Come One, Come All... Kids, Teens and Adults: Announcing the Bolsa Chica Land Trust T-Shirt Design Contest!

You ♥ Bolsa Chica, right? Then it’s time to put your creativity to work so we can have new t-shirts to sell to the many members and visitors who frequently ask for them. We decided that instead of printing the old designs, we’d like some new ones, and that’s why we are coming to YOU (and your family, friends and neighbors).

Just think about this question: “What does Bolsa Chica mean to me?” Come up with a graphic representation of that and send it to us.

Here are the “Rules”:

• The design must fit on the front of a standard t-shirt and be submitted in “ready to print” form.

• There will be two categories for submission: 6-16 years old, and 16-100 years old. One design from each category will be selected.

• All designs must be submitted to the Land Trust Office by 5:00 PM on September 1, 2015. Include your name, address, phone number, email and age category on a separate piece of paper along with your graphic.

• A committee of BCLT board members will judge all of the entrants anonymously—that is, no names will be attached to the graphics during judging. The decision of the committee will be made by September 30, 2015.

• By entering into this contest, you will acknowledge that your image will be used by BCLT for reproduction on T-shirts which will be made available for sale, with all proceeds benefiting the work of the Bolsa Chica Land Trust. No funds or services will be exchanged.

Questions? Contact Laurel Telfer at Laurel@BCLandTrust.org.

THANKS! We can’t wait to see what you create!
I ♥ OC a Success. We’re #1!

The Land Trust participated in the Orange County Community Foundation’s I Heart OC Giving Day this past April 21st and we went beyond our goal of raising $10,000. Our final check from OCCF totaled $20,428.45!

Thank you to everyone who gave on-line during the event. We ended up being the #1 Environmental organization in both amount raised and number of donors of the 25 environmental groups who participated. Overall the event raised $1,813,460 for Orange County non-profits.

Online giving is an easy, safe, and popular way for people to support charities.

Thanks to the success of the 2015 event OCCF is already preparing to do it again in April 2016.

Thank you to all who support the Land Trust, those dollars are critical to our ability to further and deepen our mission. We heart YOU!

Land Trust Receives NCL Grant

The mothers and daughters of the National Charity League have joined in many of our Stewards restoration work days over the years, and for the second year in a row granted the Land Trust a NCL Philanthropy Grant.

We are grateful for the support from such a wonderful organization which makes a lasting positive impact in so many ways throughout our community.

Following the Bolsa Chica Land Trust…

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Google + for the latest updates on the Land Trust issues, activities, and events! You will also find environmental news, local events, and fun tidbits of information all about Bolsa Chica and beyond!

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/bolsachicalandtrust
Twitter: @BolsaChica_LT or www.twitter.com/BolsaChica_LT
Google +: http://bit.ly/1moJ17N

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE:
www.bolsachicalandtrust.org
Follow us and our stories on our blog at our website.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A Special Thanks

By Kim Kolpin

The dedication and commitment of our members never ceases to amaze! Your donations come to us in all shapes and sizes and truly support our ability to maintain our office and staff, run our programs and projects, and continue to fight to save our last threatened open space at Bolsa Chica. No gift is too small, and the generosity of our membership is profound.

Last year, one of our dedicated members, Catherine Hazlett, passed away. Catherine started her membership with the Land Trust in 2000 with a $10 donation and gave almost every year since. Upon her passing we were notified that Catherine had left a small percentage of her estate to us in her will. We recently received a substantial gift from her estate which will support the Land Trust and Bolsa Chica in many ways. We are deeply touched that Catherine dedicated this gift to us as part of her legacy and will do our best to use it in lasting ways.

Another unexpected gift came our way this spring from the Women’s Club of Huntington Beach. Formed in 1908 for philanthropic purposes, the Woman’s Club has a fascinating history and holds a prominent place in the history of Huntington Beach. The women of the Club helped to mold our community, assisted those in need, and shaped our way of life in ways we may take for granted today. Among many other achievements, their efforts led to the creation of Huntington Beach’s first public library and first playgrounds.

Today, we are the recipients of a very generous gift from the Women’s Club to go towards the acquisition and restoration of the last remaining threatened open space at Bolsa Chica - the Sacred Cogged Stone site (the Ridge and Goodell properties). We are honored to receive this gift and will use it to further the amazing legacy of the Women’s Club of Huntington Beach. Thank you to the members of the Women’s Club for your work, your continued vision and passion, and for including the Bolsa Chica Land Trust in your efforts.

