



# OPEN SPACES

Volume 14, Number 4

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

Fourth Quarter, 2002

## Barbara Dye Appointed Executive Director

Former PVPLC Board member Barbara Dye has been named Executive Director of the Conservancy replacing Keith Lenard, who has accepted a position with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Dye comes with excellent credentials. She was a member of our Board of Directors for nine years and understands our organization and its goals well. She organized and chaired our Nature Walk Committee (in fact, she was our first Nature Walk Leader), led walks and taped them for TV. She organized and chaired "Picture Palos Verdes" Photo Contest in 1990, 1991, and worked with PVPUSD to create a local habitat-based education program for elementary schools. In 1993, Barbara received our highest award, our President's Award, for her outstanding volunteer support.

Professionally, Barbara was Environmental Project Manager at Ocean Trails, where she managed compliance with city, state, and federal environmental requirements, interfaced with the California Coastal Commission, City of RPV, federal and state agencies, and supervised habitat restoration and park, trail and bikeway construction for the 260-acre project.

Barbara also served as field representative for Congresswoman Jane Harman, as legislative coordinator for the 33<sup>rd</sup> District PTA, and was co-president of the PVP Council of PTAs. She was a docent at Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center and was president of the Friends of Pt. Vicente. She is also author of "A Driving Tour of the Palos Verdes Peninsula."

We are most pleased that Barbara is available, believe that she is well qualified to assume the executive



director's role. We look forward to great things during her tenure.

## Andrea Vona Appointed White Point Project Manager

Andrea Vona has joined the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy as Associate Director and new Project Manager for the White Point Nature Preserve effort. The \$1.8 million White Point project will restore native plants and create a place for visitors to see and enjoy our local wildlife in their coastal sage brush habitat.

Andrea is an environmental specialist who has been working for Jones and Stokes, an environmental consulting firm based in Irvine, California. Jones and Stokes specialize in all aspects of environmental restoration and compliance with state- and federally-mandated environmental protection requirements. She formerly worked for Habitat West,



Inc. and for Ocean Trails Golf Course as their Habitat Manager.

Andrea has a B.A. from UC Santa Barbara in Environmental Studies, and is working on a Master of Science degree in Environmental Studies at Cal State Fullerton. She completed the Marine Science Magnet Program at San Pedro High School, and she attended grade school at White Point Elementary School—within walking distance of her new responsibility.

"I'm excited to be using my knowledge and experience in my own community," said Andrea. "It's great to be working for such a valuable project as the White Point Nature Preserve."

## Preservation of Open Spaces--

### A Statement of Purpose

*The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a nonprofit, non-political, public-benefit corporation formed to preserve undeveloped land in perpetuity as open space for historical, educational, ecological, recreational and scenic purposes.*

*A diverse group of volunteers from the South Bay makes up the PVPLC's managing Board of Directors and its adjunct advisory board. These private citizens have been drawn together by their belief that open space is crucial to the well-being of our community.*

*Land acquisition by the PVPLC is through purchase and gift. In addition to the good will engendered by gift giving, landowners and others who donate land or funds to the PVPLC may realize significant tax benefits.*

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## Open Spaces

A Newsletter Published by the  
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## Next Six Months Critical to Land Preservation Efforts

The Land Conservancy has made great progress on many fronts in 2002 and we face exciting times in 2003. The next six months will be critical in terms of our efforts to preserve the balance of the undeveloped land in Portuguese Bend.

Many South Bay residents received a mailer from us a few weeks ago asking for support for our work. Headlined "Got Space?," the mailer shows the magnificent Portuguese Bend area with its trails and rare habitat that the Conservancy is working to preserve. Local newspapers explained why this current fundraising effort is so important.

While the acquisition effort is going well, there are challenges ahead. Some people think the land is safe because of the landslide moratorium. Perhaps we can delay the approval process indefinitely, but is that a chance we want to take? The property owners are removing habitat and blocking off trails, and they have an enormous economic interest in getting development approved. And they are moving forward with their

development plans.

