

ARROYOS & FOOTHILLS CONSERVANCY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

It seems like just yesterday that we were putting together reflections on the Conservancy's 2012-13 accomplishments and experiences— time really does fly when you're having fun!

We are delighted to report on the progress we've experienced over the 2013-14 fiscal year. Success requires a whole community of conservation-minded people working together. We are making great strides protecting open space and habitat for wildlife, with the tremendous participation of our volunteers, donors, advisors and partners. Thank you for playing your part to help the conservancy accomplish great things.



"A LOT OF KIDS THESE DAYS ONLY EXPERIENCE NATURE THROUGH THEIR TEXTBOOKS, [AFC] HELPS MAKE THE TEXTBOOK REAL."

— *Friends of Rosemont Preserve Committee Member Barb Nielsen*

STEWARDSHIP Each time AFC acquires a property we embark on a multi-faceted conservation program that includes removing invasive species, restoring native habitat, repairing and setting trails as appropriate, and providing interesting educational opportunities to promote conservation, especially among our young people. As the number of properties under our care grows, our management responsibilities increase, even as we seek to acquire additional endangered lands. We often form "Friends" groups at our properties, whereby people who have a passion for a given place can have an active, hands-on role in managing and caring for it. Pictures on these pages highlight some of this year's conservation activities put on by Friends groups.

NEW LAND ACQUISITIONS Cottonwood Canyon remains front and center in our acquisition program. We are at 84% of our target fund raise from the local community, and in deliberate pursuit of major government funding and grants for the large capital required to buy this 11 acre treasure in the San Rafael Hills. Cottonwood is a major wildlife thoroughfare connecting the San Rafael Hills to the Arroyo Seco and beyond. The canyon contains a year-round spring that has been flowing since 1885—historical documents reveal that it was an important water source dating back to Pasadena's early history. If developed, this vital corridor for mountain lion, bobcat, deer, coyote, and bear would be blocked, rendering the San Rafaels an isolated, biological dead zone. We must save it.

We are passionate about saving open space to secure and extend the animal-friendly corridors that keep wild places wild. It is gratifying to know that you will be there with us, acquiring and stewarding that land, and having fun in the process!

With best wishes,


Matthew DeVoll, AFC President



AFC PROGRAMS

COTTONWOOD CANYON

The Friends of Cottonwood Canyon already has 4 enthusiastic members who are forming the foundation for community engagement. They have hosted Westridge and Polytechnic Schools for habitat restoration events (Westridge AP Environmental Science class seen here), worked with neighbors on fire hazard reduction, and are hosting monthly open houses at the property. Be sure to contact us if you would like to get involved!



MILLARD CANYON

The Friends of Millard Canyon punctuated their formation by holding a celebration of the acquisition of 13 acres at 'our' Millard cabin, then by hosting middle and high school classes from Westridge School along with other community organizations, such as the Pasadena and Diggers Garden Clubs seen below, doing habitat restoration in the canyon. They are enjoying getting to know their neighbors in the Meadows as well!



ROSEMONT PRESERVE

2014 has been a year of continuing progress at the Rosemont Preserve, with a focus on our three primary objectives: restoration, education and recreation. The Friends of Rosemont Preserve again orchestrated over 1,000 hours of volunteer community service to

- 1) Host 2nd, 3rd and 6th grade students from four local schools on educational hikes emphasizing seismology of the San Gabriel Mountains, local plant adaptation and Native American natural history;
- 2) Continue restoring the Preserve to its natural state by eliminating Arundo, Tree Tobacco and Castor Bean, and replacing non-native ivy with local native plants;
- 3) Partner with local Scout troops to create our outdoor classroom and build raised beds for a future native plant demonstration garden; and
- 4) Offer monthly open gate days and docent-led hikes on the Preserve, including the wildly popular Medicinal Uses of Native Plants hike led by acclaimed USC Professor of Pharmacology James Adams.

Frank Colcord and Paul Rabinov
Friends of Rosemont Preserve Committee Co-chairs



RUBIO CANYON

Even without a Friends group, the work in Rubio Canyon goes on. Seen here are the Pasadena Hiking Pacers doing habitat restoration and trail volunteers building a new trail. If you want to be one of the founders of a Friends group to help steward Rubio Canyon, please contact Barbara Goto at barbaragoto@arroyosoothills.org.

Thanks to the following photographers for allowing our use of their wonderful photographs: 1st page: Tom Dugan, Althea Edwards, Polytechnic School; 2nd page: Paul Ayers, Pasadena Garden Club, Pasadena Hiking Pacers; and on all pages our wonderful staff.

Cottonwood Canyon Update

What a kick it has been to see the region rise up and support preserving open space in Cottonwood Canyon—a place they had never heard of until the AFC began this campaign last year!

Our core member of the Friends of Cottonwood Canyon, Scott Babcock, grew up hiking there through his family friends, the Millikans. They and another family have owned the canyon since 1889. Yokum discovered water there in 1885, then they piped it out and even bottled water at the spring that still flows through the lower part of the 11 acres. But most of us have driven past for decades without knowing the secrets of Cottonwood.

It's awfully steep, except for the meadow just west of the avenue. But scores of people over the last year have taken our docent-led hike up its switchbacks—quietly because of the animal life there—to see the canyon and the spring's source. We've had Craftsman Brewery's seasonal acorn

beer tastings, acorn pancakes and a performance by Lineage Dance choreographed just for Cottonwood. So far 197 donors have contributed financially toward our \$300,000 community goal to purchase the canyon and keep it open space in perpetuity, and to protect its wildlife corridors. With a \$25,000 gift from the Pasadena Community Foundation in memory of nature-lover Sid Tyler, even larger matching pledges from Gordy Crawford (KPPC Crawford Family Forum) and the Helen and Will Webster Foundation, among other generous support, we are over the \$250,000 mark.

Now we know of the dozens of bird species there thanks to our friends and generous supporters at the Pasadena branch of the Audubon Society, who have voted us a \$25,000 grant after visiting the canyon. I'm most impressed by the way AFC Advisor Mickey Long puts it about the latest bird find: "My wife Jan spotted a Spotted Owl at the last Cottonwood Open House! It was using the valuable wildlife corridor as a thermal refuge from the heat of the day. Later on it



moved over to the branch of a sycamore and feasted on a woodrat."

The feasting will go on forever with supporters like you. We got a great start in 2014. Let's seal the deal on the Cottonwood purchase in FY2015.

Larry Wilson, CCCC

COTTONWOOD AND CORRIDORS DONORS

as of November 15, 2014

Cottons (\$50,000)

Gordon Crawford
Helen & Will Webster Foundation

Woods (\$25,000)

Pasadena Audubon Society
Ninarose Mayer
Pasadena Community Foundation

Canyons (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous
Sara & George Abdo
Betsey Tyler

Wildlife (\$5,000)

California Native Plant Society,
San Gabriel Mountains Chapter
Sally & John Howell
John & Beverly Stauffer Foundation

Corridors (\$1,000)

Gwen & Guil Babcock, Belinda Fischer,
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Perlette Jura, Virginia & John Kimball,
BJ Ledyard, Barbara Nielsen & Bill Bell,

Katie & Chris Poole, Shannon & John Quinn, SahanDaywi Foundation,
Fred Schwarzenbach, Cynthia & Bradford Thiel, Phoebe & Larry Wilson, Linda Zinn

Perennial Spring (\$5-\$999)

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THANK YOU TO OUR ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS

INDIVIDUALS

The following people and organizations made donations this fiscal year to support the programs and properties we steward and the maintenance and well-being of AFC.

Arroyos Donors

(\$1,000+)
 Marie Adamson Family Trust
 Erin & Richard Atwater
 Gwen & Guil Babcock
 Juli & Ron Chase
 Gordon Crawford
 Jennifer & Matt DeVoll
 Henry Fliegel
 Heather & Paul Haaga
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 Cameron Hotchkis
 Remington Hotchkis
 Desiree & Paul Rabinov
 SahanDaywi Foundation
 Fred Schwarzenback

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Edwina Travis-Chin & Robert Miller, June Traweek, Cindy Tyler, Audrey Vaughan, Eleanor Wacker, Marilynne & Roger Wilander, James Williams, Linda & Bob Winters, Betsy & Don Witteman, Phillip Wolf, Mary Yui

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Altadena Community Chest
 American Hiking Society
 BP Foundation
 California Conservation Corps
 Craftsman Brewery
 Edison International
 Girl Scout Troop 1428
 Hancock Park Garden Club
 Harpo Productions
 Pasadena Diggers Club
 Pasadena Garden Club
 Polytechnic School
 Renaissance Foundation
 Tom Sawyer Camps

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(\$1-\$999)
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FOOTHILLS SOCIETY

Foothills Society members support AFC with 3 year pledges.

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Legacy Members

Sameer Etman
 Ninarose Mayer
 Terry Villanueva & Justin Whalin

Engelmann Oak (\$1,000 per year)

Sara & George Abdo, Claire & Bill Bogaard, Carole & Jack Brady, Sally & John Howell, Coyotes Dianne Philibosian & Tom Seifert, Katie & Chris Poole, Nancy & Bruce Steele, Betsey Tyler, Linda Zinn

Coast Live Oak (\$500 per year)

Mary Cross & Lawren Markle, Sandy Gillis & Tom Gammill, Sharon Laubach & Andrew Mishkin, Ninarose Mayer, Bill Meurer, Ellen & Anthony Portantino, Pamela Rogers, Jeanette & Marc Stirdivant

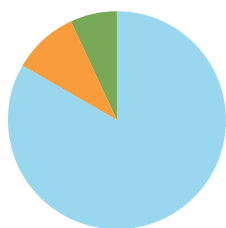
California Sycamore (\$250 per year)

Tracey Alsobrook, Sally Beer, Mary & Bill Carroll, Suzanne & Walter Cochran-Bond, Brendan Crill, Jennifer & Matt DeVoll, Laura & Jim Garrett, Katherine & Robert Gillespie, Ginny & Jim Heringer, Walter Hubert & Mark Saltzman, Michelle Huneven & Jim Potter, Bob Kneisel, Vicky & Benny Ko, Dorothy & John Matthiessen, Scarlett & Jim Osterling, Andrea Rawlings & E.J. Remson, Julie Reiz & Kennon Miedema, Susana Reyes, Loretta Savery & Alex Black, Dorothy Scully, Lois Tandy, Lynn & Donald Voss, Joanne & Tim Wendler

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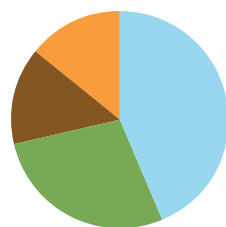
AFC FINANCES 2013-14*



TOTAL INCOME \$ 328,638

Individual donations	83.5%
Corporate donations	9.7%
Community groups	6.8%

89.6% of Total Income was directed to program and land acquisition



TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 209,195

Programs	43.8%
Land acquisition	27.7%
Management	14.4%
Fundraising	14.1%

* Preliminary amounts, final amounts will be reported on IRS form 990.

CONTACT: For more information, visit our website: www.arroyosfoothills.org. To discuss making a donation or bequest, please contact Jennifer Taylor at jennifertaylor@arroyosfoothills.org. To discuss volunteering, contact Barbara Goto at barbaragoto@arroyosfoothills.org. Both can also be reached at (626)796-0782.

