

**ANDERSON  
VALLEY  
LAND  
TRUST  
INCORPORATED**



P.O. BOX 141  
BOONVILLE, CA 95415

TELEPHONE:  
707 / 895 / 3150

www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org  
avlt@mcn.org

**DIRECTORS:**

KAREN ALTARAS  
KATHY BAILEY  
BARBARA GOODELL  
DAVID HOPMANN  
PATRICIA JEFFERY  
GLYNNIS JONES  
PATRICK MILLER  
STEVE SNYDER  
DEAN TITUS

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

CONNIE BEST  
WILLIAM CHAMBERS  
MICKI COLFAX  
THOM ELKJER  
DANIEL IMHOFF  
JED POGGAN  
JOHN SCHARFFENBERGER  
LAURIE WAYBURN  
CLARE WHEELER  
PETER WILEY

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND  
RESTORATION OF OUR UNIQUE RURAL  
LANDSCAPE WITH ITS ABUNDANT  
NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE  
BENEFIT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

# GOOD DIRT

The Newsletter of the Anderson Valley Land Trust, Incorporated  
Fall 2012

## First AVLT Fundraiser: A Great Success By Patricia Jeffery

The temperature topped 101 degrees, but the hot weather didn't deter us at all from enjoying the afternoon and evening of hiking, socializing, dining and dancing. The first annual AVLT fundraiser, a Barbecue & Barn Dance held at Yellow Dog Ranch on August 14, 2012, was a great success, raising \$14,500 to help us continue our work preserving the rural and natural landscapes of Anderson Valley.



Guests after a hike on the Yellow Dog Ranch

Yellow Dog Ranch, is a 160-acre property owned by Janet and Steve Snyder and protected with an AVLT conservation easement. This beautiful property, which includes extensive forestland, has been in Steve Snyder's family for 119 years. Steve is president of AVLT and with his wife Janet graciously threw out the welcome mat and made the ranch available for the event.



Guests gathering for the live auction

Our wine bar offered excellent wines all of which were generously donated by Anderson Valley and Mendocino County wineries. The barbecue dinner was delicious. Our chefs, Lisa Harrington and Lisa Mikulsky, prepared an outstanding menu that incorporated many locally grown ingredients.



One of the auction tables

Thanks to our many auction item donors, our silent and live auctions were a complete success. *(continued on page 6)*

## President's Message:

As another beautiful fall season arrives here in Anderson Valley, my thoughts turn to preparing for the winter ahead. As I chopped firewood the other day, a task I seem to save for later each year, I thought back to the summer that just passed by. A definite highlight for me was the Anderson Valley Land Trust Barbecue and Barn Dance in August. There were 100 of us, roasting in 100+ temperatures, dining, and auctioning and dancing in support of the Land Trust. It was a profound success and a great show of support for the work we do trying to save local properties for future generations.

We're planning for the dinner and auction to be a yearly event, but we're not just about fundraising. We're also about enjoying what we sometimes take for granted here in our valley and getting educated about ways to manage our land. Being a landowner here isn't just about being prepared for the coming season. There's always something new to learn when we see how others manage their property.

AVLT tries to schedule several events a year, be it a wildflower walk or a hike on land protected by an easement, that give you the opportunity to be enlightened or just plain entertained. We hope you'll join us for one of our 2013 events. And feel free to share an idea of what you'd like to experience. We're all in this together.  
- Steve Snyder

---

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Sustainable D" By Patrick Miller

Our Discoveries events continue to be exciting and popular.

Organic, biodiversity, biodynamic...what does it all mean? On a beautiful Sunday in early September, just when the Valley's harvests were at their peak, the *Anderson Valley Sustainable Landscape Discoveries* provided a group of over 30 adventurers some answers to those thought-provoking questions. Participants visited two inspirational locales and viewed rows and rows of vegetables in the ground;



Photo by Sarah Sutton

vegetables in raised beds; vines on incredible climbing structures; intensive blackberry vines in structured rows whose per-acre value rivals wine grapes and organic Pinot Noir grapes too; *Azola*, a water plant harvested for fertilizer; chickens and roosters; and a small herd of cattle for weed management, including yaks. Yes, we were face to face with the yaks!