I ask our community: which would you rather do--spend the next 20 years fighting development, or spend the next 20 years opening trails to the public, restoring habitat, bringing children to the site for educational programs, and reaping the rewards of increased property values and improved quality of life the preservation of this site will bring?

The passage of Prop. 40 in March 2002 and Prop. 50 last month have created state resources for acquiring land. The funds are there in Sacramento right now. They will be spent somewhere in California for some other community's worthy project if we don't proceed aggressively.

Aggressive action requires funds.

As you consider your year-end gifts to charities, please place the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy high on your list. Help us give our community the best gift possible next year—the largest nature preserve in the South Bay.

**Barbara Dye, Executive Director**

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## Prepare Some Wall Space: Art Show Coming in May

The Conservancy's fine art exhibition and sale is planned for May 2003 at the Malaga Cove Library in Palos Verdes Estates. The show is rapidly becoming one of the finest exhibitions of *plein air* paintings in Southern California.

The show, the fourth since 1997, is titled "Open Spaces: The Peninsula and Beyond" and features *plein air* paintings (paintings done on location) by five local and two guest artists. Local artists are Rick Humphrey, Daniel Pinkham, Stephen Mirich, Amy Sidrane, and Kevin Prince are members of the Portuguese Bend Artists Colony. Guest artists are David Gallup

of Conejo Valley and Bernard Fallon of Torrance.

The exhibition will feature paintings done locally as well as paintings done in some other areas where preservation activities are under way. A portion of the funds from the sale of paintings will benefit the Conservancy.

"Open space is another art form that brings beauty to the local community," said show organizer and art-

ist Rick Humphrey. "Open spaces like those on the Peninsula are vital to landscape artists, and we strongly support the Conservancy's preservation work."

Details on the exhibition will be posted on our web site, [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org), and published in our next newsletter.



Artist Daniel Pinkham paints at Pt. Vicente.

## Sheridan, Perkins, Jurgens, Kuykendall Elected to Board

At its October 2002 meeting, the Conservancy's Board of Directors elected four new members: Deena Sheridan, Ellen Perkins, Steve Kuykendall and Henry Jurgens. Board members June Schwarzmann, Wendy Millet, and Jim Moore retired from the Board after serving 10, 3, and 4 years, respectively.

All of our new Board members have the talents, background and experience the Land Conservancy needs as we face the challenges of preserving the largest natural open space area in the South Bay.

**Deena Sheridan** is well known in Palos Verdes for her role in developing and implementing the Third Grade Naturalists Program seven years ago. That led her to becoming involved with the PTA. She served as president of the Silver Spur Elementary School PTA three years ago and is still on the Boards of two PTAs. Both her sons are within walking distance of their schools, allowing her to become more active with the PVPLC again. She began jogging at 41 and ran the marathon that same year, so we know she has lots of energy. Deena has a business degree from USC.

**Ellen Perkins** is presently President of the Board of Trustees for the PV Unified School District, where she is serving her third term. She is the longest serving member of the school board. She serves as a member of the Delegate Assembly of the California School Board Association. She is also deeply involved with the PTA, where she has served as president (Lunada Bay) and legislation chair (many schools). As her four children grow up she has become interested in land conservation and land use issues. You can sometimes find her working the cash register at the Ticktock Thrift Shop, operated by the mothers and daughters of the National Charity League, which raises funds for philanthropy and scholarships.

**Steve Kuykendall** joins the Board with a background that is rich, wide and varied. After college he joined the Marine Corp and served in Vietnam twice, leaving the



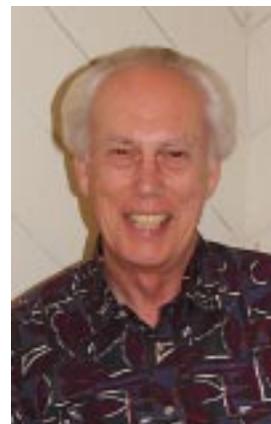
Steve Kuykendall



Ellen Perkins



Deena Sheridan



Henry Jurgens

Service as a Captain. He used his MBA from San Diego State in the banking and mortgage banking field for twenty-two years before entering politics as City Councilman for Rancho Palos Verdes from 1991 to 1994, where we saw his commitment to environmental preservation issues. He was our State Assemblyman and Republican Whip and was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1998. He left that post last year to become a lobbyist specializing in land use, armed services and transportation issues. His government relations and management consulting firm, Steven T. Kuykendall & Associates, represents clients with local, state and federal concerns.

