

# D TRUST landlines

2020 Annual Report

# **Acquisitions** Mike Kimsey, Vice President/Chair Development Committee

Your generosity in donations of cash and land have made Coastside Land Trust (CLT) a significant land owner in Half Moon Bay. Virtually all of this land is located on the ocean blufftops, and was otherwise subject to development and restrictions of public access. But there are still many acres subject to development, even with the favorability to

open space of the new City of Half Moon Bay Land Use Plan. With your help, these bluff tops are the areas CLT continues to focus on acquiring.



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Parcels at Wavecrest that CLT has in escrow.

As of this writing, we have five parcels in escrow. This involves a labor-intensive process of staff time and transfer costs, including back taxes. Each parcel, even though donated or purchased at appraised value for non-profit acquisition, costs us an average of \$5500 to acquire. This is primarily what your cash donations, specified for preservation of open space, cover.

As we complete 2021, we are confident there will be more opportunities for ocean blufftop protection. Thank you for helping CLT with this. 🎏

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## from the executive director



We humans share the same genetics with all life on our planet. . . .

Now when I'm outside I look at the living world as my family, and hold it even closer.

THE COASTSIDE LAND TRUST (CLT) IS GRATIFIED THAT OUR SHARED OPEN SPACES PROVIDED BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. While all of us here at CLT have always known that open space provides these required necessities for a thriving and happy life, never did we imagine it would be such a vital part of our joint survival during the pandemic restrictions.

My personal experience is that when I'm out on our spectacular bluff top trails, I hear the waves, birds, and children's laughter; I feel the air moving on my skin and clothing; I smell the ocean, dirt, flowers, bushes, trees and grasses; I see the deep blue of the ocean, tans and greens of the plants, birds, bees, butterflies, bugs, deer, voles, and more. It is almost an overload of my senses. Sometimes I just sit with my eyes closed going through my senses one at a time. It is at these moments that I realize how very, very much these lands give to me and to us all.

During this time of restricted activities, I've been doing a great deal of reading, primarily non-fiction. Recently I read an editorial that brought my thinking and feeling into a closer perspective on the living land. The author of the editorial reminded me, and all of us, that we humans share the same genetics with all life on our planet. Not sure if it is the isolation, or my being open to the idea, but this opened a new perspective for me. Now when I'm outside I look at the living world as my family, and hold it even closer.

Your continued support through donations and volunteer activities have made the permanent preservation of these beloved open spaces a reality. It is my sincere wish for you all to get out on the beautiful open spaces that CLT has worked hard to permanently protect for you and for our shared environment. And, if this land provided you with comfort, as it has for me this past year, all of us here at CLT are delighted and happy to have done so.

Thank you,

Jo Chamberlain, Executive Director



Norther Saw-whet Owl Fledgling at Wavecrest photo by Alvaro Jaramillo

# from the president

2020 WAS A YEAR FULL OF CHALLENGES FOR COASTSIDE LAND TRUST (CLT), OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, OUR NATION, AND

THE WORLD. We had to learn how to live in a time of quarantine when some of our most routine activities had to stop completely or be redesigned in order to keep everyone safe. CLT faced this challenge with a commitment not to endanger our volunteers but also to keep our mission intact. We were determined to interact with the community in positive and safe ways. Of course, our protected land was always there providing recreation and comfort to all. We learned to value the experience of open space even more when so many normal activities had to stop.



We could not have in person activities in 2020 so we replaced them with virtual experiences. We produced 13 webinars in 2020 and there are even more in 2021. We began with Alvaro Jaramillo's wonderful six webinars from Backyard Birds to Raptors of Wavecrest. He was followed by Toni Corelli's Wildflowers and Plants of Coastal San Mateo County. Jan Leonard gave us a wonderful look at the Fantastic World of Banana Slugs and then Dan Costa followed with a 3-webinar series on Marine Mammals of the Central Coast including everyone's favorite Elephant Seals. We concluded with a virtual Community Celebration and the best news is that all of these webinars are still on our website for you to enjoy. We cannot thank these experts enough for helping us rise to the challenge of

We are now managing 422 parcels many of which were acquired in 2019 and needed to be incorporated into our management systems. Our staff either learned to work from home or scheduled one person at a time in the office. We were able to retain all staff members and there was plenty for them to do. Our social media presence grew and provided another way to reach out when we couldn't be in person. We created a virtual program for the Junior Land Stewards that I will detail in the Stewardship Report.

connecting us all to the natural world.

