guides will answer your questions. Our full range of public events and naturalist-led hikes are scheduled for May through July.

#### Hours:

April 2 – June 5:

Tuesday – Friday, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., by appointment only

Saturday, Sunday and Memorial Day (May 30), 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

June 7 – July 31:

Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., by appointment only

Saturday, Sunday and Fourth of July, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### Saturday speaker series added

This spring and summer, ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve will host an eight-week series of Saturday morning talks open to the community and focused on local conservation efforts.

**When:** Select Saturdays beginning May 21, 2016

#### Speaker Series Topics:

Regional Heron and Egret Populations

ACR's Mountain Lion Project

Golden Gate Raptor Observatory

The River Otter Project

Muir Woods and Monarch Butterflies

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Project Coyote

Forty Years of Shorebird Feeding on Bolinas Lagoon ■

For detailed information about each talk and how to RSVP see [www.egret.org/calendar](http://www.egret.org/calendar).



### Update on Heron and Egret Nesting Sites

For more than 70 years, Martin Griffin Preserve hosted one of the most significant and well-studied Great Blue Heron, Great Egret and Snowy Egret nesting sites on the West Coast. As many as 175 breeding pairs of herons and egrets nested in the tops of the redwood trees in Picher Canyon.

In 2013 and 2014 the preserve nesting sites were abandoned for others on the western shore of Bolinas Lagoon and elsewhere in the Bay Area. Although no one knows why the birds left, we suspect avian predators (Bald Eagles) as the likely cause.

ACR's research on herons and egrets indicates that recolonization is possible for at least 13 years after abandonment. Because it's more likely when human activity is minimized, ACR took the extraordinary step of closing the canyon for two breeding seasons.



John Kelly, Director of Conservation Science

While the herons and egrets did not return to Martin Griffin Preserve in 2015, the new nests on the western side of the lagoon have been productive. This signals high-quality feeding areas and very good food availability in Bolinas Lagoon.

In fact, egrets with successful (undisturbed) nests in the Bolinas colony were able to provision and fledge more young, on average, than those nesting in most San Francisco Bay regions.

### Monitoring to continue in 2016

ACR science staff continues to monitor the Picher Canyon and adjacent Bolinas Lagoon heronries. Full reports are posted online at [www.egret.org/thebirds](http://www.egret.org/thebirds). ■





## Launching the ACR Mountain Lion Project

The ACR Mountain Lion Project is a community-based research and education project in the Mayacamas Mountains of Napa and Sonoma counties. It is designed to increase scientific and public understanding of mountain lions, identify priority habitat areas for conservation, and increase appreciation for these important top predators.

### Conservation science in action

The project will be conducted from our Bouverie Preserve, supported by a diverse and strong team of conservationists, biologists and educators. The principal investigator on the project is ACR Wildlife Ecologist Dr. Quinton Martins, a leading expert on mountain cats and a skilled predator trapper.

The ACR team will partner with local landowners, range managers and conservation organizations to study mountain lions across a wide area. The study will cover almost 1,000 square miles, primarily in the Mayacamas Mountains (east of

Highway 101 and west of Highway 29) in Sonoma and Napa counties.

ACR's high-definition trail cameras, installed earlier in the year, are already delivering exciting images of mountain lions within the Sonoma wildlife corridor, which will be great tools for public outreach.

### Monitoring and tracking

Using GPS radio collars, we'll be able to take a population count and learn more about the ecology of our region's far-ranging mountain lions. The capture and collaring process will include taking physical measurements and gathering biological samples that can be used for DNA analysis and testing for diseases in the population. Our top priority is ensuring the safety of the animals during handling. Once collaring permits are issued by California Department of Fish & Wildlife, ACR will begin to gather data on mountain lions within this study area. The project will continue for three to four years.



