



Photo: Evi Meyer

## Conservancy Helps to Enhance Cactus Wren Habitat

The coastal cactus wren is one of the rarest and most imperiled wildlife residents in the coastal southern California region, including the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. As its name implies, this uniquely adapted inhabitant thrives among cactus-dominated patches of coastal sage scrub, living and nesting within dense stands of native prickly pear and coastal cholla cactus. Cactus wren populations are steeply declining across their southern California range because of wildfires, urbanization, invasion by non-native plants, drought and a number of other factors. The State of California has recognized this decline by designating the cactus wren a "Species of Special Concern." This status provides specific protections under state law. Palos Verdes' coastal cactus wrens have not escaped this decline, with observed breeding territories dropping to all-time lows in 2018. Despite all of the challenges they face, Palos Verdes' small population of ...has found a way to persist despite a host of daunting challenges.

In 2018 both Conservancy-contracted biologists from Cooper

continued on p 6

## Environmental Education Program Helps Kids Fall in Love with Peninsula Nature

Peninsula kids live in a very special place. The Conservancy's environmental education and field study programs inspire them to fall in love with the Peninsula's preserved natural areas. The program helps third graders at a total of 36 area elementary schools get to know this place, its vistas and winding trails, birds and wildlife, native plants and varied ecosystems, history, challenges and immeasurable value.

The 23-year-old Third Grade Naturalists program thrives at 24 elementary schools, as volunteer Education Docents visit third graders for four



classroom enrichment sessions that introduce students to all things natural on the Peninsula. Exploratory natural science lessons using hands-on experiences with real world objects like pelts, fossils, plant samples and other artifacts ignite student curiosity about their natural environment. The fifth experience for the

continued on p 5



Third Grade Docent Sue Scholton

## Volunteers Recognized for Outstanding Commitment

On July 1 the Conservancy honored dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers at a recognition event followed by a screening from the Beauty of Nature Film Series, "Dirtbag: The Legend of Fred Beckey." Volunteers enjoyed handmade all-natural ice cream by Kansha Creamery and a raffle with fun sponsor giveaways. Nina Wasuta-Moore was presented with the President's award and Elizabeth Eastman received the Deena Sheridan Nature Education Award

continued on p 4



## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I attended my first Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) program meeting in Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) over 18 years ago. An NCCP identifies

and provides for the regional protection of plants, animals and their lands while allowing compatible and appropriate economic activity. This means that by establishing managed habitat nature reserve systems under an NCCP, the city is able to develop projects in areas beyond the preserve for their city planning needs. A key economic benefit to the city for having an NCCP is the ability to eliminate the uncertainties associated with land-use planning that often accompany federal or state listing of species. RPV joined this [proactive planning and conservation] program soon after it was formed and made available by the State of California. This program takes a broad-based ecosystem approach for the protection and continuance of biological diversity. The Land Conservancy's early and lasting commitment to the city's request for an NCCP also helped to provide additional assurances required for the plan's approval. Of course, this partnership was also critical to specific land acquisitions. We look forward to the release of the NCCP document by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the very near term.

In concert with this conservation program and many other Land Conservancy environmental initiatives, we look forward to continuing habitat restoration work in the preserves and to providing interesting educational and recreational activities to welcome visitors to these unique lands. This is an important time for conservation on the Peninsula. I deeply appreciate your support of the valuable work ahead.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Andrea Vona  
Executive Director



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cassie Jones, President  
Allen Franz, Executive Vice President  
Diana Bailey, Secretary  
John Spielman, Treasurer  
Bill Ailor  
Scott Ammons  
Bob Ford  
Amy Friend  
Randy Harwood  
Rob Kautz  
Mike Kilroy  
Carolynn Petru  
Ken Swenson  
Rick Wallace

### STAFF

Andrea Vona, Executive Director

### Administration

Jill Wittman, Administrative Assistant

### Land Stewardship

Adrienne Mohan, Conservation Director  
Cris Sarabia, Stewardship Manager  
Josh Weinik, Stewardship Associate  
Johnny Perez, Field Operations Technician  
Humberto Calderon, Stewardship Technician  
Hugo Morales, Stewardship Technician Lead  
Juan Sandoval, Stewardship Technician  
Cristhian Torres-Betancourt, Stewardship Technician  
Neli Gonzalez, Nursery Technician Lead