One event that was not virtual was the arrival of the goats on the Railroad Right of Way. They did their job efficiently, although certainly not socially distanced and provided an element of entertainment at the same time.

We learned to value the experience of open space even more when so many normal activities had to stop.

In the midst of the pandemic challenges our donors did not forget CLT and supported us in this difficult time. Our entire community appreciates their generosity. As Paul Reidl, our past president, said, "We are financially strong and we will weather this," and we did.

We look forward to 2021 as a time when we will be able to come closer together and also as a time when we will appreciate the small experiences of life in a much greater way.

Barbara Lohman, President



Seaside Buckwheat (Eriogonum latifolium) photo by Toni Corelli

# Stewardship Report Barbara Lohman, Chair

2020 was a very different year and the Stewardship Advisory Committee had to change its practices if not its goals. One of our practices is to monitor every property every year and create a report that details any changes to the animals, plants, geology, etc. This year it was difficult to monitor because of COVID protocols. We were able to visit some of the parcels in pairs safely but others just got a distant look over. We are excited to get into the field as it becomes safer in 2021.

We continued to meet virtually every month and were able to get information from the Wavecrest Watchers on the conditions at Wavecrest. Jan Leonard continued to report on the Weed Management meetings so that we would have the information needed when we can schedule workdays again.

We created a virtual program for the Junior Land Stewards managed by Kate Dickey consisting of eight biweekly lessons for all of the 4th grades in Cabrillo Unified School District. The lessons were introduced by one of the AP Environmental students from Half Moon Bay High School followed by a lecture by an expert and then an activity modeled by one of the high school students. The topics varied from birds to bugs to soil conditions, all with a stewardship focus. These programs are posted on our website for anyone to use. Please make use of them for your children or grandchildren. We missed taking the students out into the field but are hopeful for next year.

2020 certainly demonstrated to us all the importance of open spaces. They provided a refuge in a time of quarantine. Our community has been so supportive of the preservation of open space and it certainly gave back to us and the larger community in a troubled time.



Purissima Old Town Site 2017: CLT monitoring teams visit each area once a year, photo by Barbara Dye



Another kind of land stewardship: This arial view shows the goats and sheep clearing open space. photo by Steve Maller/Mallermedia



Hello from the CLT Stewardship Committee. This dedicated group continued to work together remotely to preserve, monitor and protect our open space land. We are all thankful for the important work that they continue to do.

# Land Stewardship: Wavecrest Workday

We got in one Wavecrest Workday on January 11, 2020 before Covid restrictions brought our workdays to a halt.

This hardy group of volunteers worked diligently removing invasive teasel.

The bottom photo shows a previous year's volunteers and their mammoth clean-up result.



# Community Webinar Series Kate Dickey, Social Media Manager

The Coastside Land Trust's free community webinar series has been a tremendous gift to our community, and to all of us here at the Coastside Land Trust. This program idea started at the very beginning of the pandemic, with a goal of engaging the community in learning more about the animals, plants, and open spaces of the coast, while connecting isolated households. We are thankful to Alvaro Jaramillo, international ornithologist and author, who began this program with a six-part coastal bird series: *Songbirds*,

Sea Birds and More in which he presented information on ocean, shore, harbor and backyard birds, birds one might see around town, songbirds, and raptors.

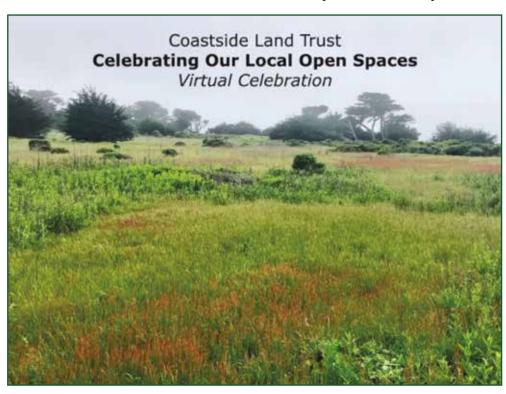
We followed this with a twopart Wildflowers and Plant
Communities of Half Moon Bay
and the San Mateo Coast
webinar series with local botanist and author, Toni Corelli.
She shared photos and information on the many plant communities growing along the
Half Moon Bay coast (including
the coastal trail and in the
Wavecrest Open Space), as well
as exploring the plants and

plant communities occurring on public lands along the greater San Mateo Coast.