### Attend an event to learn more

May 18 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

#### **Coexisting With Mountain Lions — Sonoma County's Apex Predators**

Sonoma Community Center, Sonoma  
Hosted by Sonoma Land Trust

June 4, 2016, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

#### **Iconic Cats: Superheroes for Conservation**

Martin Griffin Preserve

October 17, 2016, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

#### **Iconic Cats: Superheroes for Conservation**

First United Methodist Church, Santa Rosa  
Hosted by Madrone Audubon Society

From top left: Setting up a wildlife camera on Modini Mayacamas Preserves; Dr. Martins sharing mountain lion ecology with ACR Junipers (junior naturalists); mountain lion kitten; ACR Resource Ecologist Jen Potts, Dr. Martins and camera specialist Sebastian Kennerknight on the trail; female mountain lion captured by our cameras in early March

Female mountain lion with her  
cached deer near Bouverie Preserve.



## A robust outreach program

**ACR's school program:** We're adding the ACR Mountain Lion Project to our successful nature education program. It will provide school-age children an opportunity to learn about these animals in a greater conservation context, while dispelling myths that contribute to a culture of fear around predators.

**Speaker series launched:** This spring, at the first of many community events, Dr. Martins introduced our program to a standing-room-only crowd at the Bennett Valley Community Association. He generated considerable interest in the study and offered ideas on how to best mitigate human-mountain lion conflict. We are excited to present to other community groups in coming months (see dates below). ■

Follow developments at [www.egret.org/acr-mountain-lion-project](http://www.egret.org/acr-mountain-lion-project)  
Further reading about the importance of habitat connectivity may be found in the 2015 issue of ACR's *The Ardeid* at [www.egret.org/ardeid](http://www.egret.org/ardeid)

Add your thoughts  
and perceptions of  
mountain lions to our  
community knowledge base by  
answering a 10-minute anonymous  
questionnaire: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTLIONACR>

## Support the ACR Mountain Lion Project

ACR's Conservation Science Program conducts cutting-edge research to solve important conservation issues. Our newest study, local mountain lion behavior, health and territories, will allow us to protect the cats and their environment. Here's how you can support the ACR Mountain Lion Project:

### Mountain Lion Project Founders Council \$25,000 and above

Lead investors are invited to experience the project first hand in the field with principal scientist Dr. Quinton Martins on a mountain lion research site in Sonoma.

### Partners in Conservation \$5,000 and above

Members of the Partners in Conservation receive personalized updates and special access to ACR preserves as well as invitations to parties, expert-led hikes and kayak tours, and private learning opportunities.

### ACR Membership \$500 and above

Invitations to expert-led member hikes, kayak tours and special-access events on ACR preserves. Upcoming event: Twilight hike at Bouverie Preserve led by Dr. Quinton Martins, May 20, 2016.

### \$250 and above

Invitation to the annual Appreciation Picnic, discounts on tickets to ACR seminars and signature events, and acknowledgment in the ACR Annual Report.

### \$65-\$125 membership levels

Benefits include monthly program updates, 10% discount at the ACR bookstore and more.





# ACR Programs and Events



## MEMBERS-ONLY

### Bouverie Preserve

Twilight Hike with Dr. Quinton Martins

Friday ~ May 20, 2016  
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join ACR Wildlife Ecologist Quinton Martins for a one of a kind special-access, members-only twilight hike of Bouverie Preserve. Experience the beauty and rich natural history of this 535-acre preserve at twilight, a magical time. Hike ranges from three to five miles.

*By invitation only*

Not an ACR member? Become a Patron today and join us for this members-only event!

## SIGNATURE EVENTS

### Martin Griffin Preserve

Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle Luncheon

Saturday ~ April 9, 2016  
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle honors supporters who have included Audubon Canyon Ranch in their estate plans. Every year, ACR says thank you to our members with an appreciation luncheon on an ACR Preserve.

*By invitation only*

Mother's Day Picnic

Sunday ~ May 8, 2016  
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Bring families and friends to the magnificent meadow of Volunteer Canyon and enjoy time outdoors, a picnic and a hike up the canyon.

Proceeds benefit ACR and Marin Audubon Society. \$28 per adult; \$12 children 12 and under.

*Purchase tickets online at [www.marinaudubon.org](http://www.marinaudubon.org).*

### Bouverie Preserve

Annual ACR Appreciation Picnic

Save the date!  
Sunday ~ September 17, 2016  
11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

ACR invites you—volunteers, members (Sponsor-level+) and donors (\$250+ annual gift)—for an autumn afternoon at the Bouverie Preserve so we can **thank you** for your support of ACR programs and preserves.

