



# Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust

SPRING 2019

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I'm feeling especially thankful this year. Your generous support of the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust has helped protect the lands most important to our communities.

As I look back on this past year, we have the opportunity to reflect on all the good work we have done together in 2018. Here are just a few ways that we made a difference together:

- Joined the Sierra Cascade Land Trust Council, a network of land trusts acting as a collective voice in this diverse region to protect the natural, historic and agricultural resources for generations to come
- Monitored 617 acres of preserved land
- Worked with interested landowners towards preserving an additional 1500 acres
- Published our annual Sutter Buttes calendar
- Worked with [Colombo Graphics](#) to create a short commercial about what the land means to us, which can be found on our homepage at [www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org](http://www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org)

- Hosted our annual Sunset Serenade silent auction amongst the Valley Oaks in the Sutter Buttes
- Participated in local events for kids, such as Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau's "Farm Day" and "Nature Bowl", hosted by Sutter County RCD. "Nature Bowl, an annual, science-based educational program for 3rd through 6th graders, helps students gain ecological knowledge and conservation literacy through games, problems, puzzles, and exploration
- We had the distinct pleasure of working side-by-side with local neighbors and other generous volunteers who gave their time (150 hours to be exact) to help the land trust with weed management and site clean-up at our West Butte Schoolhouse property in Sutter, CA

Let's continue this momentum together in 2019!

*Alyssa Lindman*

## SCHOOLHOUSE REHABILITATION UPDATE

We were incredibly blessed to have had the opportunity to work with the Aerospace Academy students and teachers, who have been busy documenting the schoolhouse site using aerial drone technology. The students created an impressive aerial model of the site using drone photos and a 3D printer. The model was entered into the California State Fair, Student Showcase competition, and won third place! We are incredibly proud of their accomplishment and grateful for the dedication and support they have shown to our little schoolhouse. The important work they have completed will help

move us closer to our goal of rehabilitating the schoolhouse for use as an interpretive center or other community based use.



# THE 2019 CALENDARS ARE HERE!



The Photographer's Reception was held on August 24th at the Community Museum of Sutter and was a smashing success. We are very grateful to all of our guests, board members, sponsors, and photographers who came together to make this the best calendar unveiling yet!

Haven't purchased your calendar yet this season? Hurry over to our store and purchase today! Go to [www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org/Calendars](http://www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org/Calendars) to buy your calendar today.

## COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM OF SUTTER COUNTY

The museum has been a huge supporter of the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust for many years. Their mission is to share local stories to strengthen community bonds, to inspire celebration of our diverse cultural heritage, and to demonstrate how understanding the past prepares us for the future. Admission to the museum is free.

### OPEN HOURS:

Tuesday through Friday  
9am to 5pm  
Saturday and Sunday  
12pm to 4 pm

### ADDRESS:

1333 Butte House Road  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
Phone Number: (530) 822-7141

# OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

## FARM DAY

On Friday, September 28th, SBRLT attended the Farm Bureau's Farm Days event held at the Yuba-Sutter Fair Grounds. This annual event is attended by over 2,500 local area 3rd grade school children to learn about agriculture, land use and conservation, law enforcement, animal husbandry, and much, much more.

This was the second year the land trust was involved in this event and we had the opportunity to present conservation and land management concepts to more than 100 youngsters! And our trusty Conservation Plinko game was also there where everyone is a winner when they play to preserve the environment!



## HARVEST THE ARTS

This year's Harvest the Arts festival saw the inclusion of SBRLT for the first time. Held at Heier Farms, this event strives to bring awareness to the arts in the Yuba-Sutter communities. SBRLT's table provided interactive educational portions as well as the 2019 calendars and our ever popular books, *Inland Island: The Sutter Buttes* by Walt Anderson and *Images of America: The Sutter Buttes* by our very own Board Vice President, Mike Hubbartt, who was also graciously signing each purchase with a personalized message!



## OUR PROMISE, CA

SBRLT also attended the United Way's Our Promise, CA event held on the steps of the State Capital building in Sacramento. Hundreds of State employees and those from surrounding local businesses visited all of the worth-while non profits who were presented. Land Trust staff and volunteers were on hand to educate on our mission, as well as provide membership information.