The morning saw us at Filigreen Farm, in Boonville, a property stewarded by a trio of interests. Foremost are farm managers Chris and Stephanie Tebbutt, our hosts for the event, whose enthusiasm and artistry is evident in the way they've restored Anderson Creek and transformed the floodplain terraces and surrounding uplands into a tapestry of orchards, row crops, vineyards, edible hedgerows, and contemplative spaces. "One of the tenets of biodynamic farming," Chris says, "is viewing the farm as a self-contained ecosystem." The second of the trio is the Yggdrasil Land Foundation, the underlying property owner, whose mission is to protect heritage farms and encourage the progress of biodynamic, organic, and sustainable farming.

(continued on page 5)

---

## California ground cone *Kopsiopsis strobilacea* By Shelly Englert

On a beautifully clear spring day in April, a group of wildflower enthusiasts gathered for AVL T's annual wildflower walk at Highland Ranch in Philo to witness some of the most gorgeous colors of the season. There were the typical blue-eyed grasses, the buttercups and sun-cups and the sweet rosy tipped huckleberry flowers. As we gawked at the immensity of the firs, oaks and redwoods encompassing the carefully maintained meadows and ponds on this breathtaking property, we came across a curious treasure, the California ground cone.



Photo by Shelly Englert

*Kopsiopsis strobilacea* is of the Broomrape family *Orobanchaceae*, formerly known as *Boschniakia strobilacea*. The California ground cone, a dicot, is a parasitic perennial herb that is native to California and found in wooded or chaparral forests. It is parasitic on the roots of Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos*) and Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), obtaining nutrients from its host through specialized structures called haustoria. The cone can be anywhere from 4 to 12 inches tall and is reddish brown to dark purplish in color. The flowers are pale purple on the edges, deeper hued in the center and emerge from between overlapping bracts. They bloom from April to June and are found primarily in western North America. So the next time you're out traipsing around the forest during wildflower season, look for this interesting and peculiar plant that looks like a fallen pinecone.

## Counting Fish, Restoring Creeks By Barbara Goodell and Linda MacElwee

AVLT and the Navarro River Resource Center joined forces on a mild May day for a stimulating interpretive tour of a few of Mendocino Redwood Company's restoration projects and an out-migrant fish counting trap in the North Fork Navarro River sub-basin.

MRC fisheries biologist Dave Ulrich showed us the fish trap on Little North Fork Navarro River. He also explained the life cycles of the fish and how they are counted and released daily. The North Fork of the Navarro has some of the highest populations of endangered Coho salmon on the Mendocino Coast, in good part because the water stays cool with the healthy tree canopy and maintenance of adequate summer flows. The trap, which is put in place in February when the stream flows are adequate, was about to be removed from the creek. After the tour, Dave sent us the following 2012 fish counts from Little North Fork Navarro River, including the statistical margin of error: coho  $796 \pm 107$  and steelhead  $474 \pm 77$ . Dave stressed that these numbers are sub-basin specific and that the numbers reflecting fewer steelhead than coho could be related to the variability of steelhead out-migration patterns and timing differences. These fish are one+ year-olds, a little larger than minnow-sized fish that face many challenges to thrive and to grow into adults.



Photo by Linda MacElwee

(continued on page 5)

---

## Navarro River Water Trail Assessment – Report Available

By Patrick Miller

Download the full report from the AVLT website at: <http://www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org>. Click the “Projects” page.

“Just what is a water trail?” you might well ask. A water trail, sometimes called a blueway, is a river (or other navigable water body) designated as a recreational and educational route for people using small non-motorized boats such as kayaks, canoes, rafts, or rowboats. For a river to be designated and used as water trail, it must have suitable and safe access points and take-outs for exit and, for longer trips, suitable places ashore to camp and picnic.

Over the past two years, Anderson Valley Land Trust has studied the Navarro River from Hendy Woods State Park to the Navarro Beach within Navarro River Redwoods State Park to understand the river’s advantages and drawbacks regarding designation as a water trail. The Trust wanted to know whether it was practical to designate all or a portion of the Navarro River as a recreational water trail and to develop, operate, and maintain river access facilities and information programs to facilitate safe and respectful use of the river for non-motorized boating.



Photo by Barbara Hartford

This evaluation was accomplished with technical assistance from the *National Park Service Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program*, a grant from the *California Department of Boating and Waterways* (and thank you *Anderson Valley Community Services District* for your partnership in securing and administering the grant), and help from numerous organizations and AVLT volunteers. We took a close look at the natural and cultural resources of the Navarro River, its changing flows from season to season, the challenges for boating, the public access facilities (or lack of them) along the river, and the most common public uses of the river.