### Volunteer Programs

Brittany Goldsmith, Volunteer Program Manager  
Megan Wolff, Volunteer Coordinator

### Development

Susan Wilcox, Development Director  
Louise Olfarnes, Communications Manager  
Laura Lohnes, Development Associate

### Education Program

Connie Smith, Education Director  
Holly Gray, Education Program Manager

### George F Canyon Nature Center White Point Nature Education Center

Ariel Dela Cruz, Naturalist  
Cristal Guzman, Naturalist

Ellen Girardeau Kempler, Open Spaces Editor

## Show your Passion for Natural Land

The end of the year is a great time to make a gift to the Conservancy. Thank you in advance for your generous donation and for the many ways you help make the nature preserves possible and enjoyable.

During the summer months, we focused six days a week on weeding and irrigating newly installed native plants. Have you stopped by Alta Vicente to see the results of the last two years? Now we are busy growing native plants for the endangered cactus wren and California gnatcatcher with plans to install them this winter.

In a few months, we will resume aggressive weeding by hiring a herd of goats. Please consider "adopting" a goat – the goat herd weeds one acre of land per day and your gift can help pay for a goat for one day at \$100 or one goat for the entire week for \$500. If you choose to participate in the goat adoption, you will be included in our photo session with the goats in spring 2019 and you will have helped us weed five acres of land!! If you'd prefer to help us install mature nesting plants for the cactus wrens, a gift of \$100 will pay to install one mature plant and \$500 will pay for a housing cluster for the wrens!

We thank the volunteers who give their time and energy to land restoration. We welcome you to join us in the support through gifts as well. Please consider joining us for the year-end gifts.

## news items

- p1 [Conservancy Helps Enhance Cactus Wren Habitat](#)
- p2 [A Message from the Executive Director](#)
- p3 [Take Every Wave 2018 Film Series Finale](#)
- p5 [New Activities Makes George F Canyon the Family Place](#)
- p6 [Beautify Lunada Bay Volunteers Restore One-Acre of Coastal Land](#)
- p8 [Special Events Calendar](#)

## 2018 Pastoral Explores Oaxaca's Vibrant Colors and Flavors with a Unique Peninsula Twist

Held under an autumn moon on the Catalina Terrace Lawn at Terranea Resort, Palos Verdes Pastoral: Garden-to-Table Dining Experience is served al fresco with magnificent views of Catalina Island. Hosted by the Conservancy in partnership with Terranea, Pastoral is a celebration of nature and the senses with a menu of new creations infused with unique ingredients from the Peninsula's natural lands. This year, Pastoral is inspired by the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, one of the most innovative food centers in the world. Oaxaca shares with us many related native plant species, including lily, sunflower, coastal sage and cactus. This culinary and design mecca emphasizes raw, local and handcrafted ingredients from the land and ocean. Terranea's Chef Bernard Ibarra created a menu with foods sourced from local artisan ingredients and Terranea's award-winning garden and featuring well-known staples of the Oaxacan cuisine such as squash flowers, sage, prickly pear cactus, dragonfruit, chocolate and mezcal served with a unique Peninsula twist. As it does each year Pastoral 2018 will also feature some of the best local and regional wines available.



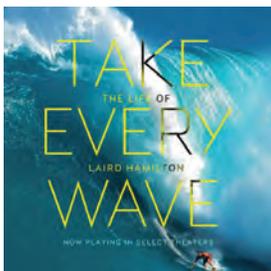
Limited to 200 guests, this highly anticipated, always sold-out event will be held on October 14th. Co-Chair Diana Heffernan-Schrader explains, "We have created a truly one-of-a-kind event based on the concept of local food, nature and community," she said. "An incredible group of community supporters gather together for an evening soaking in the natural beauty of the Peninsula. This is an event where old friends and new enjoy a carefully crafted artisanal, local and sustainable dining experience created around a theme that enables us to appreciate the rare biodiversity of the lands we are lucky enough to call home."