*By invitation only*

Not a Sponsor-level member or supporter? Visit [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org) to make a donation today



Signature  
Event



Nature  
Hikes



Outdoor  
Learning



Volunteer



Member  
Events



Preserve  
Visits

Programs and events are open to the public unless otherwise noted.  
More detail and full calendar listing online [www.egret.org/calendar](http://www.egret.org/calendar)



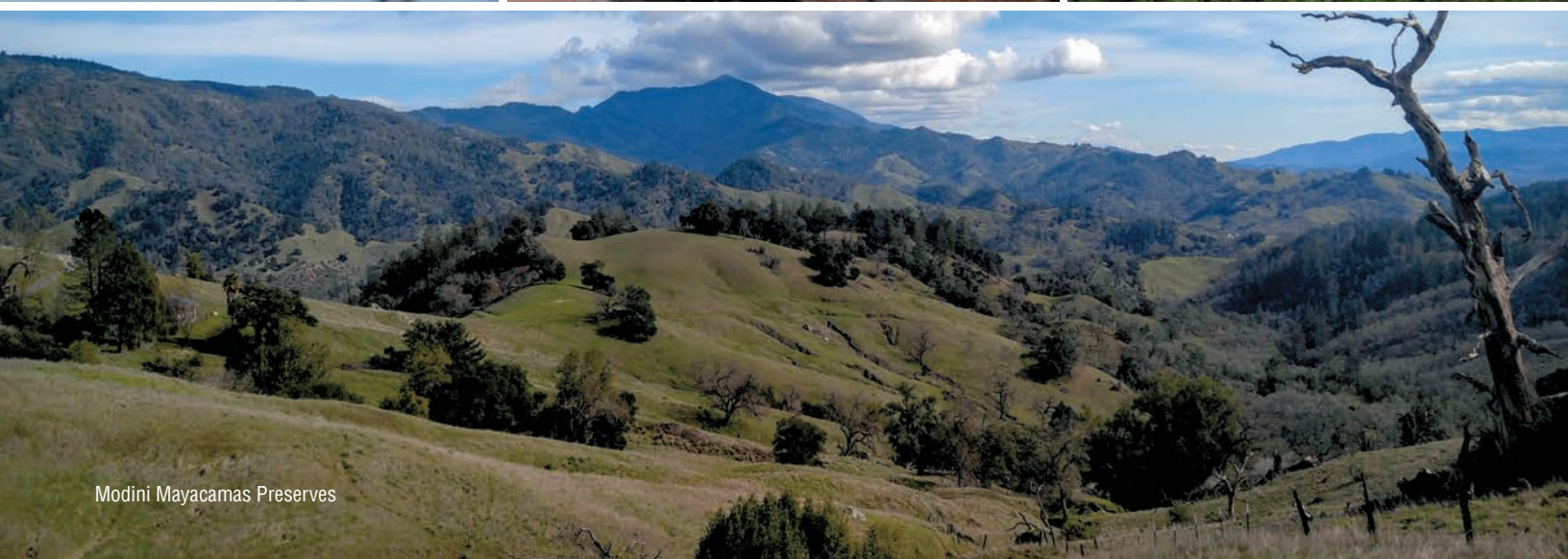
Great Egret with nest material



Red-bellied newt, Bouverie Preserve



Irises at edge of pond, Cypress Grove Research Center



Modini Mayacamas Preserves

## Martin Griffin Preserve

### Docent Recruitment Orientation Days

Select Thursdays and Saturdays ~ April – August 2016  
Choose from April 23, May 5, May 21, June 2, June 18, July 14, or August 20  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Open a child's mind to the wonder of nature by becoming a docent at ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve. Join us for an orientation program beginning with a brief overview of the 24-week college-level naturalist training program followed by an hour-long hike on the trail. Seasoned Martin Griffin Preserve docents will lead the hikes and be available to answer questions about the training program.

Training begins in September, see item below.

Registration required: [www.egret.org/preliminary-docent-training-application](http://www.egret.org/preliminary-docent-training-application)

### Docent Training

Wednesdays ~ September 2016 – March 2017

Become a docent of ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve and immerse yourself in natural history and inspire a conservation ethic in the children you teach. Classes meet weekly for 24 weeks. Learn about birds, insects, pond life and teaching techniques. Three units of college credit are available.

