
The Friends of San Leandro Creek News

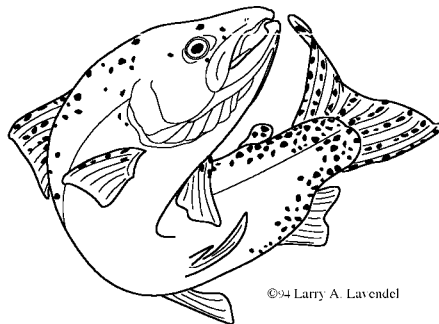
Volume 7 Issue 1

November 2003

Come Spend An Evening with Friends!

The Friends of San Leandro Creek are hosting our first annual donor and volunteer recognition event, **An Evening With Friends**, Thursday November 20th. Please join us at the Englander Sports Pub and Restaurant in downtown San Leandro from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Suggested donation is \$30 per ticket. This dinner and silent auction will benefit the Environmental Education Center. The featured keynote speaker will be Michael Sweeney, Undersecretary for the California Resources Agency.

Our generous donors have graciously provided us with many exciting auction items, including a skybox for a 2004 A's game, lunch for two with Assemblymember Ellen Corbett, an autographed life-sized display of Tom Hanks in the role of Captain John Miller (*Saving Private Ryan*),



and a ride on a fire truck. Other packages include artwork, fine dining, wines, jewelry and sports-related items. See page four for a complete listing of our auction donors.

We appreciate our corporate sponsors **Pacific Gas and Electric, Creekside Associates, Guarino and Friends, Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker, The Englander, the Port of Oakland, and SBC** who make this event possible with their support.

For more information or ticket reservations, please call 510.577.6069 or visit the Friends web site at www.fslc.org.

***It's Up To All Of Us To
Keep Our Creek
Healthy!***

Environmental Education Center Plans Move Forward

We have made a great deal of progress in our plans for the Environmental Education Center. Earlier this year the Friends of San Leandro Creek assumed the lease on a 1,300 square foot building located at 777 Alvarado Street on the south bank of San Leandro Creek. We have worked closely with our architect Todd Jersey, who has produced detailed prints for the renovation of this building.

This project would not be possible with the participation of several important partners.

Alameda County Public Works has supported this project from its earliest days, and has committed funds for a major creek bank restoration and stabilization project adjacent to the Center.

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority has provided financial backing to assist with the "green" portion of the design for the renovation, as well as

additional support in price preferences for recycled content and sustainable material purchases.

The City of San Leandro's Redevelopment Agency partners this project with the provision of lease payments for the property. The City also assisted with the cost of the schematic redesign for the Center's present location.

We are currently in discussions with **Pacific Gas and Electric** regarding sponsorship of energy efficient components of the project, including solar collection panels.

East Bay Municipal Utility District has expressed interest in providing elements of the gardening infrastructure, including the cistern, water filtration and drip systems and possibly a living machine.

We continue to reach out to develop additional partners for this project. We are seeking the support of government agencies, foundations and "Friends" like you to enable us to bring this project to fruition!

SAVE THE DATE:

Our annual Environmental Forum will be held Saturday, February 21, 2003 from 10 AM to noon at the Marina Community Center. Please join us for an update on legislation that will impact the environment!

Watershed Festival Contest Winner Alfredo Montes honored by Congressman Pete Stark

Alfredo Montes, currently a fifth grade student at Monarch Academy in Oakland, was one of many students who participated in our Watershed Festival Contests last spring. His poem ***The Creek*** was awarded first place in the Poetry category for 3rd to 5th graders. Congressman Pete Stark was so moved by Alfredo's work that he inserted "A Tribute to Alfredo Montes" into the Congressional Record June 5th, 2003.

The Creek

*The creek grows weak/the
frog no longer speaks/the
water almost falls asleep/the
trees continue to seek/the
creek feels like it has a leak/
like every time growing
weak/ it gets lower and
shallower as we speak/so I
will have to speak no more
and hit the poem's core/we
have to clean up the
pollution so we keep on the
revolution.*

To view the complete text of Congressman Stark's tribute, visit our web site at www.fslc.org.

Congratulations to Alfredo and his teacher Andrea Main!

The Friends of San Leandro Creek offer local educators great resources!

We've just mailed an invitation to over sixty local schools to take advantage of our Watershed Awareness Education programs. The Friends host field trips to Root Park in downtown San Leandro, easily accessible from public transportation. Program components include: watershed awareness, local history, water quality testing, mural and creek tours and environmental stewardship.

For those students who can't get to the Creek our Watershed Awareness Coordinator will visit classrooms with a presentation of the San Leandro Creek Watershed Interactive CD-ROM. Each classroom that participates in our Watershed Awareness Education programs receives a free copy of the CD-ROM for the classroom library.

We encourage educators to build on these opportunities by having students participate in our annual Watershed Festival. We invite K-12 students to submit entries to our annual Watershed Contests. Prizes

will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each category (art, photography and writing) by grade levels (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12). We also host class table displays so classes can prepare a Service Learning Project to present at the San Leandro Creek Watershed Festival Saturday April 24, 2004.

Please help us reach out to students in our watershed by passing this information on local educators.

Thanks to our faithful volunteer "Friends" Nancy La Torre, Pam Richards and Jan Woycheshin who assist with these programs!

The Friends Mission

The Friends of San Leandro Creek is a group of citizens, businesses and students dedicated to improving citizen understanding and awareness of San Leandro Creek and its watershed.

The mission of the Friends of San Leandro Creek is to restore and enhance San Leandro Creek, to increase its potential as a visual and recreational amenity, to preserve its cultural and natural history and to make San Leandro Creek an economically attractive resource, and to promote a healthy environment for its native flora and fauna.

Officers and Board of Directors:

- T.W. "Rick" Richards, President
- Dave Owen, Vice President
- Jan Woycheshin, Secretary
- Paul Woycheshin, Treasurer
- Claudia Taurean, Membership Coordinator
- Other Representatives:**
- Don Eliason, Water Quality Monitoring Specialist/Trainer
- Susan Criswell, Watershed Awareness Coordinator/Newsletter Editor
- Chris Richards, Webmaster

Friends of San Leandro Creek Meetings

Our meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every other month at the San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo Avenue. You do not have to be a paid member to attend. New faces are always welcome. We hope you will like what you observe and join us in membership!

2004 Meeting Dates	
February 10 th	August 10 th
April 13 th	October 12 th
June 8 th	

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.FSLC.ORG

FSLC Membership

There are five types of annual memberships:

Student	\$1.00
Individual	\$5.00
Family	\$15.00
Non-Profit Corp.	\$25.00
Business	\$100.00

Please renew or become a member by submitting your name, address & dues to our mailing address:

Friends of San Leandro Creek
 P.O. Box 202
 San Leandro, CA 94577
 510.577.6069
 Email: susanc@fslc.org

The Friends need YOUR help!

The Friends of San Leandro Creek offer many opportunities for volunteers to assist with our programs. Whatever your interest, be it fundraising, water quality testing, helping with special events or cleaning the creek, we have a place for every pair of hands! Call 510.577.6069.

The San Leandro Creek Watershed Awareness Program

is a comprehensive watershed education program funded through **Alameda County Flood Control District**, supported by the **City of San Leandro** and implemented by the **Friends of San Leandro Creek**.

Thank you to our Event Sponsors **Pacific Gas and Electric, Creekside Associates, Guarino and Friends, Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker, The Englander, the Port of Oakland and SBC** and our Silent Auction donors:

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