



**SOUTHERN
OREGON
LAND
CONSERVANCY**

Terra Firma Times

Fall 2004

Colestin Valley Properties Protected



View of Mt. Shasta from protected property in Colestin

photo by Thomas Kirchen

Combining the New and the Old

We've decided to combine our new logo with an old title of our newsletter--The Terra Firma Times. It seemed fitting to resurrect this name meaning *solid ground*, given our mission to protect special lands in the Rogue Basin and remain a vital organization in the region.

The name Terra Firma also gives an emotional sense of connection to the land. It reminds us that we are merely a reflection of the values that are important to the people who live here. Those of you who support us are saying 'yes' to the land and 'yes' to preserving its beauty. Thank You!

40 Acres For Sale

We are very grateful to one of our easement donors, Judith Wible, for generously donating 40 forested acres to the Land Conservancy. We are seeking a conservation buyer for this remote property with two rustic cabins located 10 miles outside Merlin. This land has no septic or electricity. Priced at \$68,000. Contact us at 541.482.3069 for more information.

The Southern Oregon Land Conservancy placed conservation easements on two parcels of land in July, permanently protecting 75 acres in the Colestin Valley southwest of Ashland. The easements were placed on these properties with the help of the Carpenter Foundation and donated to the Land Conservancy to benefit the community by Alex and Jennifer Liston Dykema and Annette Dykema.

The Conservation Easements prohibit development and require a forest management plan approved by the Land Conservancy for any timber harvesting. In addition, any activities that would degrade the conservation values of the properties are prohibited.

Both properties are located in the Cottonwood Creek Watershed within the Klamath River basin. The area is grass and oak woodland with mixed conifer species of incense cedar, ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, white oak, and Douglas fir. Dramatic views of Mt. Shasta and the Colestin Valley can be seen from many points on the properties. These spectacular lands are adjacent to the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and will extend the wildlife corridor in the area and also add to the scenic backdrop of Colestin Road. The addition of these two easements brings the total acreage of land protected by the Conservancy to over 2,300 acres.



Su Rolle Joins Land Conservancy

Due to our success over the past several years, the Land Conservancy hired Ashland resident, Su Rolle, as its Stewardship Coordinator. Su brings a strong resource management background to this new position with extensive skills in watershed management, planning, and collaboration. She retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1999 after a 25-year career, having served as District Ranger for the Applegate Ranger District (Rogue River National Forest). Her last position before retiring was as Interagency Liaison between the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and communities in the Applegate River Watershed to encourage more open dialogue and shared planning.

Active in the Rogue Valley for nearly 30 years, Su served on the Land Conservancy's Board of Directors in the early 1980s and was instrumental in the Oredson-Todd Woods acquisition and other early projects.

As Stewardship Coordinator, Su will be monitoring properties, conducting ecological assessments of new land protection projects, and creating a volunteer monitoring program. She can be reached at 482-3069 or through email at su@landconserve.org

Welcome New Members and Business Partners

Larry Medinger
Marilyn Havill
Thomas Kirchen
Carol & Clark Custodio
Bob Binnewies
Moreland Smith
Catherine Kordesch
John & Beth Hallett
Roy & Marjorie Sutton

Carol & Robert Fischer
Carolyn Goldwasser
Zita Ingham
Bob & Carol Doty
Patricia Soltys
Pat Nash
Medford Fabrication
Asante Health System
KenCairn Sager Landscape Architects

T. Kirchen



T. Kirchen

Thank You Thomas Kirchen

We would like to extend our thanks to Thomas Kirchen for providing us with amazing images of the lands protected through the Conservancy. Tom is a retired professional photographer who has volunteered his efforts to assist us in capturing the unique beauty of our region. To see more of his work, visit his website at: tkirchen@digitalphotos.com

Business Partners Join Effort

Local businesses that support land conservation are joining the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy's effort to protect the best lands in our region.

The Business Partnership Program was initiated with a major donation from Asante Health System and followed by others who recognize the importance of saving our natural landscape. These partners will have a link in our soon-to-be-finished website and will be acknowledged in all future publications.

Many thanks to the businesses listed above who joined in our first month. We look forward to working together to protect the special lands of Southern Oregon.

*2004 Conservation Celebration
Saturday, October 9th, 7-10 pm*

Save the Date!

Join us for an evening of food, wine, music
and our annual silent auction at
Paschal Winery
on Saturday, October 9th

See you there!