Conservation Plinko was a hit with young and old alike and many contacts were made. We also raffled off three calendars and a gorgeous one-of-a-kind laser cut cutting board donated by LaserArt by Blueray Concepts



# PROTECTING RANGELAND AND FARMLAND WITH CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Lisa Lindman, Executive Director

Rangeland and agricultural land comprise a significant portion of open space and productive farmland that must be protected for our health, economy, wildlife habitat and way of life. More than one quarter of California's landmass is used for agriculture. Just over half of the 27.6 million acres of agricultural land is pasture and range and about 40 percent is cropland. California's farming industry produces over a third of the nation's vegetables and nearly two-thirds of our fruits and nuts. Rangeland and agricultural land not only supply food, but also contributes to the environment and regional culture. These precious landscapes provide countless jobs, draw tourism, promote diverse ecosystems, and mitigate for climate change. Our precious open-space, rangeland and agricultural land is under threat from development or conversion as our region becomes more crowded. Increasing development pressures and the difficulties of farming have resulted in an average loss of nearly 50,000 acres of California farmland and ranchland each year. Once rural land is converted to other uses, it's rarely converted back, resulting in a permanent loss of farmland or grazing land.

It is our mission to protect important farmland, open-space, and rangeland through the use of conservation easements. These easements run with the land and ensure that the land will remain as agricultural land, open-space, or rangeland into perpetuity. With property taxes and other financial pressures often being reasons for families to sell their land, SBRLT provides an alternative option – specifically the sale of development rights, rather than the entire property. In exchange for a conservation easement, a rancher or farmer is generally paid the difference in value between the land with development rights and the value of the land as open space, rangeland, or agriculture. Other benefits include reduced property taxes and tax deductions. Individual landowners aren't the only ones enjoying the benefits of a conservation easement; our local region also reaps the benefits of the land with every breath of clean air, glass of fresh water, bite of local food, and enjoyment of our wide open spaces and rural community. SBRLT works with ranchers and farmers to protect our farms, food, and future in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties. For anyone who is interested in preserving and protecting working landscapes, including grazing, grasslands, wildlife habitat, cultural values, and watersheds, conservation easements provide a real opportunity to sustain our bountiful region in perpetuity for future generations.

## 15TH ANNUAL CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

We have begun planning for the 2020 Sutter Buttes Calendar and invite you to participate by submitting photos for consideration. Deadline for submissions will be Friday, April 12, 2019.

We are looking for images that capture the natural scenic beauty of the Sutter Buttes and surrounding region. Scenes should include, but are not limited to, the Sutter Buttes Mountains, local farm lands highlighting farming operations or activities, native fauna and flora, geological features, waterfowl habitats, unique natural or weather aeriels or landscapes of the Sutter Buttes.

All submissions are judged for originality, expression and quality. Each month features a full-page photo and several thumbnails. All featured photographers will receive full recognition as well as complimentary calendars and a featured spot at the fall Photographer's Reception to showcase more of their work at the Community Memorial Museum.

Calendar Sponsorship Opportunities Available! Download the 2020 Calendar Sponsorship Form today and get a jump start on picking which month you would like reserved just for your logo and contact info.

[www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org/news/latest-news/](http://www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org/news/latest-news/)



### NEW! STUDENT SUBMISSION PHOTO CONTEST



We have reserved one month of the calendar to specifically feature a student photographer's work. If you are student up through high school, have a student, or teach students and would like to submit photos for consideration, please be sure to submit your work with the notation "student submission", which will be judged separately from other photographer submissions! The winner will receive a free hike gift certificate to be used with Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes.

# SUNSET SERENADE

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust and Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes will team up again on May 4th to host the annual Sunset Serenade. Attendees will be able to hike on the historic Dean Place property in the Sutter Buttes before enjoying a catered dinner with live music, silent auction, raffles and wine – all within the beautiful backdrop of the Middle Mountain. Reservations are required. Contact [mmsutterbutteshikes@yahoo.com](mailto:mmsutterbutteshikes@yahoo.com) or 530-671-6116 to purchase tickets to this annual fundraising event you won't want to miss!



