



LLTT Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter of Lassen Land and Trails Trust

April 2008

Volume 2008, Issue 1



Mission Statement:

The mission of Lassen Land and Trails Trust is to conserve significant natural areas and agricultural landscapes and to promote and enhance a public trail system throughout Lassen County.

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Volunteer LCCA Preserve Manager

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Carol Curry, CPA

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

March 17th marked my one year anniversary as Director at LLTT, and now that 2008 is well underway, I'm thrilled to see all the exciting new events and projects that are quickly filling up this year's calendar. The 15th annual Paiute Meadows Trail run is happening again on Saturday, May 17th, and Nature Camp is returning again July 7-11 and July 14th-18th. Rails to Trails Festival will be on October 3rd & 4th this year, and will have some exciting new additions and changes as well.

In terms of new events, LLTT will be hosting a new Film night at the Depot on the last Wednesday of the month (check out the flyer inside for more information.) Also, LLTT is putting together the first annual Bridgefest Traditional Music Festival at Pat Murphy Field on June 20th and 21st! There is more information inside on that event, and we look forward to seeing all of our members attend. We're still gathering volunteers for this event too, so contact LLTT soon to sign up.

Farmers Market is returning on June 7th, which is also National Trails day, so as I mentioned above, it's easy to see the calendar filling up fast. The website has had a new facelift, and has much more information on these events than I can include in this column—so I encourage members to jump on their computers and see what's happening at LLTT in 2008!

My first full year as Executive Director has been a pleasure, and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all of you as members. Your continued support is what has helped make all of these events possible, so know that you all share in the success of LLTT, and deserve our heartfelt thanks.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at these events in the coming months, and from the staff and Board of Directors at LLTT, THANK YOU!

—Matthew Sayles

Bridgefest Music Festival June 20 & 21st

LLTT is excited to announce a new event in 2008—the Bridgefest Music Festival! On Friday June 20th & Saturday June 21st, Susanville's Pat Murphy Little league field will be featuring bluegrass, folk, jazz, and traditional music from all over Northern California and the Northwest. There will also be craft vendors, food vendors, and local musicians as well, and the event is open to all ages. Proceeds from the festival will go to LLTT's Trail Endowment fund, which is working to raise money to repair and rebuild the Trestle Bridge #9 at Devil's Corral that burned in a wildfire in 2000.

Current headlining acts will be the Del Williams bluegrass band out of the Central Valley & Santa Cruz, and Crazygrass out of Chico. Del Williams is the son of Vern Williams, one of the founders of the Grass Valley Bluegrass festival, and his new band is akin to a California all-star bluegrass ensemble. This traditional bluegrass band carries the torch of bands like Bill Monroe, Flatt & Scruggs, and the Stanley Brothers with tight vocal harmonies and hard driving fiddle, mandolin and banjo. The Del Williams band will be playing from 8-10 p.m. on Friday the 20th, so be sure to come down with a lawn chair and sit back and enjoy the kick off of the festival.

Crazygrass is an amazing ensemble of multi-talented instrumentalists out of Chico, California. They'll be headlining Saturday night, and you'll be amazed with the virtuosity of all the musicians, as well as Sid Lewis, front-man and banjoist. Sid Lewis has played with a long list of progressive bluegrass musicians, most notably Joe Craven of the David Grisman Quintet, and Crazygrass has shared the stage with the String Cheese Incident, Leftover Salmon, The David Grisman Quintet, and the Steve Kimock Band. Their humorous laid back approach to traditional music is a breath of fresh air, and they can jump from bluegrass to jazz, to rock & roll, all within a set without losing a beat.

Other musicians at the festival will include the Mike Justis band out of Sacramento, which features quality original songwriting and finger style guitar, as well as the beautiful accompaniment of dobro & electric guitar. Susanville's own Clean Slate Dixieland band will be playing too, as well as the Keeseey Brothers, which features Janesville's Tim Keeseey and his brother Pat Keeseey, who's travelling all the way from New York City to play the festival.