Lands Chair To Be Honored

Susan Rust, chair of our Lands Committee and former Board member, will be presented the

2004 Conservation Award at the annual Conservation Celebration on October 9th at Paschal Winery. She will be honored for a lifetime of volunteerism and work in the field of land conservation.

Susan brought great passion to the Board combined with on-the-ground experience as a natural resource consultant and educator. She is responsible for creating policies and procedures that brought a higher level of professionalism to our organization. As chair of the Lands Committee, she has worked tirelessly to develop land selection criteria and improve record management.

Please join us to celebrate her good work that has tremendously benefited our community.

Larry Medinger Joins Board



We heartily welcome Larry Medinger to the Land Conservancy Board. Larry lives in Ashland and is the owner of Medinger Construction, a home building and design company that focuses on quality, affordable homes.

Larry moved to the Rogue Valley in 1967 and has been active in the community for over three decades. He currently serves on the State Housing Council, and has been

involved with the Jackson County Homebuilders Association and several Ashland committees including the Housing Commission, Planning Commission, and Historic Commission. Welcome Larry!



Angie Clark and Jeff McFarland near the entrance to Oredson-Todd Woods

Trailhead Signage Installed

Three interpretive signs were recently installed in Oredson-Todd Woods as part of a collaborative project between the Ashland Parks Department and the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Oredson-Todd Woods was donated to the Land Conservancy in 1983 by Vince Oredson and John Todd to preserve the land as open space for the community. In 1999 the Land Conservancy donated the land to the city of Ashland after successfully helping the City purchase 110 adjoining acres. Both of these properties are permanently protected with a conservation easement today. Together with other adjacent city-owned land, nearly 300 acres of parklands were created.

The parks contain numerous hiking trails winding into the forested lands southwest of Ashland, and can be accessed from Lupine Drive off Greenmeadows Way or from Park Street. The interpretive signs display an updated map with trails accessible to the public, a history of the park, and information

about the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Many thanks to Jeff McFarland of the Ashland Parks Department, Rich Hall from the City of Ashland Public Works Department, Angie Clark, Executive Assistant at the Land Conservancy, and the Oregon Parks Foundation for making this project possible.

Seeking Board Members

The Southern Oregon Land Conservancy is seeking wise and enthusiastic volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors. We are looking for leaders to help guide the organization as board members for a three-year term. Nominees must be members or be willing to join and make the Land Conservancy their primary volunteer interest.

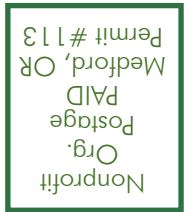
Requirements of board members include:

- Improving the Land Conservancy's ability to protect special lands
- Participating in board meetings held from 6-8 pm on the third Monday every other month
- Serving on operational committees including Lands, Education and Outreach, Development, and Membership

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Diane Garcia at 482-3069.

SOLC Wish List

Binoculars
 Conference Table & Chairs
 Power Point Projector
 A Good Vacuum Cleaner



Return Service Requested

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Message From the President

When one of the properties we hold a conservation easement on is sold, it continues to be protected by the easement. This is because the easement is permanently attached to the property's deed. Up until now, we have not had any "second generation" easements. This is about to change as two of our eased properties are in the process of being transferred to new owners.

These second generation easements present many challenges to land trusts, while at the same time they are a great example of the easement fulfilling its purpose of perpetual protection. In the case of these two properties, they both contain significant second growth timber stands that would make them very attractive to a purchaser who might like to clearcut the property. With the easement in place, we are

seeing buyers come forward who want to help protect the lands' conservation values.

While it is the conservation easement itself that guarantees the restrictions are followed, we believe that building good relationships with the property owners is also a key component in long-term protection. As such, we do everything we can to get to know the potential new owners and help them understand the particulars of the easement.

Many properties stay in one family for years and years, but there is really no way of knowing when ownerships will change for unforeseen reasons. Eventually, almost all will change hands given enough time. For these two properties, change came much sooner than anyone expected. Fortunately, conservation easements placed by

those who cherished these lands are ensuring their protection.

Dan Kellogg

Southern Oregon Land Conservancy

Board of Directors

President: Dan Kellogg - Gold Hill

Vice President: Donna Rhee - Ashland

Secretary: Jim Moore - Ashland

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Lu Anthony - Eagle Point

Jon Deason - Medford

Jim Eisenhard - Bend

Betsy Killian - Grants Pass

Larry Medinger - Ashland

Lorraine Roach - Grants Pass

Staff

Diane Garcia, *Executive Director*

Angie Clark, *Executive Assistant*

Su Rolle, *Stewardship Coordinator*

Alex Dykema, *Attorney*