Pastoral is the Conservancy's most important annual event, allowing us to raise support for the conservation and management of 1,600 acres of permanently protected rare coastal habitat. We wish to thank major partner Terranea Resort, along with the following business sponsors and community supporters: Bruce Biesman-Simons & Hale Field, William Hadley, CA Water Service, Becky Cool - RM Cool Company, The Jacqueline Glass Family, Diana Heffernan-Schrader and Steve Schrader, Jim & Diane Staes, John & Lynn Taber, Bill & Barb Ailor, Craig & Susan Cooning, El Segundo Auto Body, Geraghty Group at Morgan Stanley, LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chuck Miller Family, Mark Paullin, Phillips 66, Point Vicente Animal Hospital, Providence Little Company of Mary, Ginny Bleier, Carl & Barbara Cambilargiu, Elizabeth Kendrick Galowich & Jeffrey Galowich, HSBC Bank USA, Hans & Anna Kuehl, Gary & Gretchen Marlotte, Trudy Park, George & Joan Paulikas,Carolynn & Andy Petru, Marion Scharffenberger, Kenneth & Harriet Servis, An Uncommon Journey, Water Replenishment District of SOCAL, Sid & Fran Wielin, Zone 24 Landscaping, Inc. Special thanks to Palos Verdes School Gardens, PSAV, Southbay Magazine and Room & Board.



## Take Every Wave 2018 Film Series Finale

Discover the story of Laird Hamilton's lifetime devotion to riding giant surf and the price an athlete pays for greatness at the Beauty of Nature Film Series presentation of the documentary "Take Every Wave - The Life of Laird Hamilton." Laird is a unique sports icon—a



surfer who has refused to compete professionally but has dominated big wave surfing. His story is told against the backdrop of the 2017 winter surf season on Kauai, when El Niño storm systems threatened the shore and produced the biggest surf in decades. The screening will be November 18th at 4 p.m. at the John Olguin Auditorium, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. The event will include a special pre-film presentation on cactus wrens. Tickets are \$10 for adults and FREE for youth at [pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org).



The Conservancy also recognized seven volunteers—Michael Bell, Julia Higgins, Henry Jurgens, Jerry Kotler, Kaori Namoto, Sue Scholton and Grace Wallace—with Outstanding Volunteer awards for their leadership and dedication to education, trail monitoring, citizen science and governance.

- Nina Wasuta-Moore received the President’s award for her exceptional commitment as a volunteer. You will find her almost daily, volunteering at the Conservancy’s Native Plant Nursery, and she is also a member of the Rapid Response Team helping to maintain trails. This past year, Nina expanded her extensive commitment by joining both the Volunteer Trail Watch and Trail Crew.



Nina Watsuda-Moore

- Elizabeth Eastman,, who received the Deena Sheridan Nature Education Award for her dedication and contribution to the education of students as a Third Grade Naturalist Docent, a White Point Nature Education Center Docent and for helping to lead many other educational activities presented by the Conservancy. Elizabeth shares her deep love of nature with students at many schools including Hawaiian Avenue, Bonita, Point Vicente, Soledo and Eshelman elementary schools.



Mike Bell

- Mike Bell, who was lauded as a valued member of both the Cactus Wren and the Wildlife Tracking programs. Mike took the extraordinary steps of monitoring two different reserves at the same time and created a native pollinators iNaturalist page. He also completed the Cal-Naturalist program and is now a certified California Naturalist.

- Julia Higgins, who was honored as a dedicated Conservancy Greeter, devoted her time to provide information to visitors at outreach events over the past three years. Her enthusiasm and passion for conservation has helped recruit numerous volunteers and inspire many supporters to join the Conservancy.

- Henry Jurgens, who was hailed for inspiring an appreciation of nature as a Third Grade Naturalist Program Docent to students at Point Fermin Elementary, Peninsula Montessori and Dapplegray Elementary. He also leads numerous field trips on the preserves and helps to recruit and train new docents for the program.

- Jerry Kotler, who was thanked for his magnificent images of the Peninsula featured in annual reports and many other publications, where they inspire an appreciation for the preserves’ beauty.

- Kaori Namoto, who was praised for her tireless work alongside her daughter and granddaughter helping to remove invasive weeds and plant native species. As a member of the Volunteer Trail Watch, she also reaches out to the community on the trails about the importance of preserving our open spaces.



Kaori Namoto and her granddaughter

- Sue Scholton, who was honored for her work to educate future land stewards as a docent for the Third Grade Education Program and White Point Nature Center. Through field trips, Sue brings the Conservancy’s educational program to both 7th Street Elementary and Dapplegray Elementary schools and many other students.