Need more details? Contact [volunteer@egret.org](mailto:volunteer@egret.org) or 415.868.9244 ext. 110

### Habitat Protection & Restoration Stewards

Thursdays ~ 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Join Martin Griffin Preserve Stewards on Thursday mornings to help with ecological restoration in the preserve's four canyons. Activities include collecting seeds, propagating native plants, preparing project sites, out-planting and ensuring survival of plants.

Call 415.868.9244 ext. 118 or email [Gwen Heistand at gwen.heistand@egret.org](mailto:Gwen.Heistand@gwen.heistand@egret.org)

## Bouverie Preserve

### Habitat Protection & Restoration Stewards

Mondays ~ 9:00 a.m. – noon

Bouverie Stewards work intimately with the land throughout the year at the Bouverie Preserve. This dedicated crew assists with all sorts of habitat protection and restoration work, while learning about the ecology behind the project.

Contact Resource Ecologist Jen Potts at [jennifer.potts@egret.org](mailto:jennifer.potts@egret.org)

## Modini Mayacamas Preserves

### Native Garden and Nursery Projects

Thursdays through Spring 2016  
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Modini Conservation Center

Help with native garden maintenance and nursery projects (weeding, planting, starting plants, adding habitat features, tool maintenance, etc). Share your knowledge, skills, energy and experience, or just come to learn or help.

Registration required: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-the-Modini-Mayacamas/>

### Modini Mayacamas Preserves Stewards

Recurring third Saturdays and fourth Fridays 2016  
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Help heal the most impacted spots on the preserves with planting, invasive plant removal and seed collecting. At 12:30 p.m., we'll break for lunch and for activities that explore links between culture and ecology through crafts, discussion, song, story, poetry and art.

Registration required: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-the-Modini-Mayacamas/>

## Martin Griffin Preserve

### Open to the Public Spring and Summer 2016

April 2 – June 5, 2016

Tuesday – Friday, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., by appointment only

Saturday, Sunday and Memorial Day (May 30), 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

June 7 – July 31:

Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., by appointment only

Saturday, Sunday and Fourth of July, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Come hike the more than eight miles of trails at ACR's Martin Griffin Preserve. Visit the new ponds and enjoy the wildflowers. Knowledgeable Ranch Guides will answer your questions.

Call 415.868.9244 ext. 110 for more information. Donation: \$15 per person

## Bouverie Preserve

### Guided Nature Walks

Saturday ~ April 16, 2016

Saturday ~ April 30

Saturday ~ May 7

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Experience the beauty and rich natural history of this 535-acre preserve.

Reservation required: [rspv@egret.org](mailto:rspv@egret.org) or 415.868.9244 ext. 110, space limited.

Donation: \$15 per person

### Twilight Hikes

Friday ~ April 29, 2016, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Friday ~ August 12, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Friday ~ September 2, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Friday ~ September 30, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Observe the wildlife that becomes active as the sun goes down and learn about the fascinating history and ecology of the Bouverie Preserve.

Reservation required: [rspv@egret.org](mailto:rspv@egret.org) or 415.868.9244 ext. 110, space limited.

Donation: \$15 per person

## Modini Mayacamas Preserves

### Birds & Botany Hikes

Recurring first Fridays ~ May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Enjoy birding by ear and sight around Pine Flat and Redhill. After lunch, we'll consider the seasonal interplay between bird foods, habitat history and the birds.

Online registration required: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-the-Modini-Mayacamas/>. Donation: \$15 per person

### Guided Nature Hikes

Various weekdays, weekends and some overnights

Join us for a range of natural history and ethnobotany guided hikes.

Online registration required: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-the-Modini-Mayacamas/>. Donation: \$15 per person

### Orientation to Modini Mayacamas Preserves + Optional Hike *\*required for independent hiking access\**

Saturday ~ May 14, 2016

Saturday ~ June 11

An introduction to the preserves and their history. Agree to ACR rules and you will be given a trail guide and permit for independent hiking.

