I ❤️ OC Giving Day is back!
April 27th & 28th

Join us on April 27th and 28th to show your love for Bolsa Chica. The Orange County Community Foundation is once again hosting I❤️OC Giving Day on their secure iheartoc.org website. It's another 30 hours to give where your heart lives starting at 6 a.m. on April 27th through noon April 28th. OCCF will also be providing bonuses and prizes that non-profits can win to sweeten the deal!

By choosing to donate to the Bolsa Chica Land Trust during this online fundraiser, you not only support the Land Trust’s mission of acquisition, preservation, restoration, and education at Bolsa Chica, but you also show all of Orange County how much Bolsa Chica is loved. 2015 was a great year for us (#1 environmental non-profit, thank you!) and this year we want to do even better with a goal of raising $20,000. Let’s make it happen!

Donating is easy, safe and secure, and a donation from each individual helps us earn prizes! Starting at 6am on April 27th and running through noon April 28th, go to the iheartoc.org site and donate on the Bolsa Chica Land Trust's unique page. Uncomfortable with computers? No worries. Call us at the Land Trust office (714) 846-1001 and we will walk you through it. Or come by the office between 10am and 4pm and we will help you in person (and you can use one of our computers). The office is located at 5200 Warner Ave. Suite 108, Huntington Beach.

Want to help in other ways? Spread the word! Tell your friends and family about I❤️C Giving Day. Use the hashtag #iheartoc and #iheartbolsachica, and tag Bolsa Chica Land Trust on social media.

Questions? Please call us at (714) 846-1001 or email us at info@bclandtrust.org.
WE ARE LIVE AND ONLINE!!

Eco Cam 2016 is streaming live on our website! This winter our Vice President and tech guru, Dan Kalmick was busy rebuilding our eco cam infrastructure. Now, with some new bits and pieces, our camera is once again giving the world a state-of-the-art view into Bolsa Chica. Positioned over Inner Bolsa Bay, the system is actually two cameras, wireless and solar powered, and will bring you real-time video and audio.

We are thrilled to be able to bring the camera back so that the world can watch the beauty of Bolsa Chica from computers, tablets and smart phones.

Log onto our website at www.BolsaChicaLandTrust.org and click on the link to see all the exciting goings on in Inner Bolsa Bay. The camera will live stream during daylight hours from now till the end of nesting season (mid-July).

A HUGE THANK YOU to Dan for getting the system back up and running, to Jayson Ruth for tech support, to Mike McMahan and Mark Bixby for braving the elements during the installation, and to Kelly O’Reilly from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for allowing us to continue with this special project.

SPECIAL THANKS go out to our friends at Surfline for rebroadcasting the feed and helping us to bring Bolsa Chica to the world.

New Bolsa Chica App Introduced

One part of BCLT’s mission is to educate the public about the importance of the biology and history of Bolsa Chica. Not only because we are always excited about the wonderful things to learn and see there, but because the more people understand Bolsa Chica, the more likely they will support protecting it and places like it.

This spring we are excited to announce a new tool to help us outreach and educate the public. The new BOLSACHICA PRO App is a free App you can download onto your iPhone!! A virtual tour guide and Bolsa Chica encyclopedia of sorts – the App will accompany you as you visit the Reserve and help you identify the flora and fauna and learn about the current state of the Reserve and its amazing history.

Created in partnership with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Amigos de Bolsa Chica, the Bolsa Chica Conservancy and California Resources Corporation (CRC, the oil company operating on Bolsa Chica) and funded entirely by CRC, the App project took more than a year to build and $80,000 to implement. We are thankful for the support and partnership CRC has given to this project and their commitment to be active in the protection and conservation efforts at Bolsa Chica.

To access the App on your iPhone – go to the app store and search Bolsa Chica.
Thank You, Connie

By Flossie Horgan

Connie Boardman, a long time moving force within the Land Trust, is retiring from the Board. For the past 23 years she has been at the forefront of most of the major accomplishments of the Trust.

How Connie was introduced to the Trust is a story worth telling. It was June 1993, and the Trust was celebrating its first birthday party. We held the celebration at City Hall. As a brand new community organization with a bold vision to save ALL OF BOLSA CHICA from development, we faced a daunting challenge.

We had no money and few members. So at our first Birthday party we offered folks many different ways to volunteer and get involved with our working committees. One could work on the County Environmental Impact Report (EIR) document that needed to be reviewed. Or one could volunteer to sit at the BCLT table every first Sunday of the month to help educate the public about what was proposed to be built at Bolsa Chica. One could join the team that stood on the corner of PCH and Warner on Thursday mornings from 7am -8am holding BCLT Burma Shave signs. There was help needed to get the Music of the Mesa newsletter written and put in the mail. There was help needed meeting with City and County officials. We needed a team to travel up to Sacramento to identify acquisition funding and meet with State Department of Fish and Game staff. We needed to hold numerous house parties to help spread the word. We needed to drop fliers at resident's homes to invite folks to our neighborhood meetings.