It is approximately 25.6 miles from the day use area in Hendy Woods State Park to the Pacific Ocean. The study evaluated five river segments where landscape characteristics, ownership patterns, and access conditions for boating vary significantly. The study, not surprisingly, found that the lower river section is boatable all year and, with some access improvements, could be designated as a water trail. The upstream segments of the river are limited to seasonal use between December and April.

The designation and development of a Navarro River Water Trail would benefit public safety, encourage resource stewardship, foster a better understanding of and respect for private property, and enhance recreational and educational use. Trail designation would also provide economic community benefits by drawing more visitors to Anderson Valley and encouraging them to stay longer. The report contains a series of strategies and recommendations regarding what would need to be accomplished to establish a Navarro River Water Trail.

Feedback about this report and its conclusions is welcome and should be sent to: *Anderson Valley Land Trust, Attn: Patrick T. Miller, PO Box 141, Boonville, CA 95415*. Or e-mail your comments to: [avlt@mcn.org](mailto:avlt@mcn.org)

---

---

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sustainable Discoveries – *continued from page 2*

We were fortunate to have with us Christopher Mann of the Foundation enjoying Chris and Stephanie’s inspiring work. Finally, among this land’s stewards, is the Anderson Valley Land Trust, which holds and monitors a conservation easement over the property to ensure that the land Chris and Stephanie have transformed so beautifully can remain devoted to agriculture in perpetuity.



Photo by Patrick Miller

Our day of learning continued with an inside look at the operations of a relatively new farm in the Valley, Petit Teton, located just south of Boonville on 128. Started merely eight years ago by Nikki Ausschnitt and Steve Krieg, Petit Teton has become one of the Booneville Farmer’s Market’s most reliable vendors. Nikki, Steve Krieg and their son Cameron explained that “balance” and “variety” are as important to basic organic farming as marketing and sales. We learned about roles that soil, water, microclimate, timing, wildlife management, cloning, hybridizing, procurement, recycling, and experimentation all play in Petit Teton’s recipe for growth. Their most recent expansion is

a commercial kitchen where products are canned, baked, pickled and fermented to support sales throughout the year. It is incredible what a five-acre farm can produce when combined with the passion of the farmers. Oh! You can visit the yaks at Petit Teton whenever you stop to buy fresh veggies or eggs from the farm’s 100 or so chickens.

Between these two discoveries, the group was treated under the arbors of Filigreen Farm, and adjacent to a “vortex” water fountain, to a bountiful lunch dished up by the one and only Boont Berry Farm (and Burt Cohen) with vegetables from Petit Teton and just-squeezed-that-morning apple cider from Philo’s own Apple Farm (and Tim Bates). We thank you all.

Where will we find ourselves next year? Information about our next Discoveries event will be offered in the Spring issue of Good Dirt. But for the most current information, please check our website periodically at [www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org](http://www.andersonvalleylandtrust.org).

---

### Counting Fish – *continued from page 3*

The tour continued with MRC hydrologist Kirk Vodopals, his lovely daughter Leah on his shoulders, explaining the extensive restoration work that has been completed on John Smith Creek and other sites along the Masonite Road. A large culvert that drained John Smith Creek into the North Fork Navarro River was removed in 2003 (with grant funding support from the California Department of Fish and Game, Trout Unlimited and the National Marine Fisheries Service) and replaced with a bridge. Minor adjustments to the low-flow channel under the bridge were conducted this year by the California Conservation Corps.



Migrant fish trap photo by Linda MacElwee

Linda MacElwee provided a guided tour along the path through the Demonstration Forest with a peek at the North Fork of the Navarro River. Thank you, MRC, for hosting this informative tour.

---

## Barbecue and Barn Dance – *continued from page 1*

There was lively bidding for a custom Paula Gray painting of the winning bidder's pet, a gorgeous mixed-wood stool made by Wally Hopkins, and an Indian dinner for eight prepared by Alan Porter and paired with wine donated by Lisa Harrington.

After dinner, the sounds of Dean Titus and the Coyote Cowboys, featuring Susan Clark, enticed the guests into the barn to dance and enjoy the music. The band generously donated their time for this event, and we thank them for playing such fantastic music on this special night in Anderson Valley.



President Steve Snyder addresses the guests



Volunteer Janis MacDonald

Next year's event will be just as fabulous – with a different theme – and held at another beautiful location in Anderson Valley. We hope you will join us.