Online registration required: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-the-Modini-Mayacamas/>. Donation: \$15 per person





## Going the Distance for ACR's Preserves & Infrastructure

Though his marathon days are behind him, ACR's Director of Finance and Operations Hugh Robertson still racks up five to 10 miles on a typical trail run.

An avid hiker as well, he suspects that the hours he has spent running and walking in open country, along with his love of poetry and a childhood spent on Puget Sound, helped shape his commitment to conservation.

"These experiences gave me a love for the natural world and a desire to protect it," he says. He can't remember any family members preaching the virtues of conservation to him. "I think it's just a natural part of who I am. Conservation is close to my heart."

Robertson, who joined ACR in March 2015, holds an MA from the University of Washington in international studies, an MS from Purdue University in industrial administration, and a BA from the University of Puget Sound in economics. He spent the last fifteen years working for nonprofit organizations, most recently with the Council on Aging in Santa Rosa.

Soon after his arrival at ACR, he became aware of the Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle, which honors those who remember the Ranch in their estate plan. He and his wife Kelly, the wine club manager at McEvoy Ranch in Petaluma, immediately joined, including a gift to ACR in their will.

"We could have chosen many good conservation organizations," he says. But as an ACR employee, putting a gift to ACR in their estate plan seemed "the obvious thing to do."

"ACR's employees, board members and volunteers choose to be here for a reason. At least for us, an estate gift to ACR flowed naturally from those reasons." Robertson finds additional inspiration for his commitment to conservation in the nature poems of Gary Snyder and Octavio Paz and, more recently,



ACR Director of Finance and Operations Hugh Robertson and wife Kelly have joined ACR's Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle with their estate gift.

in Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical on the environment, *On Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si')*. "I was astonished by the honesty and passion behind it," he says.

But ACR's preserves are key to the Robertsons' estate gift. "ACR has a spectacular collection of properties that is hard to replicate," he says. "We have more than 5,000 acres, a large number of buildings, and trails and other infrastructure. They are all depreciable on the books and in reality. We must preserve them and present an image to the world that we care about our own."

Like the distance runner he is, Robertson hopes for steady progress rather than blazing times. "As CFO, I want to see the endowment grow. The number of ACR properties and projects are growing. We've set high standards for them. It takes financial resources to maintain those standards." ■

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ACR is pleased to list Kelly and Hugh Robertson as members of its Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle. For Legacy Circle information, contact Scott Artis at [scott.artis@egret.org](mailto:scott.artis@egret.org) or 415-868-9244, ext. 114.





ACR's Walker Creek delta, Tomales Bay

## Tomales Bay Briefs



### A spectacular finale

Our team of staff and volunteers were out in force on Tomales Bay and received a sweet surprise: the first documented occurrence of Brown Booby in Tomales Bay! The species, typically found in Mexico southward into Central America, is very rare this far north. Its presence could be related to recent El Nino conditions. The suggestion of a climate-induced shift in distribution depends on whether they continue to occur here in future years.

Every year since 1989, ACR's Cypress Grove Research Center has been conducting four boat-based, winter waterbird surveys on Tomales Bay. We assess the number and distribution of waterbird species to provide key biological information for regional planning and the protection of Tomales Bay. ■

### Mooring program aims to protect habitat

In another first for the bay, the Tomales Bay Mooring Program, administered by the California State Lands Commission, took effect in February, requiring all boat moorings to be state-leased and inspected annually. The plan, under development since 2007, limits moorings to a total of 165 within nine zones.

Moorings tagged for removal include those located in shallow eelgrass beds. Comprising roughly 22% of the surface area of Tomales Bay, eelgrass beds provide important habitat for waterbirds, invertebrates and fish such as Pacific herring and Coho salmon. ■

### ACR plants trees to restore tidelands

In January ACR staff and volunteers planted roughly 25 red alders and an equal number of willow cuttings on ACR's two-acre McLaren parcel. Director of Stewardship Jeanne Wirka and Bouverie Preserve Resource Ecologist Sasha Berleman, along with four Bouverie Preserve Stewards, completed the tree planting portion of our site restoration plan for this generous land donation by Helen McLaren.

The red alder saplings were harvested the same morning from a bog at Martin Griffin Preserve's Volunteer Canyon. Stewards chose taller saplings, giving them an edge against deer browsing once transplanted to the site.