**Henry Jurgens** has been a PVPLC member for over ten years. With forethought, his retirement from the banking industry has given him the opportunity to give back to his community.

He's on the PVPLC Board and he is in training to become a docent for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. He is very hands-on with PVPLC and spends two days a week working in the PVPLC office on Silver Spur. He was educated at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD and served in the Navy for ten years. His banking career was with Union Bank of California for 27 years and Sanwa Bank for 2.5 years. He specialized in international and commercial banking. He has two children and his wife is artist Laura Hines-Jurgens.

Our thanks to Wendy, June and Jim for their years of service on our Board. We look forward to the involvement of our four new members. Our thanks to all for their willingness to serve their community by their involvement with the Conservancy.

### Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

#### Board of Directors

Bill Ailor, President  
 Mike Kilroy, Vice President  
 Bruce Biesman-Simons, Secretary  
 Bob Bothamley, Treasurer  
 Shirley Borks  
 Don Crocker  
 Allen Franz  
 Henry Jurgens  
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 Leah Marinkovich  
 Ellen Perkins  
 Anke Raue  
 James Scharffenberger  
 Deena Sheridan  
 Bill Swank  
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Barbara Dye

#### Associate Director

Andrea Vona

#### Office Manager

Mary Ellen Richardson

#### Land Stewardship

Stephen Heyn, Director  
 Arthur Bonner

#### Development

Open

#### Student Representative

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 Alex Lovell Chadwick  
 Vijay Yanamadala PVP High  
 Lindsey Marinkovich PV High

#### Educator

John Nieto, Program Manager

#### George F Canyon Naturalist

Loretta Rose

## Winners of 2002 Photo Contest Announced

A total of 73 photographs were entered in this year's Picture Palos Verdes Photography Competition, and sixteen winners were announced at a reception held on November 1 at the Peninsula Library. The event, attended by over 100 individuals, featured prints of the photographs by DSK Photo in Golden Cove. Prize winners are listed below.

### Grand Prize

"Point Fermin Seascape" John R. Stinson

### Wildlife

[1] "Come Dance With Me" Christine Unutzer  
 [2] "Pelican Love" Pat Mack  
 [3] "Raccoons" Ann Booth

### Seascapes

[1] "Colors" Rolf Moeller  
 [2] "Serenity" Jewel "Judy" Scallon

### Landscapes

[1] "Trail Blaze" Jewel "Judy" Scallon  
 [2] "Malaga Cove Twilight" Jim Mack  
 [3] "Twilight Reflection" Martin J. Petersen

### Plants & Flowers

[1] "Point Fermin Roots" John R. Stinson  
 [2] "Look at Me" Christine Unutzer  
 [3] "Blossom Time" Pat Mack