Below is a list of the businesses and artists who supported this event with generous donations. We'd greatly appreciate your giving them an extra thank you for their support when you patronize their establishments.



Volunteers Mark Finnegan and Barry Wilson



Homemade preserves and vinegars



Volunteer Chef Lisa Harrington

All Photos of Barn Dance By Jim Snyder

### Wineries

Brutocao Cellars  
Esterlina Vineyards & Winery  
Fetzer Winery  
Goldeneye Winery  
Handley Cellars  
Husch Vineyards  
Londer Vineyards  
Maple Creek Winery  
Meyer Family Cellars  
Navarro Vineyards  
Philo Ridge Vineyards  
Roederer Estate  
Scharffenberger Cellars

### Beer

Anderson Valley Brewing Company

### Spirits

Germain-Robin

### Food

Boonville Hotel  
Micki Colfax  
Lauren's  
Jaime Lee  
Mendocino Grain  
Jay Newcomer

Rancho Gordo  
Rancho Kai Pomo  
**Music**  
Dean Titus and the Coyote  
Cowboys

### Lodging

Albion River Inn  
**Shops**  
Boonville Chocolate Shop  
Hoyman-Brown Studio

Rookie To Gallery

### Professional Services

Nahara Healing Arts  
Yoga With Melissa Meader

### Other Talent

AfterGlow Naturals  
Rene Auberjonois  
The Calypso Orchid Company  
The Caretaker's Garden  
Bill Chambers

Dan Dodt  
Barbara and Rob Goodell  
Paula Gray  
Lisa Harrington  
Charlie Hochberg  
Wally Hopkins  
Patricia Jeffery  
Glynnis Jones  
Mary and Dan Marler  
Mendocino Coast Botanical  
Gardens  
Lisa Mikulsky  
Philo Pharm  
Jed Pogran  
Alan Porter  
Sarah Mendelsohn Rubin  
Gunter Russler  
Janet and Steve Snyder  
Stella Cadente Olive Oil  
Deanna Thomas  
Yorkville Olive Ranch

Anderson Valley Land Trust Thanks Our Barbecue & Barn Dance Donors

## Thank You To All Of Our Wonderful Donors

|                                   |                                      |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Barbara Alhadeff                  | Lynn Halpern                         | Elizabeth Pena                        |
| Barbara Allen                     | Dan Hamburg                          | PG&E Corporation Foundation           |
| Karen Altaras                     | Dennis and Catherine Hamlett         | Les and Linda Plack                   |
| Kathy Bailey and Eric Labowitz    | John Hardy                           | Donna Plunkett                        |
| Chris Baker                       | Jan Holyko                           | Jed Pogran and Gary McGregor          |
| Frederick & Anne Barstow Fund     | Walter and Susan Hopkins             | Alan Porter                           |
| Lisa Bauer                        | Dave Hopmann and Jim Taul            | William Powell and Amy Fox            |
| Alice and Ric Bonner              | Thomas Jack                          | Kelli Quinlan                         |
| Maureen Bowman                    | Patricia Jeffery and Greg Chiodo     | Jeff Raines                           |
| Tom Brewer and Pam Armstrong      | Robert Jones                         | Ron Rice                              |
| Pam Browning and Joseph Frankl    | Glynnis Jones                        | Roger and Ann Romani                  |
| Yarrow Brucker and Meca Wawona    | Ashley Jones                         | John Scharffenberger                  |
| Pete Caldwell                     | Lee and Elizabeth Kern               | Rebecca Schneider and Jack Schumacker |
| Dario Sattui, Castello di Amorosa | Benna Kolinsky and Dan Mandelbaum    | Ed and Ann Short                      |
| Cheryl Cathey and Peter Gillespie | Clifton and Alan Kroeber             | Candy and Ed Slotte                   |
| Bill Chambers and Robert Mandel   | Nancy and Buff LeBoeuf               | Barry Smith                           |
| David and Gay Croft               | Christina Lech                       | Margaret Snyder                       |
| Steve and Francie Curtiss         | Robert Lilley and Richard Wilmington | Mari and Richard Snyder               |
| Marilyn Davin                     | Helen Longino and Valerie Miner      | Steve and Janet Snyder                |
| Rafael Diaz                       | Thomas Loran and Francine Radford    | Kenneth and Pat Stalder               |
| Dan Dodt                          | Jim Martin                           | Sarah Sutton                          |
| Kathy Down and Gregory Kelly      | Fred Martin and Janet Morris         | The Santana Family                    |
| Robert Drew and Candace Loeffler  | Lenard Mayrisch                      | Jon Rubenstein, The Toll House        |
| Art and Maria Duffy               | John McGrath                         | Raymond and Susan Triplett            |
| Elizabeth Dusenberry              | Linda McSweyn                        | Darryl Sattui, V. Sattui Winery       |
| Donna and Steve Eakin             | Julien Miclette                      | Gaile Wakeman                         |
| Melinda Ellis                     | Christina Mihalas                    | Warren and Janis Watkins              |
| Shelly Englert                    | Patrick and Jane Miller              | Wee Boont, Trey White                 |
| George Gaines and Mary Moore      | Ben Mirabdel                         | Clare Wheeler and Roane Sias          |
| John Gaudette and Debby Mefford   | Paul and Diane Morton                | Yoriko Kishimoto and Lee Collins,     |
| Gail and Ron Gester               | Oliver Mullarney                     | Wightman Vineyards                    |
| Kristin Gilkerson                 | Juanita Neilands                     | Cindy Wilder                          |
| Barbara and Rob Goodell           | Marshall Newman                      | John Wiley & Sons, Inc.               |
| Frank Graham                      | Michael and Bonnie O'Halloran        | Brian Zalaznick                       |
| Dore and Martha Griffinger        | Karen Ottoboni                       |                                       |
| Roger Gross                       | Mary Ann Parker                      |                                       |
| Terry Gross                       | Joyce Pease                          |                                       |

