



Lower Nehalem Community Trust

beading the necklace of people and place

JUNE 2010

Message from the Chair

Happy Birthday! The Trust is now eight years old. The Articles of Incorporation were signed on May 8, 2002, thanks to our founding members: Tom Bender, Lane deMoll, Gareth Ferdun, Georgette Ferdun, Doug Firstbrook, Judy Sorrel, and Vivi Tallman. Invoking a cliché, *we have come a long way...* yet much remains to be accomplished.

The Board has reluctantly accepted Vivi Tallman's resignation, effective the end of June. Vivi has done so much for the Trust during the last eight years that it would be impossible to list everything here. Our consolation is that she will still participate in some Trust activities and be nearby to lend us her vast experience and creativity. I am personally grateful for her work and support these past few years.

During the past year the Trust has grown in complexity and the Board has responded with some successfully implemented organizational changes. One of these changes is the structure of the stewardship committee. Previously we had two stewardship committees, one for Alder Creek Farm and another for the Vosberg Creek property located in Wheeler. As we continue to expand our land holdings, the two committees and their members have now been combined and welcome two new members, Sam Harmon and Tammi Lesh. Erich Miller and Chip Hall co-chair the restructured Stewardship Committee.

In April the Trust was awarded an AmeriCorps/LINKS position to assist with stewardship activities for 300 hours during the summer months. Since January, on-the-ground stewardship activities have included *(continued on page 2)*



Now in their third year of grant support for the Nehalem Teaching Trail, members of the Tillamook County Cultural Coalition visit Alder Creek Farm, site of the project. Left to right: Marti Rhea, Kimberly Howard (Oregon Cultural Trust), Cassie McDonald, Jean Scholtz, Maia Holliday (LNCT) and Vivi Tallman (LNCT). PHOTO BY MARTI J. RHEA/PHOTOART BY MARTI,LLC

Welcomes & Farewells

Welcome Rivena Emonds as the newest member of the Lower Nehalem Community Trust Board of Directors. Rivena is known to many in the community as the Teller Coordinator at U.S. Bank in Manzanita. She says that working for the conservation of land in our local area brings back memories of growing up on her family's farm. Rivena hopes someday to help restore the forest near their farm. Meanwhile she will focus on learning more about the native habitat in the Lower Nehalem watershed while working with the Trust.



New LNCT Board Member,
Rivena Emonds.

PHOTO BY LORRAINE ORTIZ

Rivena lives in Neahkahnie with her husband, "Troop" and their son Jed. Something you wouldn't guess about Rivena? After graduating from high school in the Philippines, she attend college in Cebu and is a certified midwife. Rivena brings a knowledge of several languages, fiscal monitoring experience and a commitment to conservation and restoration to the LNCT Board. Welcome Rivena!

In gratitude we congratulate Vivi Tallman on completing her eight-year tenure on the LNCT Board. As a founding board member, Vivi was one of seven people who formed the genesis of the organization in 2002. In Vivi's words, "for years some of us had envisioned the benefits of having a local land trust as a vehicle for protecting important habitat to provide balance to housing development in north Tillamook County." In 2002 the group "got together, took a deep breath, and decided to jump in." Vivi, along with others, shared the vision that humans are part of the environment and made a commitment to preserve habitat for all species: bugs, birds and people too.

"I'm really proud that we've stayed true to that value," said Vivi. "At Alder Creek Farm, we're dedicated to having healthy sustainable food habitat for all the critters who live here—us included."

What's next for Vivi? "Over the last 15 years I have been investigating medicinal herbs, focusing especially on native plants. As a Board member for the Trust I had the opportunity to walk all over the watershed in the company of amazing botanists and restoration specialists. These experiences deepened my local plant *(continued on page 3)*

Upgrades Up and Running at Alder Creek Farm Greenhouse

With assistance from a Tillamook PUD grant, the Trust announces the completion of automated ventilation and irrigation systems in the greenhouse at the Alder Creek Farm. The \$4325 grant, along with donated labor and management, allowed LNCT to make major upgrades to the greenhouse infrastructure including framing of window seals, installing of air intake shutters, fans and drip and overhead irrigation systems. The addition of hardwiring of timing devices and overhead light outlets has created a professional greenhouse for use by many in the community.

“Our greenhouse serves a wide variety of community members,” said Vivi Tallman, LNCT Board member, “from students in grades K-6 participating in the Trust’s education programs to 25 enthusiastic gardeners who participate in LNCT’s annual community garden program. This professional-grade greenhouse will allow us to expand our offerings in exciting new ways.”

The 25 x 70 foot greenhouse with its vastly improved capacity to control temperature, airflow, water supply and humidity, can now provide a wider range of services for both the growing of and education about local food production.

“We’re now in a position to produce more vegetables over a longer season, educate more in the community about greenhouse practices and produce even more vegetables for the Food Bank,” said Karen Matthews, who was the lead on the greenhouse upgrade project. Matthews also serves as the lead and “garden coach” for LNCT’s popular community garden program and manages the greenhouse operations. “Many of our community gardeners and LNCT supporters generously donated needed labor for the project—we just couldn’t have done it without them,” said Matthews. “We’re looking forward to the most bountiful community garden yet.”

The next phase of upgrades for the greenhouse, now in the planning stages, include additional insulation, passive solar heat collection and a hydroponic growing system.



Karen Matthews, garden coach and lead on the recent greenhouse upgrades, stands ready with starts for the community garden's Spring season planting. PHOTO BY JUDITH JONES

Thanks to the Growing Support of Our Business Members

Our business members demonstrate a commitment to keeping natural open spaces as a part of our evolving community. Each of these visionary businesses are actively engaged in business practices that support a growing economy, a fair workplace and products that support the environment. If you already work with these businesses, please thank them for supporting LNCT. If you don't already do business with them, please consider them the next time a need arises.

Unfurl Clothing: an eco-fiber clothing boutique

TLC Credit Union: a community friendly credit union

Twist/Basketcase Wines: tasting room in Pacific City

US Bank/Manzanita: all of “US” serving you

Bank of Astoria: best service in community banking

Manzanita Rentals: charismatic vacation homes

Shorebank Pacific: committed to sustainable communities

Cloud & Leaf Bookstore: downtown Manzanita

One Green World: unusual trees from around the world.

If you own a business and are interested in becoming a business partner with the Trust call today for more information, 503-368-3203.

Message From The Chair *continued from page 1*

tree planting at Vosberg Creek, plant and amphibian surveys at the North Edge Nehalem Bay properties, and the development of a bird list at Vosberg Creek. The bird list was developed on May 8, a magnificent, sunny morning, when 26 species were observed. A great birthday present!

Thanks to the following individuals for their great work and dedication to the Trust:

Vivi Tallman, Karen Matthews, and many volunteers who completed upgrades to the Alder Creek Farm greenhouse, made possible by a Tillamook PUD grant;

Gareth Ferdun, our volunteer webmaster, who completed changes to our website to make it more user friendly. If you want to check on activities, read our annual report, see maps and photos of the Trust properties, etc., go to www.nehalemtrust.org;

Lorraine Ortiz, our busy development consultant, who has been creating and implementing new programs, events, and strengthening community partnerships with local businesses and non-profit organizations such as Hoffman Center, North Coast Land Conservancy and Food Roots; and

Erich Miller, our part-time Administrative Staff, for keeping us afloat by multitasking on a daily basis—and congratulations on being selected to participate in the Ford Institute Leadership Program.

Most of all thanks to our Members and Donors who have responded so generously to our requests for financial support. We continue to grow through your generosity.

—Olivia Mercado, *Board Chair*

Matt Love: Stewardship As Passion

As stewardship opportunities continue to grow at LNCT's natural areas, our volunteers and staff are inspired by others who understand deeply what it's like to love and care for a place. Matt Love, former caretaker and steward of the 600-acre Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge (a former dairy farm), shared his experiences recently at the Trust's Alder Creek Farm & Natural Area—also a former dairy farm. In his 10 years as caretaker, Love, a writer, teacher and historian, planted over 10,000 trees at the Refuge and understands, first-hand, what it means to rehabilitate, nurture and protect land. Reading from his latest book, *"Gimme Refuge: The Education of a Caretaker,"* Matt encouraged all stewards of protected land to continue to look deeply at the impact of human presence in designated natural areas.

His stories, anecdotes and genuine passion were also balanced by practical advice as he introduced us to the tool he fell in love with—the Swedish Brush Axe. Immortalized in his book through prose and illustration, Matt says this is the one and only tool to use for clearing our favorite invasive for making pie: blackberries.



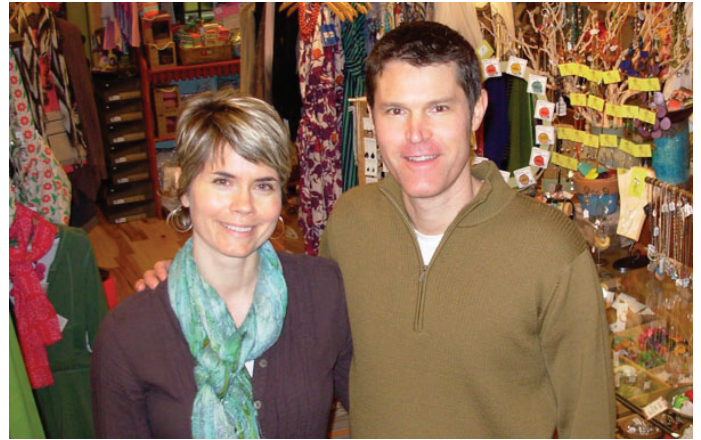
Matt Love inspires a crowd at Alder Creek Farm while reading from his new book "Gimme Refuge." PHOTO BY LORRAINE ORTIZ

Good News... Membership Goal Achieved And Exceeded!

This has been an active year for the Trust in our community outreach, membership and volunteer programs. With the assistance of a grant from Meyer Memorial Trust and contractor Lorraine Ortiz, we have strengthened many of our processes and reached out to engage more people in our work. One of our goals for this fiscal year was to grow our membership by 50%.

We are happy to report that not only did we make our goal, but we exceeded it! With our new individual members, business members and returning members we grew our membership by 68% this year. With this success under our belt, we will aim for a similar goal every year. Annual membership is so important to our efforts as it provides predictable annual support to sustain our work. These memberships, along with additional donations throughout the year, provide the necessary capital to continue our programs: acquisition, stewardship, outreach and community/K-6 education. Thank you for your annual membership in LNCT!

Businesses Giving Back—A Conduit for Change in the Community



Suzy Freeman and Judson Moore, LNCT business members and owners of Unfurl. PHOTO BY ANDREA MACE

Being socially responsible is nothing new for Judson Moore & Suzy Freeman. As past owners of Mother Nature's natural foods they began engaging in the Nehalem Bay area community with a vision of using their work as a vehicle to create the kind of world they wanted to see and live in. Now as owners of Unfurl clothing in Manzanita, they are living that vision in all ways. According to Judson, it's all about supporting shared values to live sustainably.

"Our clothing line represents the best choices for the planet and our support of the Lower Nehalem Community Trust, as a business partner, represents the best choice for our personal values and our community," said Judson.

Suzy and Judson sell products from many small manufacturers who also give back to their communities. Business decisions made in this way continue to widen the circle of environmental support. Judson points out that after five years in business, Unfurl as an entity supports livelihood for five people and targeted social causes as part of the cost of doing business.

"Every month we have rent, payroll, taxes and targeted giving," Judson commented. "We have committed to 1% For The Planet (FTP), which means we donate 1% of our sales to environmentally-focused social causes in our community."

Judson summed up in this way, "LNCT, and their mission, is a necessary part of our local culture and we at Unfurl want to be part of making sure they stick around."

Welcomes & Farewells *continued from page 1*

knowledge. I'm currently growing a wide variety of medicinal herbs and beginning my practice as a community herbalist. It's just a change of focus."

We wish Vivi all the best in her new endeavors with many thanks for her eight years of service on the board and her vision as one of the founders of LNCT.



LOWER NEHALEM
COMMUNITY TRUST
beading the necklace of people and place

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UPCOMING 2010 EVENTS

June 18 - September 10: LNCT at the Manzanita Farmers Market. Stop by our table and say “hi.”

June 12: “En Plein Air” WRITING WORKSHOP at Alder Creek Farm with Robert Michael Pyle

This is an amazing opportunity to get to know the Alder Creek Farm while writing and working with a master, honing the skills and techniques that apply to any good writing. \$85 registration for LNCT members and \$95 for non-members includes the six-hour writing workshop with Bob Pyle and a boxed lunch of your choice. Register today. Call 503-739-1505 or 971-344-5691 or go to <http://hoffmanblog.org>.

June 12: 3rd Annual “Living Locally” GALA FUNDRAISING DINNER: special guest Robert Michael Pyle

A delicious and fun way to support the Trust: social time, appetizers, silent auction, gourmet locavore dinner, music and exciting live “experience” auction—showcasing all things local: musical talent, businesses, food producers and chefs. Join Us! Only 75 tickets will be sold. \$50 for members, \$65 for non-members. Call 503-368-3203 for tickets or more information. Check our website for a description of live auction “experiences.”

August 7: “Ride the Coastal Edge” TRAIN TRIP with special guest interpreter, naturalist Stewart Schultz

Join LNCT and North Coast Land Conservancy for a round-trip excursion through some of the most intact coastal marshes on Oregon’s North Coast. Don’t miss the train! \$40 per person includes catered box dinner. Tickets go on sale June 1. Call 503-738-9126 to reserve your tickets.

October 2: 7th Annual HARVEST FESTIVAL. Farmers market, music, garden tours, food, family fun. Watch for more information and updates on our website and in our monthly e-bulletin.

Join Us For These Ongoing Volunteer Stewardship Opportunities

First Saturday Work Parties through summer/fall—Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Locations vary, check website

Plant and care for native plantings, and other projects at our conservation sites. Potluck lunch.

Wednesdays—Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - Noon. Join us for an array of stewardship activities at Alder Creek Farm.

check our website—www.NehalemTrust.org—for more information & new event postings

We love to hear from you! Call 503-368-3203 or email LNCT@nehalemtnet.net

An Opportunity to Serve the Lower Nehalem Community Trust

LNCT is interested in adding one or two additional Board Directors. Prospective Directors must have skills, knowledge or experience that will help the Board achieve its mission and goals. These include skill in written communication, basic computer knowledge, experience with meetings and consensus decisions; the ability to consider new perspectives, express

differences, delegate, share power, and put ego aside. Most importantly, a commitment to conserve important habitat in our local area is a necessity. The Board meets on the third Thursday of each month, except December. If you are interested in becoming a Board Director, contact the Trust office at 503-368-3203 or send us an email at lnct@nehalemtnet.net.