### Digitally Enhanced

[1] "Shades of Blue" Marilyn Eden  
 [2] "Lighthouse" Ed Shea

### Portuguese Bend

[1] "Portuguese Bend Panorama" Robert Day  
 [2] "Oh, Lonesome Me" Thomas Greer



Grand Prize Photograph: "Pt. Fermin Seascape" by John R. Stinson

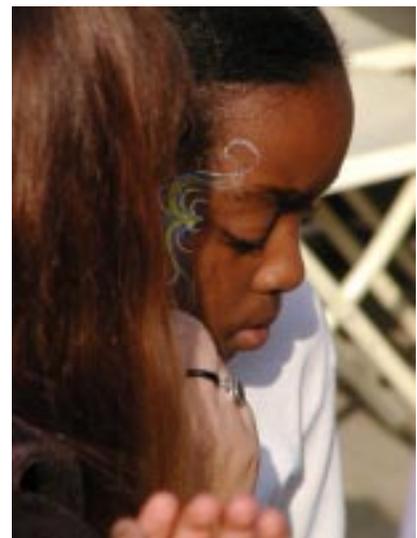
We want to thank the following for their contributions to the event: Catalina Island Conservancy, Catalina Express, The Original Red Onion, Medawar's Jewelers, Point Vicente Animal Hospital, Paul's Photo, Noah's Bagels, Trader Joe's (RPV), The Restaurants at Ocean Trails Golf Course, Starbucks in the Avenue of the Peninsula, Starbucks in the Peninsula Center, Ralph's Fresh Faire on Rolling Hills Way, Mayer's Bakery in the Peninsula Center, and Tony Baker's Natural Landscapes.

## White Point Breakfast Raises Funds for Restoration

Several hundred participants shared a pancake breakfast prepared by the San Pedro Lion's Club and volunteered in clean-up and restoration activities at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Make a Difference Day Pancake Recognition Breakfast on October 26. The event, sponsored by the San Pedro Girl Scouts, was held at the White Point Nature Preserve and featured a silent auction, face painting for kids, seed collection, and planting of native plants. The event raised over \$1,000, which will be used to fund various restoration activities at the Peninsula's newest nature preserve.



Girl Scouts prepare drinks for breakfast.



Breakfast participant holds still for face painting.

## Los Serenos de Point Vicente: Partnering in Education

By Bill Lama, Los Serenos Outreach Chairman

Los Serenos de Point Vicente is a service and social organization sponsored by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, and dedicated to many of the same educational and public service goals as the PVP Land Conservancy.

The Los Serenos Docents are colleagues, friends and strong supporters of the Land Conservancy. Many Docents are Conservancy members and several Docents serve in the education program with John Nieto, who was Los Serenos Docent of the Year in 2001.

Our current President is Joan Barry, and Diana McIntyre is the Docent Coordinator in charge of training. Holly Starr and Mona Dill from the RPV Recreation and Parks Department ably support the many Docent activities.

Los Serenos Docents, about 60 active members, are educated volunteers who provide hikes for the public at Ocean Trails (native habitat), Abalone Cove Shoreline Park (tidepools) and the Forrestal nature preserve (flora, fauna, geology and fossils). The Docents also conduct tours and classes at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center, a wonderful small regional museum. These activities focus on the natural and cultural history of the Peninsula and on the Pacific

gray whale. The Interpretive Center, now closed for renovation and a major expansion, is scheduled to reopen in 2004.

Thus far in 2002, the Los Serenos Docents have conducted hikes for more than 2300 children and 300 adults. We worked with the Land Conservancy in developing the new sixth grade geology program for the Palos Verdes Unified School District, and over 300 students participated in the program. Another joint project was the annual California Coastal Cleanup day at the Abalone Cove beaches and surrounding area. The Docents also enjoyed field trips and evening programs such as the Heritage Square Museum in LA, the Madrona Marsh Nature Center and the fascinating presentations on *Whaling Museums* by Diana McIntyre and Joe Cocke's *Fossil Shark Teeth of the World*.

In 2003 we are looking forward to



Pt. Vicente Docent Earle Casler talks about local geology on Conservancy Nature Walk.

the annual Whale of a Day celebration in March and we plan to expand the sixth grade geology program to include all the schools in Palos Verdes. In early 2004 the exciting new Interpretive Center will reopen. Our new Docent training class will begin this January and continue one class a week until May.

If you enjoy the natural environment of Palos Verdes and would like to share your knowledge and excitement with children and/or adults, perhaps you would be interested in joining this wonderful group of volunteers.