These trees are key to the reestablishment of a riparian floodplain forest that will support other native vegetation and bird species. Special thanks to our volunteer Stewards! ■

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Red alders harvested from the bog at Martin Griffin Preserve's Volunteer Canyon (top) were transplanted to the McLaren property.





## Volunteer Spotlight

### Stewards tackle the needs of our largest preserve

Every season, the Modini Mayacamas Preserves Stewards restore and celebrate habitat on the 3,000+ acres of wildlands near Healdsburg. We take a decidedly different approach to the stewardship experience—gardeners, photographers, storytellers, basket weavers, illustrators, herbalists and others are welcome.

Highlights from the past year include planting some 800 native bunchgrasses, removing Himalaya blackberry vines from a host of native plants—including from our only known silk tassel bush, discovering a new wildflower for our list, collecting native seeds, and clearing brambles so coyotes can make their way to water. We also tasted fresh summer blackberries, spun milkweed into string and turned blackberry stems into chimes last fall. ■

For upcoming stewardship and hiking opportunities at Modini Mayacamas Preserves, check our event calendar online at [www.egret.org/calendar](http://www.egret.org/calendar).

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L. Martin Griffin, M.D.  
*Emeritus Director*

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*Land Steward, MGP*

Martin Griffin Preserve (MGP) • Bouverie Preserve (BP) • Cypress Grove Research Center (CGRC) • Modini Mayacamas Preserves (MMP)



## Translator of the Bouverie Preserve Experience

Sofia Sanchez's eyes sparkle when she talks about nature. A Sonoma Valley High School senior and an intern at the Bouverie Preserve, Sofia recently led a bilingual hike for Spanish-speaking families involved in ACR's Junior Naturalist (Juniper) Program. "I was nervous at first, but it was really fun," she remarked after her first three-hour hike.

Sofia became involved at Bouverie Preserve in October, when her mentor and MGP Docent Deb Piatelli introduced her to ACR's Director of Stewardship Jeanne Wirka. As part of her senior project, Sofia is required to conduct

research that includes a public education element. "I really love nature so the Bouverie Preserve is a perfect place for me," she says.

Sofia is assisting with the wildlife camera research at Bouverie, where she is equally comfortable describing the project in English and in Spanish. "Sofia is just a delight to be around, so she makes a great ambassador for the work we do at ACR," says Wirka.

With only months to go before graduating, Sofia is turning her thoughts to the future. Because she enjoys helping people, she plans to study psychiatry or another field of medicine. ■



Juniper family members with intern Sofia Sanchez



Sofia and a Juniper explore Stewart Creek

## Stay in the Loop

### eNewsletter

Published every month, our eNewsletter brings you updates from the preserves, school group visits, latest findings from science staff, volunteer opportunities and ways to explore ACR's nature sanctuaries.

Visit [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org) to opt in.

### Find Us On Social Media



## Become a Member

Audubon Canyon Ranch members and corporate sponsors think globally and act locally through ACR's land preservation, nature education and conservation science programs.

Join us today, and together we will protect wildlands in Marin, Sonoma and Lake counties. Benefits include the ACR Bulletin, 10% discount at the ACR bookstore, invitations to exclusive members-only events and more.

Contact Development Manager Jen Newman at 415.868.9244 ext. 119, [support@egret.org](mailto:support@egret.org) or visit [www.egret.org/membership](http://www.egret.org/membership).

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## Our Mission

ACR protects our natural and human communities through land preservation, nature education and conservation science.



Photo by Jocelyn Knight

Martin Griffin  
Preserve's Picher  
Canyon is open  
for spring and  
summer hiking!  
Details, page 3

## Visit Us

### 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



## Don't miss these ACR Signature events!

**May 8:** Mother's Day Picnic

**September 17:** ACR Annual Appreciation Picnic

**More events listed inside, pages 6-7!**

## Green Your Mailbox

Join us in our continuing commitment to green practices and choose to receive the ACR Bulletin online.



If you'd like to opt out of the snail mail version, contact Leslie Melendy at ACR headquarters at 415.868.9244 ext. 110 or [leslie.melendy@egret.org](mailto:leslie.melendy@egret.org).

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