- Grace Wallace, who was recognized for being a dedicated community volunteer who served on the board for eight years and on the Finance Committee for a decade. Among her accomplishments is the 2014 Abalone Cove Shoreline Park Grand Re-Opening Event she spearheaded in partnership with the City of RPV.

Congratulations and thank you to each one of our valued and essential volunteers!

## IN HONOR

*Your celebration and remembrance gifts create a lasting tribute to friends and loved ones by helping to protect the beauty and character of the Palos Verdes Peninsula.*

### Remembering

Mira Brosnan given by Joanne Dusseau

T. C. Fan given by Norie Roeder

Scott Gilster given by Sandra Finstuen

Steve Harris given by Andrea Vona and Martin Howard

Ann Koons given by Arline Bertolami, Monica DeYoung, Leslie and Jeffrey Gold, The Photographic and Digital Artists,

Peter Sparks, Bob and Phyllis Trujillo, Mie Shirai, Yveta Williams

Diana Park given by Noel Park

Riley Rice given by Paige Procter and Jim Rice

Deena Sheridan given by Rick and Allison Phillips

Owen Thomas given by Valborg Thomas

### Celebrating

Shereen Ansari given by Ralph LeFevre and Christine Esprabens

Maya Carruth given by Ray and Susan Seager

Becky Cool given by Sara Jennings

Juliana Fager given by Cathy Cerami

Robert Ford given by Kevin Ford and Roger Ford

Carl Muchnick given by Jeff Katz

Trudy Park given by Bruce Biesman-Simons and Hale Field

The Frasier Perkins Family given by Bill and Cathy Maikisch

John Spielman given by Richard and Grace Wallace

Jackson Spilsbury becoming an Eagle Scout given by Jackson Spilsbury

Betty Strauss given by Bruce Biesman-Simons and Hale Field

Susan Wilcox given by Richard and Grace Wallace

Cynthia Woo given by Bill and Barb Ailor

If you would like to make a donation in remembrance or celebration, please call Laura Lohnes, Development Associate at (310) 541-7613 x206.

## New Activities Makes George F Canyon the Family Place

Summer has come to an end, but autumn family fun is just getting started. George F Canyon Nature Center and Preserve is the place to be for parents or grandparents of preschoolers and elementary school children, with new programs for kids and their families to enjoy.

The first Saturday of each month offers a guided Family Nature Walk. Our Naturalist will lead your family along the cool woodland trail, while your kids keep their eyes open to try and spot one of Palos Verdes' native gray foxes, a desert cottontail rabbit or a western fence lizard. Learn about the native species living along the streamside trail and sample fruit of the lemonade berry, Catalina cherry, or elderberry growing wild. Give your children a first-hand experience that illustrates the importance of protecting beautiful open spaces in an urban area.

The second Saturday of each month is the time to encourage your child's curiosity in the natural world around them through Family Science and Storytime. Each session, our naturalists will teach your child through fun and enriching activities about one native animal species that lives in the canyon. In October, we'll focus on great horned owls, with a chance to examine a specimen up-close. In November, we will feature the raccoon and in December the Peninsula's amazing crow and raven species.

The third Saturday of each month can now be a special time to involve your kids with hands-on conservation and land stewardship activities during Family Volunteer Day. Our naturalists will lead your children in a volunteer project planting seeds, watering saplings, counting butterflies and participating in other hands-on activities. They will also teach kids how to protect and respect nature.

The fourth Saturday of each month offers parents and children the opportunity to learn, handle and purchase native plants grown from seeds harvested right here on the Peninsula from the Conservancy's native plant nursery. Our naturalists will provide you with information and literature about caring for your selected native plants. Growing them in your yard will help increase the number of healthy local plants to attract butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators. Select a blue butterfly host plant like flowering rattle pod or deerweed, or another of our drought tolerant, low maintenance plants and watch the birds and butterflies arrive!

Summer might be over, but the fun has just begun!



Family Volunteer Day at George F Canyon

### Environmental Education, continued from page 1

students is field study during which students practice their newfound naturalist skills in a nearby open space.