### Three Schools Join Education Program

Peninsula Heritage School in Rolling Hills Estates and Park Western Place Elementary and Leland Street Elementary Schools in San Pedro have joined our Third Grade Naturalist Program for 2003. With the addition of these schools, about 1200 children in 15 schools will participate in our Naturalist Program this year.

The Third Grade Naturalist Program consists of four 45-minute in class presentations by Conservancy docents using the Land Conservancy's *My Palos Verdes Peninsula Nature Notebook*, writ-

ten especially for the third grade level. The children study plants and animals native to our Peninsula, as well as local geology and history.

On the fifth week, Conservancy docents and trained parents take the children on a nature walk where they can observe first-hand the plants, animals and geology they

learned about in class.

Many of our docents find working with children to be very satisfying and have been involved in this program for years. If you are interested in volunteering, call the Land Conservancy office at 541-7613 or see our website, [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org).

### Got (a) Truck?

We have thousands of plants to move to White Point and our other restoration sites. We really need a pickup truck. Have one you could donate to this effort? Call our office at (310) 541-7613.

## Special Orientation for Volunteers Was a “Great Day”

By Stevie Stewart

People who had shown an interest in donating their time to help the Land Conservancy were treated to a wonderful day full of surprises on September 10, this year. Barb Ailor organized an afternoon’s learning session and field trip for those of us who wanted to become more involved. With the speakers and the field trip we got to see the Land Conservancy’s work in a close and personal way.

It began as an informal lunch in the Club House of the Sea View Villas but the best was yet to come. Barbara Dye spoke eloquently of the history and successes of the PVP Land Conservancy. She spoke passionately about the White Point program and the Portuguese Bend plans including what the PVPLC needs for success in both projects. She explained the neutral stance of the Conservancy and the ways in which battles over land can be resolved for the benefit of everyone involved.

John Nieto, Director of the Children’s Education Programs, introduced us to the Third-Grade program and the positive impact it has on our communities. This year he is adding three new schools to the program. He spoke of the Whale Program, the annual Beach Clean-up at Abalone Cove, and other projects designed to get children involved. He gave Barbara Dye credit for conceiving the Third Grade Program and gave Deena Sheridan credit for implementing the program eight years ago.

Lisa Lenard, the Director of Development, gave us an overview of membership, the financial picture of the

Conservancy, and the grants we are seeking. She also gave us some ideas about how we as volunteers can contribute our time and our talent as a grass roots effort to spread the mission and philosophy of the PVPLC to our friends and neighbors.

For our field trip we began at Del Cerro Park where Barbara Dye pointed out the acreage for the Portuguese Bend land we are working to obtain and we could see some of the other properties the Land Conservancy is managing.

Next we went to the native plant propagation garden the PVPLC maintains to supply conserved lands with native vegetation to support native animals and insects such as the Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly. Steve Heyn manages the nursery and discussed the coastal sage scrub plant community common to the Peninsula. At the nursery, large numbers of locally-collected seeds are stored, germinated and nurtured for plantings on conserved land such as White Point and the Linden H. Chandler Preserve.

Our tour took us to White Point where Land Conservancy involvement was critical to reaching an agreement to conserve the land as a nature preserve. The Conservancy is now removing invasive plants and replacing them with plants native to our region. The slopes of White Point will be replanted with native plants beginning next spring--another opportunity for volunteers. Some replanting has already been accomplished and those grounds look wonderful.

Our last stop was down the street at the Ocean Trails golf course, where Barbara Dye managed the restoration of native plants. We saw how Conservancy’s efforts to provide plants, where birds can forage and build nests, is encouraging rare birds to return.

We all felt privileged to learn about the work of the Conservancy from the leaders themselves. Barb Ailor created the best informed, most interesting, fun afternoon I’ve ever experienced as a volunteer.

### Ancient Creatures Tell of Times Past

By Joseph Slap

Our PVP Land Conservancy has preserved open space where fascinating fossils have been found. Now the Conservancy is working with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes to preserve a large portion, over 800 acres, of Portuguese Bend as open space. Here you might find ancient fossils, ones that teach us about the lives of ancient animals including their migration, their sizes, feeding and mating habits, and about land mass plate

tectonics.