Next Janet Leonard, research associate at UC Santa Cruz, explored the *World of Banana Slugs*, discussing their natural history, reproductive biology, evolution and distribution. Dr. Leonard also talked about the research that is being done at UC Santa Cruz, sharing why these invertebrates are so intriguing to scientists.

Next, Dan Costa, Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences and Distinguished Professor at UC Santa Cruz, shared a 3 part *Marine Mammal Series*. Here Dr. Costa shared an overview of the natural history of the most common marine mammals that can be seen in Central California, addressing how a changing climate might be affecting their lives and behavior. He explored how technological advances have allowed us to study animals that spend their lives at sea, and zoomed in on the physiology, ecology, and behavior of the Northern Elephant Seal.

We concluded the year with a virtual celebration of the Coastside Land Trust's Properties and Accomplishments in



Online, click on the photo to view the show or go to https://www.coastsidelandtrust.org/our-blog and scroll down to January 13, 2021. Presentation created by Barbara Dye.

2020. This presentation featured a beautiful and informational slide show of CLT properties, created by Barbara Dye. We celebrated the work being done, the programs being offered, the people who are making a difference, and the importance of our local open spaces.

With between 150 and over 500 households zooming in for each community webinar, this series has surely been one of the great silver linings of the pandemic, and we continue to host these in 2021. All webinars are recorded. The lineup of *Upcoming* and *Past Webinars* can be viewed on our website at *News & Events.* 



# A Tremendous Gift to Our Community

To view our BLOG, click here or go to: https://www.coastsidelandtrust.org/our-blog

The items in the blog include past Webinars, Junior Land Stewards Virtual Environmental Science Programs as well as Nature Nuggets, which include a photo and text with information on the subject. If you aren't on our mailing list to receive notification of a new presentation, you can always go the the blog to view the most recent item. The blog is arranged in date order, newest to oldest (April, 2020).

# Below are featured just a few of the items in our BLOG.



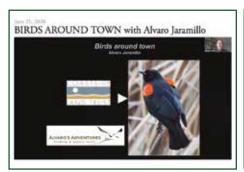




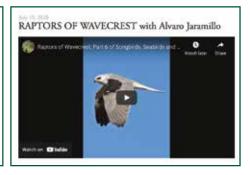


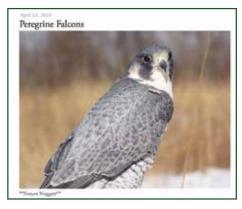
















# Junior Land Stewards 2020 Virtual Program Kate Dickey

The mission of the Junior Land Stewards Program (JLSP) is to connect the students of the Cabrillo Unified School District (CUSD) with their local open spaces, and to guide then in developing the environmental literacy skills and desire to become life-long stewards of open space.

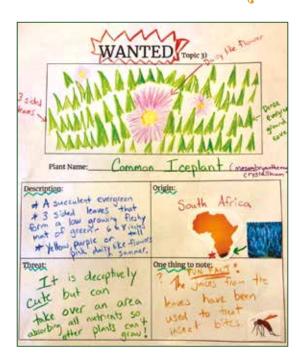
This was a year that required flexible thinking, as we sought to connect with students. The JLSP questioned how we could possibly forge meaningful links between our students and the outdoors without the ability to take them out and facilitate the field experience. Conversations with classroom teachers and science educators, and the incredible gift of several dedicated and philanthropic local environmental experts allowed us to design a virtual environmental program that would connect every fourth and fifth grader of the CUSD with a study of their local ecosystem. This virtual program featured bi-weekly talks given by local environmental experts, followed by activities and scientific reflection presented by the Half Moon Bay High School environmental science students. The program was enthusiastically embraced by the fourth and fifth grade teachers and the CUSD science specialists. All presentations remain available on the CLT website.

#### Presentations included:

- A study of how to use science journals to document observations in the field, with naturalist, illustrator, and author John Muir Laws
- Local and migratory birds of the Coastside, with ornithologist and author Alvaro Jaramillo
- A virtual walk through local wildflowers and plant habitats, with local botanist and author Toni Corelli
- An overview of our local ecosystems and open spaces with students creating their own mini bottle ecosystems, by CLT board president, and retired HMBHS science chair Barbara Lohman
- A virtual show and tell of local invertebrates of the Coastside, where students learned to create safe and humane insect collections and observation devices, with regional entomologist Dr. Stephanie Dole

- A presentation about our local wildcats and the niche they fill, with lead biologist of the Felidae Conservation Fund Courtney Coone
- An exploration of the composition, properties, and the environmental importance of our soil, with Kasey Butler and Adria Arko from the San Mateo Resource Conservation District
- A study of our local tide pools and our impact upon them, with Fitzgerald Marine Reserve park ranger and local videographer Rob Cala and the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve members

We are so grateful for the support of the Tomberg Family Philanthropies, of the Cabrillo Education Foundation, and community support that made the virtual program possible this year. Also great thanks to the incredible environmental experts, the CUSD fourth and fifth grade teachers and science specialists, and to Joseph Centoni and his HMBHS students for a collaboration that allowed the HMBHS students to lead all virtual student activities.