**Thank you to ALL of the VOLUNTEERS who have helped us this year with monitoring, the fundraiser, the Anderson Valley Brewing Company Beer Fest and editing our newsletter! We could not have done it without your help.**

|                |                 |                  |  |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|--|
| Alice Bonner   | Lisa Harrington | Janice MacDonald | Charlene Rowland                               |
| Ric Bonner     | Jan Holyko      | John McGrath     | Janet Snyder                                   |
| Mitch Bosma    | Julie Honegger  | John McKellar    | Pippa Thomas                                   |
| Greg Chiodo    | Glynnis Jones   | Lisa Mikulsky    | Steve Thomas                                   |
| Shelly Englert | Jerry Karp      | Jane Miller      | Barry Wilson                                   |
| Mark Finnegan  | Doug Labat      | Grant Morrison   |  |
| Tasslyn Gester | Andrew Lemann   | Mary Morrison    | A special thanks to easement holders           |
| Bon Goodell    | Hannah Newcomer | Donna Plunkett   | Todd and Marge Evans for hosting our           |
| Rob Goodell    | Jay Newcomer    | Alan Porter      | Thank You Event at River's Bend Retreat Center |

**If you would like to volunteer, please send us an email at [avlt@mcn.org](mailto:avlt@mcn.org) or call 895-3150**

If you are interested in receiving an email notification for land trust walks, workshops or events, or future electronic newsletters please email the office at [avlt@mcn.org](mailto:avlt@mcn.org).

Find us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/pages/Anderson-Valley-Land-Trust/154854931315509](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Anderson-Valley-Land-Trust/154854931315509)

# ***RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED***

## **INSIDE DIRT**

**Barbecue and Barn Dance Fundraiser** by Patricia Jeffery **page 1**

**President's Message** by Steve Snyder **page 2**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sustainable Discoveries Tour** by Patrick Miller **page 2**

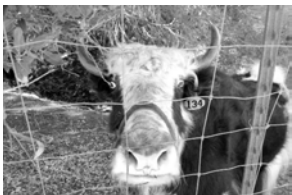


Photo by Patrick Miller

**California Ground Cone** by Shelly Englert **page 3**

**Counting Fish, Restoring Creeks**  
by Barbara Goodell and Linda MacElwee **page 3**

**Navarro River Water Trail Assessment** by Patrick Miller **page 4**

**Donor List for Barbecue and Barn Dance** **page 6**

**Donors and Volunteers** **page 7**



Photo by Jim Snyder



Photo by Barbara Hartford

This newsletter was printed and mailed by Printing Plus in Willits and Express-It Mailing Services in Ukiah,  
Thank You Anne, John and Terry  
Layout and design by Shelly Englert  
Editing by Barbara Goodell, Jerry Karp and Janet Snyder