Atop Forrestal Drive, in an area preserved by the PVP Land Conservancy, ancient shark teeth have been found, evidence that this Peninsula spent time under water. More evidence includes the large portion of a whale skeleton from the Miocene epoch that I found when working with a paleontologist of the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History.

Continued on page 7

### A Special Thanks for Special Help

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy extends a warm thanks:

- To Chris Strong and the accounting firm, Brigante, Cameron, Watters, and Strong, headquartered in Torrance, for the pro-bono accounting work they do for us each year.
- To those who share their time and talents with us by working in the office and at our events,
- To those who contribute gifts, supplies and food for our events.
- To our “weekend warriors” who volunteer at the White Point Preserve, the Fuel Depot, and the Forrestal Preserve.
- And especially to our donors, whose generosity make our work and programs possible.

Our best wishes for a great holiday season to all.

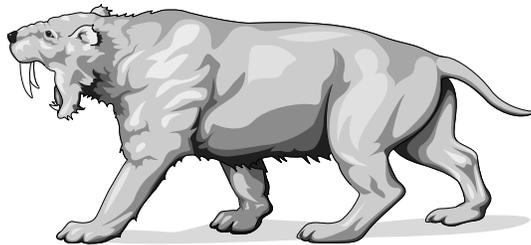
**Continued from page 6**

In fact, the Peninsula was up and down in the ocean several times, and waves eroded the stair-step shape characteristic of our hillsides. Shoreline tectonic plate movement caused the Peninsula to rise, as was the case with the rise of the Himalayan Mountains.

One of the finest local sources for fossils is the La Brea Tar Pits (la brea translates as “tar pits” so using them together is redundant). Among the fossils found there are those of sabertooths, a well known prehistoric feline animal from about 12 million years ago found in both Eurasia & North America. Its named for its two long upper canine teeth that protruded

out of its mouth, curved downward and, with its mouth closed, were long enough to be in front of its chin. Those felines had canines.

Sabertooths were predators and some may have occasionally acted as scaven-



gers. The early ones were about the size of a leopard and had two longer, thinner canines than those of its later ancestors who were similar to modern felines such

as cheetahs, tigers, leopards, jaguars, and lions.

Other sabertooths lived for several million years along with the felines with shorter canines, ancestors to many other modern felines, and became extinct about 10,000 years ago. More than 2,000 of the later sabertooths, the size of lions, were discovered in the la brea along with fossils of other carnivores such as the terrorizing wolf. Visit the Page Museum, adjacent to the la brea, to see these ancient creatures and read more of their history.

The PVP Land Conservancy's strong efforts to preserve land on the Peninsula preserves fossils, living creatures, living plants, a sense of uncrowded open space, and beautiful scenery. So let's all support the PVPLC financially and by volunteering our time!

## Haiku Corner: The Peninsula from Another Perspective

by Jorg Raue

The four Great Masters of Japanese haiku are: Matsuo Basho (1644-1694), Yosa Buson (1716-1794), Kobayashi Issa (1762-1826), and Masaoka Shiki (1867-1902). The first two were the subject of our previous two Haiku Corners; today, we'll take a closer look at Kobayashi Issa. Again we draw on William Higginson's "The Haiku Handbook."

In contrast to the ascetic Basho and the worldly and sophisticated Buson, Issa lived in the country until about the age of 15, when he was banished from his home and subsequently lived in Tokyo. He worked for many years in the desolation of Tokyo poverty to make a name for himself as a poet. This probably contributed to his rather pessimistic view of human nature and possibly to his focus on small, insignificant and unglamorous creatures such as grasshoppers, flies, bugs and sparrows. In any event, the majority of Japanese who like traditional haiku probably know and like Issa better than any other poet.

