



HORIZONS

sacramento valley conservancy

New 90 acre Conservation Easement

protects Tri-Colored Blackbird habitat along Elder Creek

SVC recently worked with Teichert to protect over 90 acres of wildlife habitat along Elder Creek in south Sacramento County. SVC holds a conservation easement over the preserve, which supports riparian birds, hosts native oaks (many restored along the creek) and has habitat to support the threatened tri-color blackbird. Some years hundreds of tri-color blackbirds occupy blackberry brambles. Just like high-rise condos, the birds live in high concentrations and dramatically fly in and out in groups to forage for insects and other food nearby. One of their favorite nearby foraging locations is SVC's Sacramento Prairie Vernal

Pool Preserve. SVC is excited to protect more habitat near the Preserve to help tri-color blackbirds and other wild critters thrive. Soon, SVC and Teichert will partner to protect more of the Elder Creek corridor - stay tuned!

90 acres of wildlife habitat along Elder Creek in south Sacramento County. Photograph by Jaymee Marty



25th Annual Treasures of the Valley

The Sacramento Valley Conservancy celebrated their 25th annual Treasures of the Valley fundraiser on Thursday Nov. 9 in the beautifully restored Myrtle Johnston Interpretive Center at Camp Pollock.



Photograph by Matt Muirhead

Guests tasted the treasures of the Sacramento Valley, with local "farm to fork" fare sourced from farm and ranch lands protected in perpetuity by the Sacramento Valley Conservancy.

A highlight of the night was Conscious Creamery's seasonal flavor of dairy free gelato. The pumpkin spice gelato was made fresh from seasonal squash grown on an SVC protected conservation easement, which serves as Swainson's Hawk foraging in Sloughhouse. Thanks to you and our community, the 2017 event was a huge success. Special thanks to the generous in-kind support from Hoppy Brewing Company, Bogle Vineyards, Grindstone Wines, Il Gioiello Winery and Morse Wines. Some of this year's silent auction items included native plants and trees from Sacramento Tree Foundation and Cornflower Farms, Disney tickets, Southwest tickets, and locally hand-made jewelry. All proceeds from the event benefit the Sacramento Valley

Conservancy's work preserving the beauty, character, and diversity of the Sacramento landscape in Yolo, Sacramento, Sutter, Placer, Amador and El Dorado Counties. Thank you to each of our 250 attendees and all of our supporters!

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sacramento valley conservancy

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Fall 2017

Inspiring the next generation of outdoor stewards

The Sacramento Valley Conservancy has a long history of engaging youth outdoors. For the past 10 years SVC's YES (Youth, Education and Stewardship) program has connected kids throughout the greater Sacramento Valley to the natural environment, on properties we have protected, allowing kids to experience and explore the outdoors while creating lifelong memories. These YES activities integrate STEM curriculum, teach kids the importance of caring for the environment and introduce the principles of Leave No Trace. In 2017 SVC hosted more than 2,000 youth at Deer Creek Hills and Camp Pollock. You can help get more youth in the outdoors in 2018! We are

seeking to build local partnerships with teams and clubs, hosting youth summer camps and after school programs, to reach more local kids and maximize our youth education program. Join an SVC group camping event (May, June and September) or book your own for \$3/per person, and ask about 50% off for non-profit groups. Pick-up a NEW Lower American River Parkway Passport and collect a stamp. Explore Deer Creek Hills Preserve – Join docent guided hikes including geology, stargazing, history, birding, yoga, wildflower, and more! These outings can teach kids the value of important resources in their backyards. Let's get more kids out to explore the natural world.

Mountain Biking comes to a close at Deer Creek Hills

That's a wrap! Thanks for another GREAT Mountain Biking Season at Deer Creek Hills Preserve! You joined us for 26 Mountain Bike rides, 4 Saturday rides and 22 Monday night rides, and you generously gave over \$900 in donations! More than 350 Mountain Bike visitors to Deer Creek Hills; with 8 docents participating in 2 or more rides. A special mention to Bill Claypool, Jim Carr and Greg Tenorio for being the most active of the MTB docents this season. These dedicated docents take time to mark trails and clean up cones

each week and they help to make rides at Deer Creek Hills more memorable for all guests to the preserve. Thanks to our friends at the local REI co-op who came out in 2017 with bicycle mechanics and bikes to demo. HUGE thanks to the volunteers who took on the task of re-positioning the Eagle Corral kiosk, special thanks to Bill, Jim and Kurt. MORE upgrades and improvements to the kiosk in the new year. Be sure to check out the calendar of events and outings for 2018 for upcoming hikes, rides and outings.

25th Annual
Treasures of the Valley



Photograph by Matt Muirhead

SVC Board Members from Left: Amanda Bohl, Don Rose, Natalie Kuffel, Darryl Lucien, Kate Hart, Executive Director Aimee Rutledge & Communications Director Kelly Hopkins.



Photograph by Matt Muirhead

(From left) Rob Kerth, Kenneth Mullins & Ray Tretheway.



Photograph by Matt Muirhead

Attendees enjoying tastes from Conscious Creamery & Hoppy Brewing.



Photograph by Matt Muirhead

Attendees enjoying tastes from Grindstone Wines & Il Gioiello Winery / Morse Wines.