After viewing a Science Journal webinar by John Muir Laws, Environmental Educator, Artist and Author, the JLS students chose something from nature to observe and created a journal page of their own on a template provided by Kate Dickey.



The virtual program featured bi-weekly talks given by local environmental experts, followed by activities and scientific reflection presented by the Half Moon Bay High School environmental science students, shown above.



A JLS student working on her journal, one of the mini bottle ecosystems created by JLS students and one JLS student checking out the binoculars.

One of the signs created by JLS students to alert the public to stay on the trail.





JLS Webinar: Invertebrates of the Coast. Dr. Stephanie Dole, the "Beetle lady," shared information about our local invertebrates. To view, click above or go to: https://www.coastsidelandtrust.org/our-blog



JLS Webinar: Understanding Pumas. Courtney Coon, of Felidae Conservation Fund, introduced our Junior Land Stewards to our local mountain lions. To view, click above or go to: https://www. coastsidelandtrust.org/our-blog

# COASTSIDE LAND TRUST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2019

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CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	979,674
Grants and accounts receivable	4,655
Merchandise inventory	396
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	984,725
Security deposits	1,380
Certificates of deposit	75,367
Property and equipment, net	7,426,363
TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,487,835
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	10,064
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10,064
NET ASSETS	
Without donor restriction	
General fund	393,448
Board designated	252,077
With donor restriction	7,832,246
TOTAL NET ASSETS	8,477,771
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$8,487,835

# Thanks to our Donors & Sponsors

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landlines is published by Coastside Land Trust

Coastside Land Trust is dedicated to the preservation, protection and enhancement of the open space environment including the natural, scenic, recreational, cultural, historical, and agricultural resources of Half Moon Bay and the San Mateo County coast for present and future generations.

www.CoastsideLandTrust.org PO Box 3205 info@coastsidelandtrust.org 650.726.5056

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# How You Can Help Preserve Open Space

**Donation of Land:** Since CLT is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the full market value of any land donated may be tax deductible.

Bargain Sale of Land: Sell your property to CLT for less than its fair market value (FMV). This provides you with cash, helps decrease capital gains tax, and may entitle you to an income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's FMV and its sale price.

**Stock and Real Estate Gifts:** By donating appreciated assets, you can make a lasting contribution, while potentially receiving tax deductions and savings.

**Bequest:** Make a planned gift naming CLT as a beneficiary of your will or trust.

Charitable Trust: By contributing your appreciated assets to a Charitable Trust, you obtain a tax deduction as part of the market value, no tax on any assets sold in the Charitable Trust (except to the extent the gain is withdrawn), and receive all the income for the life of the trust. At death, the remainder of the assets would pass to CLT.

**IRA:** If you are over 70 1/2, you can reduce the taxable amount of your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) in years where required by donating part of it directly to CLT from your IRA. This Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) can reduce

your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). Reducing your AGI could then increase your other personal deductions, versus taking the RMD first into your AGI, then donating it. The annual limit for a QCD is \$100,000.

Matching Gifts: Many companies will double (and sometimes triple) the value of their employees' gifts. To see if your company participates, contact your Human Resources Department.

**Sustainer:** Become a CLT Sustainer and donate monthly, quarterly, or biannually via credit card or through a bank. To sign up, please contact us. Please consider donations of \$20, \$50, (\$83 per month makes \$1,000 annual donation easy), \$100 or more.

**Special Memorial or Honorary Gift:** We'll send a card to the recipient you designate.

**Vehicle Donation:** It's easy. We have a contract with Charitable Auto Resources. They do everything, including pick up the vehicle and handle the paperwork. You can arrange a pickup through our website.

**Volunteer:** Last year our dedicated volunteers donated hundreds of hours planning and running events, supporting administrative operations, restoring protected land, fundraising and much more.

The Coastside Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization, 94-3290067. Please contact us at 650.726.5056, info@coastsidelandtrust.org, www.coastsidelandtrust.org