*Aki no yo ya* autumn night...  
*Tabi no otoko no* a traveling man's  
*Harishigoto* needlework

Higginson renders a wonderful interpretation of this haiku: "In the lamplight we see a figure bent over, a needle every now and then gleaming. We realize it is a man, alone, womanless. He has no mother, wife, or girl friend to darn his socks, sew up the split seam of a worn robe. Remember, we are dealing with a time almost 200 years ago, and a culture where men did not do these things. A womanless man was undoubtedly poor. Certainly Issa was poor."

Issa is not considered a sensualist, but like Buson he can be quite romantic:

*Onna kara* the woman  
*Saki e kasumu zo* leads into the  
mist –

*Shiohigata* low tide beach

"This is not a bathing beauty, but a fully clothed woman who, barefoot, leads the way to see what treasures the tide has left. The appearance of shells, both empty and full of life, on the beach after the tide goes out has its opposite in the woman, who disappears in the mist. The sea reveals

at least a small part of itself as the mist envelops one of those who come to see that revelation."

The Peninsula-connected haiku below are selected from haiku submitted to this corner. For this issue, I have selected several by Jess Morton, who has written many haiku about the intimate interaction of the sea with the Peninsula shoreline.

tall breakers, squall lashed  
race up the ashen-faced beach  
beating their bare breasts  
swirling at wave's rush  
among boulders of sunlight  
go eddies of birds  
evening flicks her tongue  
across this shore's-lip of sand  
to caress my ear

If you have composed one or more haiku about *any* natural aspect of our Peninsula, please feel free to submit them for possible publication in this corner. My E-mail address is: raue@cox.net, or mail to Haiku, PO Box 3427, PVP, CA 90274



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 Think of your quality of life. Think of your local community. Think of us.

**O**ur mailing label contains useful information about your donation status. On the top line after your name is the date when your last donation was received by the Conservancy. If the top line contains the word "List," according to our records, you have not yet contributed. Please make your 2002 commitment to preserving open space now--we need your help!

## Preservation Points: Quick Updates on Major Projects

**Portuguese Bend Regional Open Space Park** – We're developing a package of materials showing why the preservation of this 700 acres is so critical and are building a coalition supporting the effort. Decisions on allocating Proposition 40 money will be made in the next few months so the time to act is now. If you would like a speaker to update your group on our progress, call the PVPLC office.

**White Point Nature Preserve** – Major work should begin in January on this exciting project. Temporary fencing will be installed and the building at the southeast corner of the site should be removed. An irrigation system will be installed, followed by 40,000 plants. We need lots of volunteers to will help us with plantings. Starting in February, we'll be working every Saturday--come join us! If you have a large group that would like to help, call our office

**Chandler Preserve** – Blue butterfly habitat restoration work continues, and additional riparian mitigation work is underway in Dapplegray Canyon. We expect to re-establish the Neighborhood Advisory Committee in January--call the PVPLC office if you are interested.

**Lunada Canyon** – A grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is funding restoration work in the lower canyon.

**Forrestal** – The Conservancy-led Steering Committee is working on the Management Plan for the preserve. Current focus is the location and design of signs and trails.

**George F Canyon** – The Wildlife Conservation Board has just awarded a grant to revegetate the canyon area with native plants, so look for activity this spring. The Nature Center continues to welcome visitors and provide lots of exciting programs. Call 547-0862 for more information.

**Nursery and Fuel Depot** – Tens of thousands of plants are growing in our nursery, destined for revegetation projects at the Fuel Depot and other locations around the Peninsula.

**Nature Walks** – The 2003 Walk Flyer will be out before the end of the year. Watch for a new group of walks, including one we've never done before, that will take you to the "wild side" of the Peninsula.

**Events** – Our spectacular Plein Air Art Show is scheduled for May (*article on page 2*). We are looking for some art-loving volunteers to help us with this event, so call the PVPLC office if you'd like to help.

**Membership** – We've had a great response to our fall mailer and are closing in on our goal of 10% of Peninsula households as members. It's the support of our members that allows us to continue all of the programs listed above. We thank you very much!!!!