Volunteers make our outings and education programs possible

Our projects and events would not happen without fantastic volunteer support. We can help you find a way to invest your time in the Sacramento Valley Conservancy's outings and hikes on our beautiful properties. Join our amazing group of trained volunteers to help with our docent led-activities at Deer Creek Hills and Camp Pollock. No experience is necessary, just a desire to learn about the land and to share your knowledge with the public, we provide the training. We are always looking for volunteers to help lead or supplement the leader on our docent led-events:

- Birding, botany, geology and more!
- Equestrian Rides (must have your own horse)
- Mountain Bike Rides
- Youth Education and Stewardship Program (YES) for day hikes and campouts
- Volunteer Days

Contact Phred Strickland SVC Program Assistant at 916/612-3719 or outreach@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org for more information about the SVC docent program. Training sessions are held in January and February each year.

SVC Attends the National Conference

Kelly Hopkins, Evan Griffiths, Amy Rodrigues and Tim Fiock traveled to Denver to attend *Rally*, the annual National Land Conservation Conference. *Rally* is a gathering of inspired and passionate land conservationists from the US, Canada, South America and beyond, who are dedicated to conserving cherished places in local communities. "We're very excited to bring back what we've learned and look forward to sharing" said Kelly Hopkins, Communications and Marketing Director. "It was awe-inspiring to see such continuity amongst all of these organizations and to hear about the lasting work being done throughout the country." The Land Trust Alliance is a national organization whose mission is to save places people love by strengthening land conservation. The Alliance leads a network of more than 1,100 member land trusts with 12,000 staff, 15,000 board members and five million members, who have conserved more than 50 million acres. SVC has been a member of the Land Trust Alliance for 23 years.



SVC Staff (from left): Amy Rodrigues, Tim Fiock, Kelly Hopkins & Evan Griffiths



BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Health does not only happen in a doctor's office - it also happens in our homes, our schools, and our communities.

Californians need neighborhoods where children can ride bikes and play together in nearby parks, where parents can buy healthy, affordable foods at local markets, and places where everyone feels safe walking to school or work. Californians need schools with quality school food and beverages, where exercise is part of the school day, and social-emotional health is promoted, leading to improved behavior and better decision-making.

Whether you just stepped foot in California or you were born and raised here, we want your communities, and the local and statewide policies - or "rules" - that affect your life to work for everyone.



With smart grant making - which we call "change making" - good leadership, and people power, we believe we can make the state of health in California better for all.

Learn More, Get Involved

www.calendow.org

DONATION FORM

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I want to make a difference and help create a legacy for the future and preserve Sacramento's beautiful open space, natural habitat and agriculture.

Gifts to the Sacramento Valley Conservancy are tax deductible. For more info, please call (916) 731-8798 or email us: info@sacramentovalleyconservancy.org

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December 2017 - April 2018 Calendar

Sat, Dec 2	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Feb 24	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 31	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride
Sat, Dec 9	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Feb 24	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Thur, April 5	6pm - 8pm	Concerts in the Parkway
Sat, Dec 16	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Feb 24	9am - Noon	Deer Creek History Hike	Sat, April 7	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day
Sat, Dec 30	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Feb 24	8am - 1pm	Upland Birding	Sat, April 7	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes
Sat, Jan 6	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 3	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, April 7	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride
Sat, Jan 13	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 3	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, April 7	9am - 1pm	Adventure Hike
Sat, Jan 13	9am - 1pm	Annual Docent Training	Sat, Mar 3	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride	Sun, April 8	Time TBD	EQ/Bike Training
Sat, Jan 20	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 3	9am - 1pm	Adventure Hike	Sat, April 14	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day
Sat, Jan 20	9am - 1pm	Annual Docent Training	Sat, Mar 10-11	8am - 5pm	REI & NOLS Wilderness First Aid	Sat, April 14	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes
Tues, Jan 23	4 - 5:15pm	Nature Bowl Coach Workshop	Sat, Mar 10	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, April 14	9am - 1pm	Wildflower Stroll the Creeks & Oaks
Sat, Jan 27-28	8am - 5pm	REI & NOLS Wilderness First Aid	Sat, Mar 10	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, April 21-22	10am - 10am	Earth Day Clean-up, Camp Out & Concert
Sat, Jan 27	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 10	9am - 1pm	Wildflower Hike in search of Shooting Stars	Sat, April 21	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day
Sat, Jan 27	9am - 1pm	Annual Docent Training	Sat, Mar 17	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, April 21	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes
Sat, Jan 27	9am - Noon	Deer Creek History Hike	Sat, Mar 17	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, April 21	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride
Sat, Feb 3	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 17	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride	Sat, April 21	8am - 1pm	Riparian Birding along Deer Creek
Sat, Feb 3	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, Mar 17	8am - 1pm	Birding Outing - Live Oak Forest & Boiler Pond	Wed, April 25	All Day	Nature Bowl Competition
Sat, Feb 3	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride	Sat, Mar 24	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Thurs, April 26	All Day	Nature Bowl Competition
Sat, Feb 3	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride	Sat, Mar 24	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, April 28	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day
Sat, Feb 10	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, Mar 24	9am - Noon	Deer Creek History Hike	Sat, April 28	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes
Sat, Feb 10	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, Mar 31	9am - 1pm	Camp Pollock Volunteer Day	Sat, April 28	10am - 2pm	Deer Creek Hills Equestrian Ride
Sat, Feb 17	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, Mar 31	9am - 1pm	Deer Creek Hills Open Hikes	Sat, April 28	9am - Noon	Deer Creek History Hike

Check out all of SVC's events on our Online Calendar at
www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp