



Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust

SPRING 2021

REFLECTIONS OF 2020

2020 started off as most years do. It was a time of a fresh beginning from the humdrum of the previous year ending, in the hope of; "well, we had a good year in 2019, next year will be better". For some it was the planning of crops and new crop rotations, new projects to start, putting the finishing touches on the old projects, taking a winter break or simply to be glad that we got through another year.

For the land trust, we had hoped to be able to get closer to signing off on a high value agricultural conservation easement. We were also planning our fundraising program for the new year and were looking forward to planning our art auction as partners with the Middle Mountain Interpretive Hikes' Annual Sunset Serenade fundraiser in May. The auction portion of the event was to have been our major fundraiser for the year. The 2021 Sutter Buttes Calendar planning was starting to take shape and we already had a date at the Sutter County Museum for the calendar sale rollout in August plus a reception and a gallery showing of the winning photographs of each month by and for the photographers who had submitted the images. We were also actively working on and planning our application to the Land Trust Alliance for our re-accreditation which is renewed every 5 years. Our current accreditation expires in 2022 and the application is due about a year in advance. With all these plans for a busy and hopefully productive new year, we were starting to feel confident that 2020 would be our year to shine. However, it was not to be.

In late February and March Murphy's Law took over our thinking. A new and dangerous respiratory disease called SARS-CoV-2

(renamed to COVID-19) that had no known cure was ravaging the world population. The reactions to this caused all forms of government to issue quarantine and stay at home orders to try to combat the spread of the scourge. Travel, both international and domestic, was curtailed or outrightly banned. Events were cancelled outright or with no word of postponement to a later date. The country's economy was effectively shut down. People had lost their jobs, and those that were still able to go to work had jobs that were deemed essential.

I would like to be able to tell you that the land trust was not affected by all this. Sadly, that is not the case. We were left scrambling for ideas to combat the situation that we were in just like everyone else. Fundraising, membership dues, donations, and the odd grant award are our only reliable sources of income. The moneys from those sources pays the bills and the staff, and they had essentially "evaporated". Where was the money going to come from? A question that was frequently asked is; "Can we use the interest generated by the investments for things such as operations and the like?". The short answer is, "Yes!", with certain restrictions. By law we must use the original funds or the interest generated from the endowments as that money can only be used for the things that had been specifically designated. If they were designated for operational use, they can be used for that in an emergency situation, concurrent with board approval, as per our investment policy.

We are confident that we will be able to pickup the things that we had to postpone last year in 2020. The high value agricultural easement will

Continued on next page

REFLECTIONS...CON'T

hopefully be formalized later on this year. This will enhance our viability as a land trust. The planning for the 2022 Sutter Buttes Calendar is underway and the photo submission period is open. We are well on our way to having the calendar production costs totally paid for by the selling of page sponsorships. The PPP loan program of the Small Business Administration was made available and we applied in 2020 and 2021 for the second draw. These loans were made available by the SBA to augment the payment of wages to employees, if you had a certain significant revenue loss in the quarters specified, and are forgivable if the funds are used as such. We were awarded the money on both of the loans to help pay the staff. We will still feel the pain of revenue loss, but it is not nearly as much as it could have been.

The land trust has been able to keep afloat by having Zoom meetings, and by the hard work of the very capable staff consisting of our Executive Director, Lisa Lindman, and Member Services Coordinator, Kim Mansfield. The two of them have kept up the important conservation work that is the heart of the organization

and the equally important work of the administration of the membership roster, planning the Sutter Buttes Calendar, and all the myriad other things SBRLT as a land trust must do to remain viable. Their dedication to the organization and their hard work is invaluable to the organization, and the board of directors and myself greatly appreciate it. Thank you, Lisa and Kim.

In closing this article for the newsletter, I want to make a pitch for donations to the organization and if your membership is up for renewal to please send your check. We are a 501c(3) non-profit organization and as such donations made to us are tax deductible and whatever you could give will most certainly be put to use in the important work of preserving land for agriculture, endangered species, clean water, the Sutter Buttes and riparian habitats for present and future generations. Contact Kim Mansfield at 530-755-3568 for more information.

Yours in Conservation

Joe Reusser - Board President



SUTTER BUTTES REGIONAL LAND TRUST

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust is to protect and maintain the natural and agricultural resources of the Sutter Buttes and the surrounding region for present and future generations.



Excellence · Trust · Permanence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Reusser, President, Director
Mike Hubbart, Vice President, Director
Dr. Emma Blackthorne, Treasurer, Director
Julie Stark, Secretary, Director
Babs Cotter, Director
Margit Sands, Director/Landowner
Sam Smallwood, Director

ADVISORS

Brian Hausback, Geology Advisor
Gene Trapp, Biological Advisor
Stan Wright, Biological Advisor
David Wyatt, Biological Advisor
Spencer Morrison, Financial Advisor

CONTACT US

You can reach us by:

Telephone: 530-755-3568

Website: www.SutterButtesLandTrust.org

Mail: PO Box 3359, Yuba City, CA 95992

Email: info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org

SUPPORT

Lisa Lindman, Executive Director
Kim Mansfield, Member Services Coordinator



Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/SutterButtesLandTrust

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR NEW 2022 CALENDAR SPONSORS

By Cindi Mansfield, Sponsorship Director

Sponsorship is a way to give back to your community through support with monetary or in-kind products and services. I recently sent out letters and emails for sponsorship of the yearly land trust calendar and was amazed at the quick response from so many new and returning sponsors. Your support of the calendar is so appreciated!

I feel so privileged to work with these people and to say thank you so much for your support and generosity. To the new sponsors, thank you for partnering with the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust, and to those who are returning, thank you for your continued support of our traditions and programs.

This year's land trust calendar page sponsors include:

GOLDEN STATE NATURAL GAS SYSTEMS

Kevin & Debbie Weddle

CORDI WINERY

Teresa & Reece Cordi

TOR BROADCASTING CORP

Ed Hulbert

MONTNA FARMS

Jon Munger

WESTERN PLASTERING

Gary & Sara Smith

FSU CONSULTING, LLC

Dr. Emma Blackthorne & Curtis Vandermolen

MAILBOXES PLUS | LINCOLN RD

Duane Haley

JOE REUSSER PHOTOGRAPHY

PETE SANDS MEMORIAL

Margit Sands

BUTTE SAND AND GRAVEL

Darren & Coleen Morehead

MIDDLE MOUNTAIN INTERPRETIVE HIKES

Board of Directors

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

\$25 Donor
\$50 Friend
\$100 Associate
\$250 Sponsor
\$500 Conservator
\$1,000 Patron
\$2,500 Benefactor
\$5,000 Corporate

MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Newsletters and event notification
10% off a hike, Event notification, Newsletters
One hike certificate, Event notification, Newsletters
Two hike certificates, Event notification, Newsletters
Four hike certificates, Event notification, Newsletters
Six hike certificates, Event notification, Newsletters
1 charter hike for 10, Event notification, Newsletters
2 charter hikes for 10, Event notification, Newsletters

Credit Cards accepted on our website. Or you can contact us at info@sutterbutteslandtrust.org or 530-755-3568.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPONSORING

Sponsorship is important to the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust. It helps to fund the events and fundraisers that help the land trust to continue with its efforts to safeguard the lands and resources that define our region, community and heritage.

If you or someone you know wants to partner with the land trust in it's continuing efforts please contact us today for more information.
sponsorship@sutterbutteslandtrust.org.



MARCH MADNESS (PRE)SALE!

Last year around this time, we weren't even sure if we would be able to even continue offering the Sutter Buttes calendar due to the pandemic severely restricting our fundraising endeavors. However, our community stepped up BIG TIME and through all the generous donations to "Save the Calendar", we were able to continue offering the calendar. So we would like to extend the same offers again this year to help fund the calendar and give away some custom prizes. As an added bonus this year, your donation will enter you into a drawing for a prize gift box with lots of Sutter Buttes engraved items valued at \$90. The gift box is graciously donated by our partner, LaserArt by Blueray Concepts!

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 15TH THROUGH THE 21ST ONLY:

- \$50 or more received during these dates, you will get a custom laser engraved Sutter Buttes wooden spoon as well as one entry into a drawing for the Sutter Buttes Gift Box;
- \$100 and above received during these dates, you will receive a laser engraved Sutter Buttes wooden spoon plus the 2022 calendar when they are released later this year as well as two entries into the drawing for the Sutter Buttes Gift Box;
- \$200 and above received during these dates, you will receive a laser engraved Sutter Buttes wooden spoon, the 2022 calendar, AND a small custom engraved Sutter Buttes cutting board, along with four entries into the drawing for the Sutter Buttes Gift Box!

ONLY donations received through the following link will qualify for the the Save the Calendar Fund and gifts. Please go to this link to donate SutterButtesLandTrust.org/news/save-the-calendar



CONDOLENCES

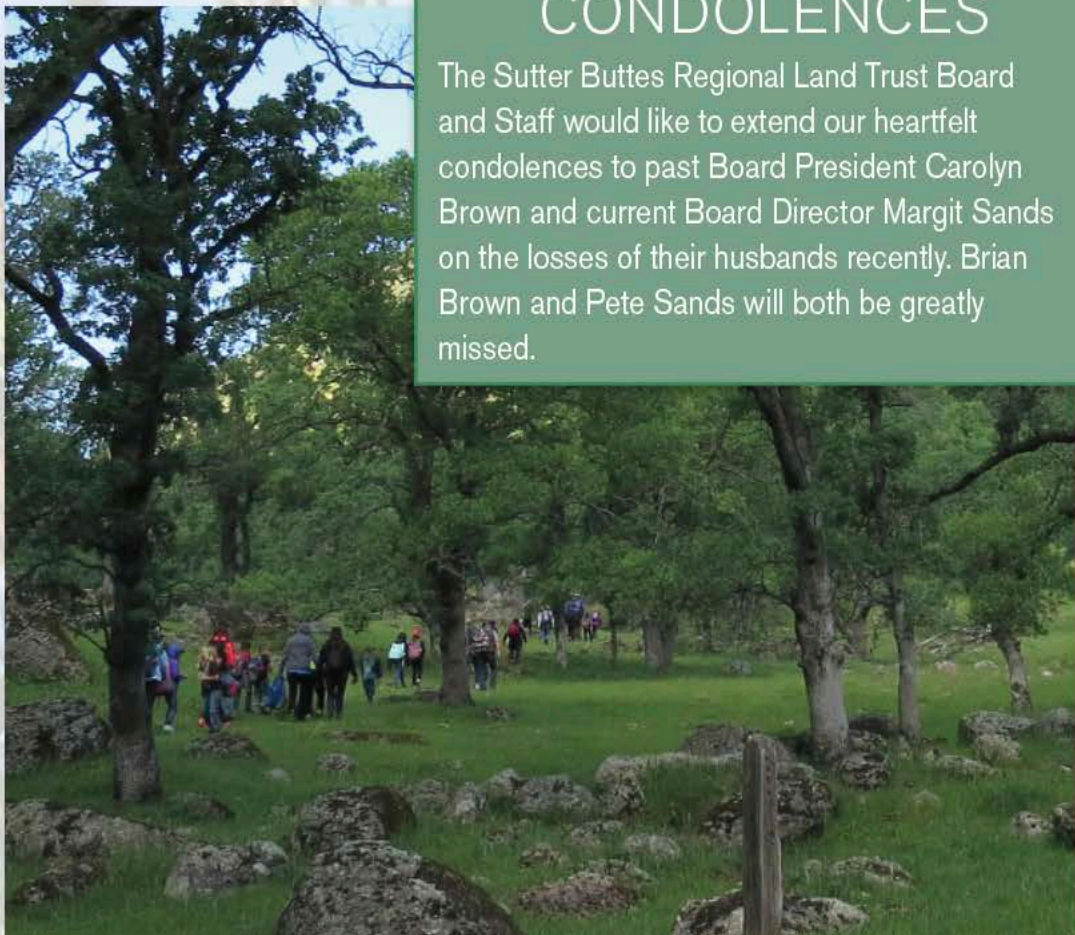
The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust Board and Staff would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to past Board President Carolyn Brown and current Board Director Margit Sands on the losses of their husbands recently. Brian Brown and Pete Sands will both be greatly missed.

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust holds monthly board and committee meetings that are always open to the public. All of our meetings are held via Zoom and a calendar of our upcoming meetings can be found on our website at www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org/news.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| March 15-21st | March Madness Sale |
| April 23rd | Photo contest submissions due |
| May 14th | Photo contest winners notified |

Stay tuned for future events. Check out the facebook page for more up to date information.



JUST LIKE AN OLD ROADMAP, CALIFORNIA'S HISTORY CONTINUES TO UNFOLD!

BY MIKE HUBBARTT, SBRLT VICE PRESIDENT

A map tells us so much more than how to find our destination. What map are you using to get where you are going? If that's all you need, then a digital map on your cell phone is fine. As the Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust, we use a variety of maps and we'd like to share some aspects of each one with you. Yes, we start with our hand-held device too.

But then we look back into the past for a historical perspective, and we find on old county maps from the late 1800's some of the local family names of people whose descendants still live around here and they are carrying on a family heritage that goes back for many generations. Those are the people that we want to work with. Or perhaps your family recently acquired a historic site and you wish to preserve its peaceful, arcadian ambience. We want to work with you too.

As a nationally accredited land trust, we have the connections and resources to help such families preserve their heritage, their family history, so their young can carry on a priceless legacy. We use modern mapping tools today expedite documenting what you want to preserve and what you need to use to keep your family operation profitable.

Over the years, we have seen where a death or a divorce has led to the loss of a hundred-year tradition. Loss of farm and ranch land to developments or subdivision continues to climb at a higher rate than our populations. A recent review of California's Department of Conservation records reveals that over 30,000 acres have been lost between 2008 and 2018 in Sutter County alone!



We treasure our rural Colusa, Sutter, and Yuba County landscapes that attract millions of wintering waterfowl, numerous species of wildlife in the trees that line our roadways and the critters along the way that brighten our day! I still keep a Chamber of Commerce paper map in my truck which shows highways and byways, places for recreation, and destination sites along with ads that support local businesses that want to reach a regional clientele.

Do you enjoy a relaxing country drive? All of us can do something to help preserve the open spaces and agricultural operations that keep our pantries full and our landscape picturesque and uncluttered. Check our website - www.sutterbutteslandtrust.org for a roadmap of ways to Bike, Ride, or Hike the Buttes!

We are working to shape the way California's history unfolds. Join us!



WELCOME TO THE BOARD

The Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust gained a new board member in 2020! Please help us in welcoming Sam Smallwood.

Sam Smallwood serves as a Board Member for SBRLT. She is currently in the process of earning her BA in Geography, which she hopes will help her to further understand, protect, and conserve our environment. She grew up in Northern California, and as such, has always loved the great outdoors. California's incredible mountain ranges, lakes, rivers, valleys, and stunning coastlines inspired her life-long hobbies of backpacking, trail running, and kayaking. When she's not outside, she enjoys spending time with her family and volunteering.

Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust

17th Annual Calendar Photo Contest

Calling All Photographers, Including Students in K-12!

Deadline for submissions will be Friday, April 23, 2021. Winners contacted by May 14, 2021

We are looking for unique and new perspectives of the region. Some examples are:

- The Sutter Buttes
- Farmers, Ranchers, Farming Activities
- Native Fauna and Flora
- Geological Features
- Waterfowl Habitats
- Unique Natural or Weather Aerials or Landscapes
- Agricultural Heritage or Landscapes

For more information contact us at:
(530) 755-3568 or
Photos@SutterButtesLandTrust.org



Sutter Buttes
Regional Land Trust



SUTTER BUTTES REGIONAL LAND TRUST

P.O. Box 3359
Yuba City, CA 95992