



# OPEN SPACES

Volume 16, Number 4

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

Fourth Quarter, 2004

## 2004 Year in Review



### Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve Gains Momentum

*In 2004, three key events positioned the project for funding approval by the Wildlife Conservation Board: the City and Land Conservancy approved the Natural Communities Conservation Plan; we signed a purchase agreement with one of the primary landowners; and an appraisal was commissioned by the State.*



Debbie Townsend, from the Wildlife Conservation Board, one of the major funding agencies for the project, visited Palos Verdes in November. Joel Rojas, Planning Director for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, shows her the proposed acquisition area from the McBride Trail overlooking Portuguese Bend.



City Councilmembers Tom Long, Doug Stern, Mayor Peter Gardiner, Mayor Pro Tem Larry Clark and Steve Wolowicz celebrate approval of the NCCP.

Long-time PVPLC members Mike and Virginia Cicoria stepped up efforts to raise private funds for the preserve with a matching fund challenge. At right, Mike Cicoria with PVPLC President Bill Ailor.



# President's Remarks

In 1988, the future for Palos Verdes included development of all major open space areas. Lunada Canyon (now the Lunada Canyon Preserve) was to have five homes and possibly a tennis club; the Chandler Trust property (now the Linden H. Chandler Preserve) was to have more than 20 homes; the Forrestal tract (now the Forrestal Preserve) was to have more than 40 homes and extensive grading; Shoreline Park was to be included in a hotel development; White Point sat abandoned, its future uncertain; the Three Sisters area was zoned for over 100 homes; the Portuguese Bend area was zoned for hundreds of new homes. All major open space areas would be developed.

Over the last 16 years, our community has defined a new future, a future where none of the properties above are developed, but are preserved as open space. And we're almost there—all but one have been permanently preserved. Today, each preserved parcel is a place where young and old can enjoy a tranquil beauty unique in the South Bay. Each is a monument to the hard work of dedicated members of our community with a vision for the future.

In 2004, our community reached a new plateau in our effort to save the Portuguese Bend area—the last major property we need to complete the vision. We agreed to purchase the final 700 acres, and we secured 75% of the funding necessary to make it happen. As we enter 2005, we stand poised to create the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve, the “jewel” in the crown of Palos Verdes open space.

But the deal is not yet done. That last 25% (\$6 million), a relatively small part of the project funding, is the trigger that releases the other funding. We must raise \$6 million from local donors or the other funding allocated for this project will evaporate, gone to other communities with similar needs.

As we move into 2005, we will be working to raise this final funding. We'll be looking for individuals and families who want to join this historic effort to create the largest natural open space area in the South Bay. We know our community will not let this opportunity pass.

2005 has the possibility of being one of the most significant years in the history of Palos Verdes and the South Bay. We have the potential to leave a legacy of open space that will be cherished forever. We have the opportunity to preserve the quality of life we enjoy now by insuring there will be no more major development in this area.

Help us make 2005 historic. Help us complete the vision. Help us preserve our quality of life.



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## Preservation of Open Spaces A Statement of Purpose

*The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, public-benefit corporation formed to preserve undeveloped land in perpetuity as open space for historical, educational, ecological, recreational and scenic purposes. A diverse group of volunteers from the South Bay makes up the PVPLC's managing Board of Directors and its adjunct advisory board. These private citizens have been drawn together by their belief that open space is crucial to the well-being of our community. Land acquisition by the PVPLC is through purchase and gift. In addition to the good will engendered by gift giving, landowners and others who donate land or funds to the PVPLC may realize significant tax benefits.*

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2004 SUMMARY OF  
REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Income	
Member Donations	\$332,647
Restricted restoration grants	\$392,300
Contracts for restoration & Nature Center	\$150,783
Special events & plant sales	\$94,424
Other	\$6,516
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>\$976,670</b>
Expenses	
Program Services	\$911,815
Management & Admin.	\$20,968
Fundraising	\$50,313
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$983,097</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(\$6,427)</b>
Capital Campaign funds restricted for land acquisition	\$67,865
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,044,535</b>

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
LAND CONSERVANCY

**Board of Directors**

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**Education Program Director**

John Nieto

**George F Canyon Naturalist**

Loretta Rose

# Special Events Bring Community Support for Open Space

The Portuguese Bend Artist Colony and the Land Conservancy joined forces to raise funds and public appreciation for the beauty of open space land at the Annual Fine Art Exhibition and Sale.



Dan Pinkham captures the beauty of the Peninsula on canvas.



Roger Eastman, Joanne Davidson and Bill Malcolm of the Palos Verdes Chamber Players entertained patrons at the Art Exhibition opening reception dinner.



The Second Annual Mile Long Picnic at Abalone Cove brought more than 300 local residents together to preserve land in Portuguese Bend for a public nature preserve.



San Pedro Girl Scouts bought wildflower seeds for the White Point Preserve with funds they raised at Make a Difference Day.

Gourmet food, unique art and great wine drew record numbers to Spring for White Point, raising over \$20,000 for the White Point Nature Preserve.



Local potter Veralee Bassler led efforts to obtain works from fellow local artists for the silent art auction.

# Stewardship Efforts Reap Big Rewards



In California, less than 2% of native perennial grasslands remain due to invasion by foreign species, development, agriculture, and grazing. In contrast, the White Point Nature Preserve now boasts a 28-acre restoration project to establish native grasslands and wildflowers on this former military site.

The Forrestal Steering Committee presented revisions to the preserve's management plan and a recommended trail system to the RPV City Council in December.



Scout projects improved trails, built benches and planted new native habitat in our preserves, including Lunada Canyon.



Record numbers of the endangered Palos Verdes blue butterfly were observed at the Defense Fuel Supply Point in San Pedro.



The PVPLC Nursery raised over 50,000 plants for Peninsula preserves at White Point, Forrestal and Chandler.



A rare shrub, *Crossosoma californica*, was discovered at the Forrestal Preserve last spring.



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