## Membership Benefits

If it weren't for the generous donations from our members, the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust wouldn't be able to continue to make a difference in our region. Because of YOUR direct support, SBRLT has been able to provide managing and monitoring services for 4 easements and 2 in-fee properties, with more currently in negotiations.

Do you want to hike the Sutter Buttes? Many of our membership levels come with discounts and gift certificates for Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes who provide guided hike tours most weekends from October through May. Gift certificates can also be given as gifts.

Join & Support Today. Together we can protect the land that defines our heritage.

LEVEL	MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT
\$25 Donor	Receive newsletters and notification of events before the public
\$50 Friend	Newsletters, notifications and 10% off a hike
\$100 Associate	Newsletters, notifications and one hike certificate
\$250 Sponsor	Newsletters, notifications and two hike certificates
\$500 Conservator	Newsletters, notifications and four hike certificates
\$1,000 Patron	Newsletters, notifications and six hike certificates
\$2,500 Benefactor	Newsletters, notifications and 1 charter hike for 10
\$5,000 Corporate	Newsletters, notifications and 2 charter hikes for 10

Credit Cards accepted on our website. Or you can contact us at [info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org](mailto:info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org) or 530-755-3568.

### MIDDLE MOUNTAIN INTERPRETIVE HIKES



## 2019 WINTER SCHEDULE

Sun Feb 24	East Ridge Hike	Shaeffer Ranch
Sun Feb 24	Summit Ascent	Dean/N. Butte*
Sat Mar 2	Brockman Nature	Brockman Canyon
Sat Mar 2	Ridge Ascent	Bragg Canyon*
Sun Mar 3	Geology Trek	Dean Place
Sun Mar 3	Wildflower Study	Shaeffer Ranch
Sat Mar 9	Canyon Trek	Bragg Canyon*
Sat Mar 9	Double Transect	Bragg/Dean/Bragg**
Sat Mar 9	Wildflower Study	Shaeffer Ranch
Sun Mar 10	Brockman Challenge	Brockman Canyon
Sat Mar 16	Summit Ascent	Dean/N. Butte*
Sat Mar 16	Ridge Trek	Brockman Canyon
Sun Mar 17	Broken Teacup	Dean Place
Sun Mar 17	West Ridge Hike	Shaeffer Ranch
Sat Mar 23	Wildflower Exploration	Dean Place
Sun Mar 24	East Ridge Hike	Shaeffer Ranch
Sun Mar 24	Wild Nature in Buttes	Dean Place
Sat Mar 30	Wildflower Study	Brockman Canyon
Sun Mar 31	Ranch Exploration	Shaeffer Ranch
Sun Mar 31	Summit Ascent	Dean/N. Butte*
Sat Apr 6	Ancient Crater Traverse	Bragg Canyon*
Sat Apr 6	East Ridge Hike	Shaeffer Ranch
Sat Apr 6	Wildflower Study	Bragg Canyon*
Sun Apr 7	Nature Study	Brockman Canyon
Sun Apr 7	Wildflower Study	Dean Place
Sat Apr 13	Birds in Buttes	Dean Place
Sat Apr 13	Photographers	Brockman Canyon
Sat Apr 13	Wildflower Study	Bragg Canyon*
Sun Apr 14	Ridge Trek	Dean Place
Fri Apr 19	Full Moon Stroll	Dean Place
Sat Apr 20	Bat Research Outing	Dean Place
Sat Apr 20	Gentle Ridge Views	Dean Place
Sat Apr 27	Butterflies & Wildflowers	Dean Place
Sat May 4	Sunset Serenade	Dean Place***

Register online at [www.middlemountainhikes.org](http://www.middlemountainhikes.org)

The cost for open hikes is \$35 per person unless otherwise noted.

\* The cost of this outing is \$45

\*\* The cost of this outing is \$60

\*\*\*The cost of this fundraising dinner is \$100;

sorry, no discount certificates accepted for this event.

# WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust gained three new board members in 2018! Please help us in welcoming these three ladies who bring with them a wealth of knowledge and expertise that will be a valuable asset to the land trust as we move forward in 2019.



**DR. SANDRA MAYO** serves as a Board Director for SBRLT. She joined SBRLT in August 2018 and is a recent transplant to Northern California, moving to Yuba City in July 2017. She is the daughter of an immigrant and veteran and grew up

camping, hiking and backpacking in the San Bernardino Mountains and the Sierras. Sandy is a long time educator, beginning as a high school mathematics teacher, eventually teaching mathematics in the community colleges. She has worked her way up the administrative ladder, from director to dean to Vice President of Instruction to College President to Vice Chancellor of Education and Planning for the Yuba Community College District. Sandy is excited about getting involved in the community and supporting land conservation.



She hails from a family whose history is closely tied to the region. Her family has owned a ranch in the heart of the Sutter Buttes since 1898, and Margit considers herself fortunate to have grown up working cattle on the ranch, and finds that her appreciation for the Sutter

Buttes grows with each passing year. She has retired from her lifelong career of teaching elementary school, primarily at Manzanita School in Gridley. Now she devotes more time to the cattle operation with some side interests of playing her flute and sewing. She also is the Charter Hike Coordinator for our sister organization, Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes.



**DR. EMMA BLACKTHORNE** serves as a Board Director for SBRLT. She has had a long and distinguished career spanning the fields of anthropology, education, executive management, and criminal justice. She speaks, reads or writes more than 15 languages and has traveled to every region of the world. She currently continues to teach anthropology to

students in the Yuba-Sutter community as a professor with the Yuba Community College District. Dr. Blackthorne has been in executive management since 2007, has started two businesses, and has been involved with the leadership of numerous nonprofit organizations. She serves as Dean of Institutional Effectiveness with the Yuba Community College District as well as accepting leadership of the Marysville Youth and Community Center.

**MARGIT SANDS** serves as a Board Director for SBRLT.

## Sutter Buttes Cutting Boards



11.75 x 9" Bamboo Cutting Board with laser engraved photo of the Sutter Buttes. Display or use as cutting board on the back side. These boards make great gifts!

Quantities are limited! go to: [www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org](http://www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org)

\$40<sup>00</sup>  
+ s/h



## You are invited...

We extend to you an invitation to attend our public board meetings. Held the second Tuesday of the month at the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County at 6:30pm, they are a great way to learn more about the land trust and how you can be involved. Would you like to learn what a Conservation Easement is? Learn about the roles of our board, staff and members in supporting the work of our nonprofit organization!

### UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 12th** – SBRLT Board Meeting at 6:30pm\*
- February 15th** – Submissions open for 2020 The Sutter Buttes calendar contest
- March 12th** – SBRLT Board Meeting at 6:30pm\*
- April 9th** – SBRLT Board Meeting at 6:30pm\*
- April 12th** – Photo contest ends
- May 4th** – Sunset Serenade Annual Fundraiser in the Sutter Buttes with Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes
- May 13th** – Photo contest winners notified

\* Meeting held at The Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, located at 1333 Butte House Road in Yuba City.



# SUTTER BUTTES REGIONAL LAND TRUST

## OUR MISSION

The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust works to protect the land and natural resources of the Sutter Buttes and surrounding region for present and future generations.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Reusser, President, Director  
Mike Hubbart, Vice President, Director  
Babs Cotter, Secretary, Director  
Julie Stark, Director  
Carolyn Brown, Director  
Dr. Emma Blackthorne, Director  
Dr. Sandra Mayo, Director  
Margit Sands, Director/Landowner  
Spencer Morrison, Treasurer/Officer

## SUPPORT

Lisa Lindman, Executive Director  
Kim Mansfield, Administrator



Find us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/SutterButtesLandTrust](http://www.facebook.com/SutterButtesLandTrust)

## ADVISORS

Brian Hausback, Geology Advisor  
Pete Sands, Naturalist  
Gene Trapp, Biological Advisor  
Stan Wright, Biological Advisor  
David Wyatt, Biological Advisor

## CONTACT US

You can reach us by:

Telephone: 530-755-3568

Website: [www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org](http://www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org)

Mail: PO Box 3359, Yuba City, CA 95992

EMail: [info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org](mailto:info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org)



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SUTTER BUTTES REGIONAL LAND TRUST

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