LLTT is still finalizing a few more acts, and will be circulating a final poster in early May with all the bands that will be entertaining. Refer to the flyer in this newsletter for ticket information, and keep in mind WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

If you, your family, or friends would like to volunteer, please contact LLTT at 257-3252. Four hours of volunteering at the festival pays for your weekend pass, so if cost is an issue, pay your way by helping out! lassenlandandtrails.com has more comprehensive information on the festival and volunteering. Check there first, and we'll see you in June!

Record Turnout to Ski & Soup Dinner 2008!

In January 2008, LLTT once again hosted the popular Ski & Soup dinner. Skiers enjoyed beautiful groomed trail conditions to Butte Lake (thanks to the generous work of the USFS & the help of the BLM), and afterward enjoyed delicious hot soup back at the Historic Susanville Railroad Depot. Thanks to Phil Finkel for organizing the Ski, and thanks to all the folks who contributed soup, deserts, bread, and time to set up this well-loved event. Turnout this year exceeded all years previous, and those who attended remarked on the great food and music. Entertainment was provided by Matt Sayles, Tim Keeseey, Mike Rivas, and Myles Keeseey (prodigy on a homemade aboriginal didgeridoo), and was thoroughly enjoyed by all of those who attended. Thanks again Members, and we'll see you again in 2009!



Ski trip leader Phil Finkel takes a break on the trail to Butte Lake



Myles & Tim Keeseey, Mike Rivas, and Matt Sayles entertain at Ski & Soup 2008



LLTT members enjoy soup & live music after the ski at the Susanville Depot

***Support our Business Members! Business Memberships start at \$100.
please shop with these folks & say THANK YOU for supporting LLTT!***

Balding Energy Enterprises, 508-450 Stoney Lane, Susanville, CA 96130, **530-825-3481**
Banner Lassen Medical Center, 1800 Spring Hill Drive, Susanville, CA 96130 **530-252-2000**
Barakat, George, MD, *Orthopedic Surgery*, 555 Ash St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-9060**
Best Western Trailside Inn, *TJ Ellena, Owner*, 2785 Main St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-4123**
Bike Station, *Jeff Warren, Owner* 702 Main Street, Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-2525**
Billington Ace Hardware, Arlan Billington, owner, 2950 Main St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-4117**
Curry, Carol Jean, CPA, 30 S. Roop St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-2101**
Deal & Davie, Inc., 1107 Main St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-6115**
Diamond Mountain Casino, 910 Skyline Terrace, Susanville, CA 96130, **530-257-1100**
Doyle Electric/Chuck & Jean Coyle, 434-625 Doyle Loop, Doyle, CA 96109, **530-827-2869**
Evergreen Resource Management 472-120 Richmond Rd N, Susanville, CA 96130 **(530) 257-7812**
Flanigan-Leavitt Insurance Agency, Inc. 608 Main St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-7291**
Freschl, Bob & Noelle Eckley, *Landscaping Contractor*, Janesville, CA 96114 **(530) 253-3395**
Gold Run Cabinet & Door Co., 885 Cypress St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-251-4653**
Hulsman Ranch, *Hannah & Susan Tangeman*, PO Box 850, Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-7262**
Janesville Self Storage, *Mike & Lindee Larsen*, 464-900 Main St., Janesville, CA 96114 **530-253-2233**
KSUE 1240/JDX FM 93.3, 3015 Johnstonville Rd., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-2121**
Lassen Addressing Service, *Jim Chapman, Owner*, 203 Maple, Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-6009**
Lassen Beverage Co., *Mark Carter, Mgr.*, 473-340 Commercial Wy., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-9103**
McKee, B.T., DDS, 473-805 Johnstonville Rd., Susanville, CA 96130, **530-257-5480**
Milwood Florist & Nursery, 2020 Main Street, Susanville, CA 96130, **530-257-2515**
Mountain Meadows Mead, *Ron Lunder & Peggy Fulder*, PO Box 1199, Westwood, CA 96137 **530-256-3233**
Northeastern Rural Health Clinics, 1850 Spring Ridge Dr., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-5563**
Plumas Bank, 3000 Riverside Dr., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-5013**
Realty World-Lassen Land & Homes *Odette Swift* 2301 Main Street, Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-7727**
Russell's Window & Blind Cleaning, **(530) 257-2985**
Sierra-Cascade Nursery, Inc., 472-715 Johnson Rd., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-254-6702**
Small Slices/Kathy & Mark Strohmaier, 75 Opal Court Susanville, CA 96130 **(530) 257-6262**
Susanville Indian Rancheria, 795 Joaquin St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-2542**
Susanville Supermarket/Rick Stewart, 50 Grand Avenue, Susanville, CA 96130, **530-257-5136**
Susanville Towing/Lassen Tire 2955 Johnstonville Rd., Susanville, CA 96130 **(530) 257-8640**
Susan Toews Massage Therapy, **530-257-4450**
Susanville Therapy & Athletic Rehabilitation, 711 Main St., Susanville, CA 96130 **530-257-8989**
Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company, 1140 Financial Blvd. Suite 900, Reno, NV 89502 **775-834-4292**
Watkins, Sharron, *Certified Bookkeeper*, PO Box 86, Janesville, CA 96114 **530-253-2668**

Switch to Digital LLTT Newsletter!

Want to help save LLTT some much needed funds? Sign up to receive your newsletter via e-mail! Sending out a hard-copy newsletter on a quarterly basis costs LLTT on average over \$2,000 per year. Receiving your newsletter via e-mail will help save LLTT money as well as save on paper and ink—which helps the environment too! If you're interested in receiving your newsletter via e-mail, just send an e-mail to: **lltt@psln.com** with a **subject line "E-mail Newsletter."** Indicate the e-mail address you would like the newsletter sent to, and we will put you on a list to no longer receive a hard copy. The LLTT website also has a newsletter archive that allows you to review all of our newsletters going back to 2004. As newsletters are completed and mailed, they will also be available at **lassenlandandtrails.com** to be reviewed at any time in Adobe pdf format under the link "Newsletter Archive" on the home page. This is on a volunteer basis only, so if you want to keep receiving your letter in your mailbox, you don't have to do anything! If you have any questions just call **530-257-3252**, and thanks for your help in saving LLTT funds and resources!

Thank you to members who have renewed & Welcome New Members....

Supporter

Hank & Ginger Martinez

Family

Bob Freschl & Noelle Eckley

The Kanavel Family

The Keesey Family

Cheryl Belcher

Joe & Donna Harvey

Gene & Daphne Stark

Jim, Gail, & Gene Johnston

Friend

Dwayne & Mary Greenwood

Cindy Howe/Lassen Humane
Society

The Perez Family

Student/Senior

Richard Ballew

Undinner Donations 2008

Jerry & Dollie Douglass

James Lytgen

Beth & Ray Corbin

Judy Oliver

Paul & Becka Holmes

Linda Phillip

Noreen Frieling

Mike Justice & Kathy

Healy Justice

Nancy & John Murray

Hannah Tangeman

Mike & Pat Martinez

Kent K Holmes

Alli & Kenny Burt

Frank & Gergianne Hall

Jan Heid

Jim & Patrice Goubert

Willard P. Phillips

Zellamae Miles

Stan Bales & Bev Clark

Lynda Jackson

Phil Nemir

Kay White

Bud Wells

Mary Lee Freuhan

Marshall & Helen Leve

Claudia Dunlavy

Mimi Rena & John Dozier

Thank You for Memorial Donations

LLTT is both honored and grateful to be the recipient of memorial gifts. Each thoughtful remembrance is a lasting tribute to these special people who are no longer with us. The following people made gifts in memory of **Carmen Martinez Eoff:**

Hank & Ginger Martinez

Website has been Updated!

Visit

lassenlandandtrails.com

to see up to date information on our work, events, and what's new at Lassen Land and Trails Trust in 2008

Fire Rehab Continues at Lassen Creek Conservation Area



Tractor & seed drill at LCCA

Since the end of February, LLTT and partners have been working hard at re-seeding the LCCA that lost roughly 165 acres of mature bitterbrush & low sage that burned in the "Pine Fire" of 2007. Though fire is part of a natural cycle, many non-native plants can take advantage of the open space left from a fire in the early stages of recovery.

Thanks to our partners at the California Deer Association, Transcanada Corporation, California Department of Fish & Game, LLTT Volunteers, Eagle Lake Bureau of Land Management, and the Wildlife Conservation Board of California LLTT is re-seeding the LCCA with native species to help accelerate the recovery of this valuable wildlife habitat.

LLTT will be seeding a 100ft "buffer" strip of native grasses along the North end of the preserve (Richmond rd.) and the East side of the Preserve (Singletree lane) to serve as a cushion to adjacent landowners in the event of another fire. LLTT will not be removing any mature bitterbrush that did not burn at the preserve as there is currently a limited amount of vegetation available for wildlife. As always, residential landowners need to maintain a 100ft defensible space around their homes. For more information on defensible space, research the Cal Fire website.

Once seeding is complete, 8 foot exclusion fencing will be installed around the planted areas to limit over-browsing of the immature vegetation. Though the long term goal of the LCCA is to preserve valuable wildlife habitat, in the interim, deer must be excluded from the plantings to ensure that the bitterbrush can grow to a size capable of handling browsing. There is still roughly 150 acres (shared between the LCCA and Lassen County Wildlife Preserve) of viable habitat that will not be excluded with fencing during the 5-8 year recovery period. It is crucial during this time that the fencing remain intact—if a fence is cut, and a deer gets inside, the deer will likely not be able to get back out, and could die inside enclosure.

LLTT will be working with adjacent landowners & the public to inform them of our goals and progress in the coming months, and we appreciate your understanding in this progress.

The preserve is currently closed to the public during re-seeding, but will be open to the public again in a limited fashion (outside of fencing enclosures), once the fencing is installed. LCCA is open to non-motorized use (equestrian, hiking, and bicycling) and is currently closed to all motorized use, hunting, use of firearms, and camping. LLTT will be leading a guided hike at the preserve in the spring/summer of 2008 to inform the public of our progress and goals.



Drill seeding at LCCA

Calendar of Events 2008

May 17th 2008 Paiute Meadows Trail Run

July 7-11 and July 14th-18th Nature Camp

June 7th 2008 National Trails Day

August 9th 2008 Eagle Lake Fun Run

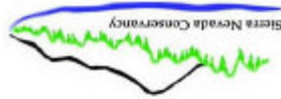
**June 7th through September 20th 2008
Farmers Market**

October 3rd & 4th 2008 Rails to Trails Festival

**June 20 & 21st 2008
1st annual LLTT "Bridgifest" Music Festival**

November 8th 2008 Annual Meeting

December 2008 Undinner



Phone: 530-257-3252
Fax: 530-257-3252
Email: lltt@psln.com



LLTT Receives Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant for work on the Modoc Line Rail to Trail

In March of 2008, LLTT received a grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to help pay for the development of a long term management plan for the Modoc line rail-to- trail in Lassen & Modoc Counties. Since mid-summer of 2007, LLTT has been taking the lead role in negotiations with Union Pacific Railroad to acquire this roughly 85 mile corridor for recreational and hunting access use. To date, LLTT and partners have completed a phase 1 environmental assessment of the line, and have submitted a proposal to acquire the line to the Wildlife Conservation Board of California. Funds to acquire the line are anticipated to be provided by the Wildlife Conservation Board, with final determination occurring at their 2nd quarterly meeting in May of 2008. LLTT is still currently negotiating a purchase and sale agreement with Union Pacific, and is anticipating that by late April of 2008 that an agreement will be finalized. If momentum continues, LLTT will own the Modoc line by late summer of 2008. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant will be of vital importance in this process, as completing a long term management plan for the line will help guide use, as well as maintenance.

Specific Objectives of the Long Term Management Plan:

- Identification of Modoc Line access points trailheads
- Identification of appropriate trail uses & location of uses (ie. motorized or non-motorized)
- Identification of signage needs
- Identification of needed railroad grade improvements (surface compaction, grading, bridge repairs, road crossings, etc...)
- Identification of needed facility improvements (cattleguards, interpretive sites, etc...)
- Identification of routine maintenance needs
- Development of a Trail Plan implementation schedule