So you get the idea. There were lots of opportunities to get involved.

Connie did not attend the birthday party BUT her husband, Dick LeGrue, did. And that is where the fun began. Dick signed Connie’s name to every sign-up sheet for every committee.

Connie attended the meetings and not long after she was taking a lead in many Land Trust committees. Connie became Chair of the EIR committee, joined the Board of Directors, and eventually became President of the Land Trust. When she ran for City Council and won in 2000, she had to resign from the Board. After her time on the Council was complete, she returned to the Board for a second time.

It is a truism that if you have Connie Boardman on your team you will achieve your goals as Connie is a force to be reckoned with. She will be missed by all of us on the Board of the Land Trust. The good news is she is still a life time Land Trust member... and there are plenty of committee sign-up sheets waiting for her.

Good luck Connie, in your new position as Chair of the Math and Science Division at Cerritos College.
IN MEMORIAM

Marge Allen

By Roger Bloom

A guiding light of the Bolsa Chica Land Trust is now shining in heaven, as Marge Allen died in December from the effects of a major stroke. She was 88.

Marge was raised in Missouri, came west, got married and raised a family in the San Fernando Valley. She had a wonderful singing voice and did some professional work in early television, meeting many of the stars of that time including Dennis Day and Jack Benny.

She later went to work for a bank, quickly rising from teller to management. One of her favorite stories was the time she closed her window and directed a gentleman to the next teller. He nodded and went over to the next window - and proceeded to rob the bank!

Following her divorce from her first husband, Marge went back to school and earned a master's degree in psychology. She met and married her second husband, Ben Allen, and moved to Huntington Beach. She became involved in the Land Trust soon after its founding and – as with motherhood, psychology, her cooking or her legendary gardening – she devoted herself passionately to Bolsa Chica.

"Marge was always there to help, whether in the office or on site," said Executive Director Kim Kolpin. "She was a wonderful spirit – willing to give of herself in any way possible."

She was soon doing the Land Trust newsletter, as well as working on the Mesa. She opened her home – built in 1910 and restored by her and Ben - for fundraisers. Later, she became a docent with the Miracles of the Marsh tours for young students.

"The children loved her stories," said Marinka Horack, longtime docent and friend. "Without Marge, I might not be doing all this. The first time I ever got involved was at one of Marge's newsletter mailing parties."

Marge also inspired her family to get involved. Her daughter Vicki and son-in-law Roger Bloom are longtime volunteers on the Mesa and Roger is on the Land Trust board. Granddaughters Vanessa and Olivia Bloom are among the co-founders of the Junior Stewards.

"She was a nonconformist and a rabble-rouser," said Marinka, "and very funny. I always enjoyed Marge so much. I thought she was very courageous and not afraid to stand up for what she believed in."

Marinka captured the feelings of everyone who knew Marge, in and out of the Land Trust. "She was a tremendously inspirational woman. I loved Marge. She was wonderful."
When I think about Nancy Donaven, there are two words that come to mind: gentle giant.

I met Nancy in 1992 when we were starting the Bolsa Chica Land Trust. Back then we were a small group of people that came together to discuss a new development proposal to build 4884 houses at Bolsa Chica. We had no money, no members and the community was told it was a done deal.

So the call went out. Volunteers NEEDED. And Nancy volunteered but she volunteered more than her time.

Tom and Nancy’s home became our primary site for most of the Land Trust’s early activities. We ran our reconnaissance from the roof of her home where we could spy over the fence to witness what the developer was up to. We gathered in front of her home to march out onto the Mesa one night in 1995 with over 100 folks with flash lights. We stored boxes and boxes of Land Trust calendars in her garage. We held Land Trust Board meetings at her home, and meetings and meetings and more meetings. We gathered on the Mesa every New Year’s day at sunrise to toast the New Year and then most times would all go back to Nancy’s for breakfast and celebration.

From 1993-1995 every Thursday morning from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. at the corner of PCH and Warner Avenue, Nancy was there with other Land Trusters holding our infamous Burma Shave signs and letting folks in their cars know about the development plans for the Bolsa Chica. She loved to garden and spent countless hours with the Bolsa Chica Land Trust Stewards restoring the Bolsa Chica Mesa.

As President of the Trust from 1996-1998, and then again as Treasurer, she kept the Trust focused on our positive vision of preserving all of the Bolsa Chica.

One story I want to share:

In 1998, the Land Trust was in the thick of our campaign to save the Mesa and wetlands. Mysteriously, we received in the mail an internal memo from the Developer’s Vice President to her boss. In it she claimed to have secured assurances from members of the Coastal Commission for the development of thousands of houses at Bolsa Chica. The memo was a request for a bonus for her good work. There was just one problem. All of this was done secretly, outside of a Coastal Commission public hearing, which is a violation of the Coastal Act.

So the Trust had to decide whether to take this to the Commission meeting or not. After much discussion we decided that we would go to the Commission and testify and give them the memo. And who did we select to make that all-important presentation? Nancy.