This fall, the Conservancy will also reach third graders at 12 additional elementary schools to provide visits to George F Canyon Preserve. Nine-year-olds will participate in a series of interactive trail explorations, stewardship activities and art experiences that illuminate the importance of preserving natural areas in urban areas for the benefit of ecosystems, wildlife, native plants and the urban human population.



Education Program Manager Holly Gray with Third Graders

## Dave Snow Joins Board of Directors

The Conservancy is pleased to announce a new addition to the Board of Directors, Dave Snow. An attorney specializing in land use, Dave looks forward to his board involvement. "I value the Conservancy's preservation efforts that have led to the current preserves and am excited at the prospect of helping in the management of those lands to maximize the ongoing environmental value, in balance with recreational use," he said.

Dave is a member of the Legislative Review Team Amicus Committee (2004-present) and served as the Vice President of Policy & Legislation (2011-2014), both for the American Planning Association's California Chapter. He has a decade of experience as a public agency planner, six years of it with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. He is also a former Board Member of the Riverside Land Conservancy (1994-1996). Dave said he feels "a personal interest in the protection and preservation of open spaces and experiencing the habitats and creatures that inhabit them."



Join us in welcoming Dave to the Board!

Ecological Monitoring, Inc. and the Conservancy's Citizen Science Cactus Wren Monitoring Program monitored cactus wren populations in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Both surveys found cactus wrens, but in fewer reserves and in lower abundance than in previous survey years. Cooper identified five potential breeding territories throughout the areas surveyed in the Preserve and the Conservancy's citizen scientists located a handful of active nests. Both teams observed cactus wrens exclusively in the areas that provided only the highest-quality habitat, those with large expanses of mature cactus plants.



The Conservancy has outlined measures needed to conduct a targeted habitat enhancement to help the cactus wren. As land managers, the Conservancy is the organization best positioned to meet or mitigate habitat challenges negatively impacting cactus wrens' breeding potential and survival. In collaboration with the contracted biologist and wildlife agencies, the Conservancy has determined several adaptive management activities that may help improve the viability of the Palos Verdes cactus wren population. Recommended activities will focus on enhancing and protecting mature cactus stands, giving priority to those that have recently supported nesting. Invasive non-native shrubs (especially acacia) will be removed from cactus-rich areas, new cactus plantings will be installed and foraging habitat (bare ground) surrounding cactus patches will be created. These habitat enhancement plans may be just what the cactus wrens need for a successful 2019 breeding season. To assist the project and help save our local cactus wren population, become a citizen scientist! Contact the Conservancy's Stewardship Associate, Josh Weinik, at [jweinik@pvplc.org](mailto:jweinik@pvplc.org).



## 4 Things You Should Know about Cactus Wrens ...

1. Peninsula cactus wrens are one of the most isolated populations in California.
2. Cactus wrens are sedentary and rarely travel over one mile from their place of birth.
3. Cactus wrens build shade nests for roosting, a trait likely carried over from their desert relatives.
4. Male wrens are kept busy during breeding season building multiple nests and caring for the young while the female prepares for the next clutch of eggs.

## Beautify Lunada Bay Volunteers Restore One-Acre of Coastal Land

Beautify Lunada Bay is a one-acre pilot project to improve neglected parcels in Palos Verdes Estates. The project to plant native species and create a trail, was completed in June. Planning meetings with community members, City of Palos Verdes



Estates staff and Land Conservancy staff commenced in 2015. The site is now flourishing with an abundance of flowers and plants visited by birds and butterflies like swallowtails and hummingbirds. Local residents are enjoying the improvements to the area located near Lunada Bay Elementary School on Paseo Lunado. Students from Palos Verdes High School and Lunada Bay Elementary School will use the area as an outdoor learning lab to study the benefits of native plants.