If you are interested in including Bolsa Chica in your planned giving, please visit our website www.BolsaChicaLandTrust.org or call Kim Kolpin at (714) 846-1001.
IN MEMORIAM

Louis Robles, Sr.

This spring Native American Elder, Lois Robles, Sr., left us to walk with the Ancestors. Louis, his wife Lillian and children Rebecca, Rhonda, Uma and Louis Jr. are at the heart of the efforts to protect Bolsa Chica.

The Robles family has led the Native American Ancestral Walk at Bolsa Chica each October for 13 years and they have led the efforts to protect the Native American landscape and cultural significance of Bolsa Chica for decades. They have attended countless meetings and hearings to be the voice of the Native American people of Bolsa Chica. Last summer, at age 96, Louis attended the Coastal Commission hearing for the Ridge with his children and members of his community.

A quiet and sweet man, Louis cared. He cared and served in World War II with the 670th Artillery Battalion during the Battle of the Bulge. He cared deeply for his family and built his home and garden in Long Beach in 1949 and stayed there till his last day. He cared for more than 300 foster children. And he cared for his Native American Community, Bolsa Chica, and community at large through his career with the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation & Parks.

Louis’ gentle spirit, his smile, and his warm hugs will be dearly missed.

Vince Thomas

In June of this year, the Bolsa Chica lost a great friend. Dr. Vincent Thomas passed away peacefully after losing a courageous battle against malignant melanoma. Vince practiced general dentistry in Huntington Beach for over 40 years. He was greatly admired by his colleagues and loved by his many patients.

Among his many talents was a love of the outdoors which he preserved with his beautiful photography. He could be seen on many weekends photographing the abundant wild life at Bolsa Chica. Over the years, he had many of his photographs published in the Bolsa Chica Land Trust’s Wings over Bolsa calendar. Whenever there was a need for photos to help the Land Trust, he was one of the first to donate his images.

Vince, you will be greatly missed and your efforts to help save the Bolsa Chica will live on forever through your beautiful photographs.

Vince’s photos are featured throughout this edition of Music from the Mesa.
Bolsa Chica Land Trust • SUMMER 2015

BOLSA CHICA STEWARDS

Summertime on the Mesa

by Erin Chin, Restoration Coordinator

The summer months are the perfect time to do some focused weeding of specific non-native plants that are trying to take over the Mesa. This summer the invasive plants we are tackling are the ice plant species and to a lesser degree Russian thistle (Salsola tragus). These plants thrive with little water and spread very quickly. We have to take the plants off site because of the regenerative nature of the ice plants and all their seeds. To date we have pulled out more than 150 bags of the plants.

We have also focused on maintaining the Green Rectangle. We have picked most invasive species like wild radish (Raphanus sativus), all ice plant species, tocalote (Centaurea melitensis), Russian thistle, and anything else that isn’t supposed to be there. While weeding we kept finding small poppies blooming, native grass that had sprouted from seeds, our planted native grass hiding among the weeds, and the tar plants blooming. It’s such a good feeling knowing that the natives are surviving well considering this drought and the little extra water we are able to give them.

I’m super grateful to the dedicated Stewards who show up in the sun, the heat, and the dust to weed out prickly invasive plants and water the thirsty grasses. Most folks are off on vacation exploring new places or avoid the hot weather by staying indoors, but not the Stewards. They know it takes consistent hard work to restore the Mesa to a native habitat and they show up time after time to do just that. The work days in summer are usually pretty quiet (minus the exciting times of finding a snake or other critter) and a great chance to catch up with friends.

Thank you Stewards, you know who you are!

Save the Date!!!

Brian Fagan will be returning to the Huntington Beach Central Library on September 29th at 7 p.m. (Room C/D downstairs).

We are thrilled to be able to bring Dr. Fagan back to speak to our members and the public about the wonders and mysteries of the ancient world and Bolsa Chica’s place in human history.

Please join us for this free town hall meeting. It is sure to be enlightening. Also that evening, the 2016 Wings Over Bolsa calendar will be available for sale for the first time! Light refreshments will be served.
Ooooops!

For those who have enjoyed our live-streaming ecocam the past two years, we apologize – technical issues beyond our control meant that our camera did not go live this season. The same equipment which brought you right into the nesting sites last year refused to cooperate this year. We are working on the situation and hope to get the equipment and transmission back up and running soon.