Nancy was not only a strong advocate for the Trust’s vision, but she added a much needed calming presence to our organization during our twenty-four year journey. Her gentle manner and kindness always radiated. We always looked to her for guidance. And she loved to laugh.

She cannot be replaced and she will always be loved and remembered.
Banning Ranch Needs Your Help

Banning Ranch, just south of Huntington Beach on Pacific Coast Highway, is more than 400 acres of diverse wildlife habitat and a Native American cultural site. And it is threatened with development.

The Land Trust supports the Banning Ranch Conservancy’s efforts to save ALL of Banning Ranch. Native wildlife habitat, sensitive species, unique and now rare diversity, archaeological sites. Banning, just like Bolsa, has it all. And it should all be protected.

Please go to www.BanningRanchConservancy.org for more information and then write the Coastal Commission, South Coast District at 200 Oceangate, 10th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802-4325 Attn: Teresa Henry.

Banning Ranch is due to go before the Commission at their May hearing. Please, give just a few minutes to show support, let your voice be heard and help save another wonderful wildlife habitat area from the bulldozers.

Caption Contest Winner

In last November’s newsletter, BCLT announced a photo caption contest. Thank you to all who sent us a caption for the contest! The winning caption is from Sylvia Marson.

And honorable mentions go to all those who sent in such witty captions:

“Get outta here, Shorty. This is where the big kids play.” By Cynthia Allen

“There’s Gladys, don’t make eye contact.” By Katy Parker

“Mirror, mirror on the water, who is the fairest of them all?” By Milan Salaya

“Dear, should we tell him he’s adopted?” By Margy Arthur

“They say redheads never turn gray. Their color just fades...” By Sylvia Marson

“She says the fish taste better here at Bolsa Chica than in Newport Bay.” By Sylvia Marson

“Have you looked in the mirror lately?” By June Hood

“Hey Walter, that’s a unique way of catching a fish: You sneak-up-on-it!! Get it - HA! HA! HA!” By David Stroud

“Let’s get her autograph – She’s a centerfold in the Land Trust calendar this year!”
Thank You for Securing BCLT’s Future!

The Bolsa Chica Land Trust’s Endowment for the Future continues to grow into a strong funding foundation for our future projects and programs.

We thank these donors who have recently given generously to the Endowment:

Jerry & Patricia Chapman
Kay Collins
Barbara Fairfax
Judith Fritts
Dr. Philip Glaser
Kathryn Gregory
Walter Guzman
Chi Yu Hu
Dehra Iverson
Athanasios Koubouras
R Kent Krogue
Lois Miller

Warren Morton
Donna Negrete
Martin O’Brien
Allan and Mary Ottens
William (Russ) Paxson
Katrina Pelto
Anna-Marie Schweizer
Barbara Smith
Patricia Steelman
Judy Todd
Virginia Torney
Visual Arts By GBS

Thanks to our Corporate Supporters!

Last November we were thrilled to win Simmzy’s nonprofit contest to become their charity of choice in Huntington Beach!! We were awarded a check for $3,507.25 which came out of the new Pacific City Simmzy’s bar receipts from their opening launch parties. But Simmzy’s support and friendship didn’t stop there. Now the proceeds from their corkage fees will also come to the Land Trust. So, if you are looking for a wonderful restaurant with an amazing menu and view to match – please bring your favorite bottle of wine and your friends to Simmzy’s at Pacific City. Thank you Simmzy’s!!

Amazon Smile is making us smile too!! Thank you to all of you who make your online purchases at Amazon Smile and designate BCLT as your charity!!! The donations from Amazon smile keep coming in, and every little bit helps. Thank you!!
Bolsa Chica Land Trust

5200 Warner Avenue, #108, Huntington Beach, CA 92649

Website: www.bolsachicalandtrust.org
Email: info@bclandtrust.org

― Robinson Jeffers

"It is only a little planet, but how beautiful it is."

Scheduled Land Trust Events

BCLT Board Meetings
2nd Thursday of each month, 7PM
Call 714-846-1001 for location

BCLT Wetlands Table & Wetlands-Mesa Tour
3rd Sunday of each month, 9AM-3PM
Free Guided Tour 10AM-12noon
Meet at Wetlands PCH Parking Lot

Bolsa Chica Stewards
1st Sunday and 3rd Saturday of each month
9AM-12noon. Meet in parking lot at PCH & Warner
Habitat restoration, trail maintenance, etc.

Bolsa Chica Land Trust Directory

Executive Director .......... Kim Kolpin
Docent Coordinator ......... Ron Krasnitz
School Coordinator ........ Bev Nogy
BC Stewards .................. Erin Chin
Jr. Stewards .................. Daniel Hasheminejad
BCLT Office Phone: ........ (714) 846-1001
BCLT Email: .................. info@BCLandTrust.org
Office Hours: ................. 9:30AM to 3:30PM, Monday-Friday
www.BolsaChicaLandTrust.org

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