The Conservancy is pleased the Lunada Bay Home Owners Association has announced plans to similarly improve another parcel with plans to start planting in Spring 2019. Volunteers will again be needed. Please keep an eye out for this and other upcoming volunteer opportunities through the Conservancy. For more information, visit: [lbhoa.org/BeautifyLunadaBay](http://lbhoa.org/BeautifyLunadaBay)

## Adopt-a-Plot Volunteers Know and Love a Parcel of Nature

The Adopt-a-Plot Program provides a unique opportunity for volunteers to “adopt” quarter-acre parcels of land on designated preserves with the independence to restore native habitat under the guidance of our staff. Most established Adopt-a-Plot projects take place at Linden H. Chandler Preserve and Lunada Canyon, in Agua Amarga Preserve. Over the past six years, volunteers have contributed a total of 3,186 hours toward habitat restoration to



Photo: Donna Wilson

“Approximately, 85% of Southern California coastal sage has been lost to development and unnatural wildfires. It is important to me to replace what has been lost. I have planted over 60 native plants to help create habitat for the threatened California gnatcatcher and other indigenous wildlife.”

-Sarah Reeves

“When I take care of something-- anything, a dog, a car, a patch of land — I get to know it and love it. There is power in nurturing and honoring a place and the life that comes with it and of it. I am proud to offer the PV blue butterflies a chance. They should not be pushed aside.”  
- Lee Meyers

“After taking an environmental science class, I now know how important these conservation efforts are. I used to live in the city where the only greenery around was the pots of plants outside my door. Now I care for a plot of land and am contributing to saving a rare species.”  
- James Chin

benefit the federally endangered Palos Verdes blue butterfly and California gnatcatcher in the two locations. Conservancy interns Nina House and Cambrie Congdon were awarded funding for work on each site from South Bay Audubon, enabling them to install 200 host plants to expand native habitat needed by the Palos Verdes blue butterfly at Chandler Preserve as well as 182 coastal sage scrub plants in Lunada Canyon. The Adopt-a-plot Program builds community and connects people of all ages to meaningful land restoration projects. To find out more about adopting a plot, contact Volunteer Coordinator Megan Wolff at [mwolff@pvplc.org](mailto:mwolff@pvplc.org).

## The 3-Hour Volunteer Difference

The Conservancy’s Stewardship team is continually impressed by how much work volunteers accomplish in just three hours. Motivated volunteers dramatically impact restoration sites in combination with well-planned restoration goals.

- 👉 On the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, a group of **103** volunteers installed over **1,300** native plants.
- 👉 On Earth Day, **201** volunteers weeded **2** entire acres, mulched another **1/2** acre, watered, removed irrigation line, repaired **2** trails and cleaned seeds for our native plant nursery.
- 👉 Small groups of employees from corporations, including **29** from Capital Group, were able to weed and mulch **1/3** of an acre and install **50** coastal sage scrub plants at White Point Nature Preserve and **52** NYX Cosmetic employees helped remove **200** pounds off bristly ox tongue on **1** acre in Alta Vicente
- 👉 **3** Room & Board employees removed invasive acacia shrubs and filled **1** full size moving truck to deliver the clippings to the L.A. Zoo for hungry gorillas, giraffes, elephants and other animals.

All these tasks were accomplished in a **3-hour** volunteer shift! You can make a difference, too. Come by yourself, bring your family and friends or encourage a group from work to join us for an upcoming outdoor volunteer day by signing up at [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

## Volunteer Profile: Cindy Akiyama

Over twenty years ago, I stumbled upon the McBride Trail and fell in love with Palos Verdes’ open space. Soon afterward, my then-three-year-old daughter and I began participating in the Conservancy’s nature walks. My daughter would always stand closest to the walk leaders, hanging onto their every word. Through these walks, I discovered the Peninsula’s hidden gems: its nature preserves and trails. And through the knowledgeable and engaging walk leaders, the Peninsula came alive. I found myself walking the trails and feeling so much more connected to everything I saw.

I thought to myself then: how could I continue receiving so much from the Conservancy’s work and not give back? I began as a Volunteer Trail Watch member and as a third-grade docent. That January I began to coordinate the monthly, guided Nature Walk Program. Volunteering with the Conservancy has been a joy, bolstered by excellent training, preparation and support from other volunteers for each of the roles I’ve undertaken. There is nothing more rewarding than imparting a love of nature to young people. I’ve been told I’m a “rock star” with the kids as they enthusiastically look forward to the hands-on instruction our curriculum provides. Our capstone event is always a highly anticipated nature walk in one of our local preserves, which never fails to delight and inspire both students as well as the parent volunteers. In the end, I feel I have given these young people a lifelong appreciation of nature. How awesome is that?



Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy  
PO Box 3427  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274  
T: (310) 541-7613 E: info@pvplc.org  
www.pvplc.org  
f www.facebook.com/pvplc.org

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MAILED FROM  
ZIP CODE 90503  
PERMIT NO. 102



*preserving land and restoring habitat for the education and enjoyment of all*

## special events

october to march

### Oct 6 wildlife tracking workshop

**Various Locations 8:30 am - 11:30 am** Dedicated volunteers are needed to monitor wild foxes and coyotes in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Please join us for a four-part training (Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27). No experience required and all training provided. 16 years and up. Sign up at [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### Oct 13 nature walk

**Alta Vicente Reserve 9 am** Explore 22-acre restoration site with cactus wren and gnatcatcher habitat with beautiful views of Catalina Island. Moderate to strenuous.

### Oct 14 Palos Verdes Pastoral

**Terranea Resort 5 pm** A garden-to-table dining event featuring a unique menu of the best of California handcrafted, organic and local foods and wines.

### Oct 27 full moon hike

**George F Canyon Nature Center 7 pm** Advance reservations are required to join one of these guided night walks, limited to 20 people, ages 9 and up. \$12 per person. Go to: [pvplc.org\\_events/GFCActivity](http://pvplc.org_events/GFCActivity)

### Oct 27 yoga by the sea

**White Point Nature Education Center 11 am** Join wellness coach and fitness instructor Joy Vinson-Roy for a morning of yoga in the Tongva native plants garden. Dress for the weather.

### Nov 10 nature walk

**Lower Portuguese Bend Reserve 9 am** Follow Sandbox Trail ascending through grasses and low shrubs for nice views of the Pacific Ocean. Easy.

### Nov 18 the beauty of nature film series – “Take Every Wave: The Life of Laird Hamilton”

**John Olguin Auditorium 4 pm** Join us for a screening of surfer Laird Hamilton's biographical story, an uncompromising look at a lifetime devoted to riding giant surf—and the price an athlete pays for greatness. Tickets \$10 at [pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org). Youth Free. (118 min)

### Dec 8 nature walk

**George F Canyon 9 am** Wander along a willow filled canyon stream with coastal sage scrub restored habitat. Look down on the Peninsula's rare Catalina Schist from one of the few places you can see the rock exposed. Easy to moderate.

### Jan 12 nature walk

**Agua Amarga Reserve 9 am** Walk the trail, enjoy the view, and appreciate the results of many volunteers' trail and habitat restoration efforts in this quiet neighborhood canyon in the Agua Amarga Reserve. Moderate.

### Jan 13 wild & scenic film festival

**Warner Grand Theatre 4 pm** An exciting selection of adventurous and inspirational films about nature. You'll be moved, transfixed and energized to make a difference in our world. Tickets \$15 at the door, \$10 at [pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org). Select events, Events & Activities.

### Jan 26 and Feb 2 volunteer trail watch training

**Ladera Linda Community Center 9 am - 1 pm** Like to hike, ride your bike or horse? Want to help protect habitat and wildlife? Become a Trail Watch Volunteer and make a difference by reporting trail conditions! To sign up visit: [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### Feb 9 trail crew training

**Conservancy Office 9 am - 12 noon** Join our indoor intro class to trail building and maintenance followed by hands-on field training taught by a nationally-recognized trail expert. No experience needed. Sign up at: [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### Feb 16 cactus wren monitoring program

**Alta Vicente Reserve 8:30 am - 11:30 am** Dedicated volunteers are needed to monitor the rare Cactus Wren in our preserves. This is an annual program to locate breeding territories and areas of habitat use. No experience required and all training provided. Sign up at: [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### Mar 2 george f canyon nature center docent training

**George F Canyon Nature Center 9 am - 12 noon** Would you like to share your love of nature with others? Here is your chance! The Conservancy is recruiting volunteers interested in sharing the unique geographic and historical features of the area with visitors. Sign up at: [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### Mar 16 white point nature education center docent training

**White Point Nature Education Center 9 am - 12 noon** Would you like to share your love of nature with others? Here is your chance. The Conservancy is recruiting volunteers interested in sharing the unique geographic and historical

For more information visit: [pvplc.org/\\_events/calendar.asp](http://pvplc.org/_events/calendar.asp)

Outdoor volunteer day sponsors