Nesting Season 2015

This was a very successful nesting season at Bolsa Chica. As of this writing, here is the latest data from Reserve Manager Kelly O’Reilly:

To date, 86 plover nests have been initiated; that’s 4 more than last year’s record high. The number of chicks hatched to date is 171; 50 of those chicks have survived to fledge thus far.

As for California least tern, no active nests remain. The colonies on South Tern Island, Nest Site 2 and Nest Site 3 were abandoned due to pressure from predators (ravens). On July 7, a survey was conducted of least tern fledglings focusing on the areas where they were most concentrated (STI and the muted tidal basins). 53 fledglings were recorded. It is possible that the number of fledglings were a bit higher the previous week around the 4th of July holiday. That week, least tern fledglings were seen on local beaches.

The season total for California least tern nests is 204. That number is lower than the 2005-2015 decade average of 266 nests and much lower than the 301 nests we had in 2014. Volunteers surveyed North Tern Island and reported the expansion of elegant tern nesting colonies and an asynchrony of hatching/chick age among elegant tern and black skimmer (this is unusual). The volunteers also removed fishing line they found entangled on two adult elegant terns and an adult Caspian tern. One live elegant tern was also found entangled in monofilament line with a hook deep in its throat. The line was cut off the tern and it flew off strongly. In addition, 4 banded Caspian terns were identified—all four of them had been born and banded at Bolsa Chica. They ranged in age from 14 to 21 years.

With regard to the fishing line, these terns would have gotten hooked while foraging out at sea. Globally, fishing gear kills an unknown millions of seabirds each year. Usually this happens as the seabirds follow a fishing boat. I think this is important to point out because it’s not the fishers here at Bolsa that are hooking birds—there’s simply no evidence for that. These birds are getting hooked off shore—and in the case of gulls and pelicans—maybe off municipal piers.

Other species of note which nested and had fledglings at Bolsa this year were black-neck stilts and Ridgway’s rails.

A HUGE thank you to Kelly O’Reilly, Gary Keller, Peter Knapp, Carla Navarro-Woods and all those with the California Fish and Wildlife who help to keep Bolsa Chica a healthy habitat for our wildlife.
The Miracles of 2015

School is out and our Miracles docent team is taking a well-earned summer vacation! This spring our Miracles of the Marsh 3rd grade educational program was, as always, a great success. 26 schools from 12 different cities participated in the program this year. 2,404 students each received a full color workbook and went on a total of 49 tours of the Reserve. Our 22 docents clocked in 782 volunteer hours to make it all happen. Then we celebrated in June with a fabulous docent luncheon at the Sea Cliff Country Club! A big thanks to each docent, Docent Coordinator Ron Krasnitz, School Coordinator Bev Nogy, and Tour Timer Richard Valdes.

Want to join in the fun? We always need more docents – and we will give you all the training and support you need to become a fabulous docent. Training begins in October – email Ron Krasnitz at Ron@bclandtrust.org for more information. Become a part of a great group of friends and help share with the next generation all that is wonderful about Bolsa Chica.

Endowment for the Future

The Land Trust’s Endowment will provide a secure financial future so that we may always be here to care for Bolsa Chica and to share its wonders with the world. We thank the following individuals for their recent contributions to the Endowment:

Cynthia Coates     John Iacono
Frank Costa      Arlene Kato
Mildred Esten      R. Kent Krogue
Michael Gottlieb & Wendy Gordon   Lucille Martin
Lillian M. Gulden     Anna Bell Parsons Radcliffe
Jesus Gutierrez & Joann Cross   Leigh & Larry Severson
Peter Haaker      Jerry Sullivan
James & Nancy Harris    Alan Louis White

To contribute to the Endowment please send your gift in the enclosed envelope, or give securely on our website, www.BolsaChicaLandTrust.org. For more information, please contact our Executive Director, Kim Kolpin at Kim@bclandtrust.org or at (714) 846-1001.
N I want to join the Bolsa Chica Land Trust and help preserve the whole Bolsa Chica Ecosystem.

This is a renewal membership.

Annual dues are tax deductible
Members: Renewal date shown on your mailing label

$50.00 + Honor Roll $15.00 Individual

$20.00 Family $10.00 Senior/Student

Name

Address

City State Zip

Telephone

E-Mail

Mail Your Completed Membership Application to:
Bolsa Chica Land Trust
5200 Warner Avenue, #108, Huntington Beach, CA 92649