



# OPEN SPACES

The latest news from the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy

Vol. 7 No.2

Working to Protect The Ojai Valley's Future - Today

Summer 2000



Ojai City Council Member, Steve Olsen shares his love of Besant Meadow with supporters.

## Besant Meadow Is Next Target For Protection

In an effort to protect critical open space and expand the Ojai Meadows Preserve, the Conservancy has signed an option agreement to purchase the 25 acre parcel immediately west of the existing Preserve.

The property known as Besant Meadow is another high priority

acquisition property for the Conservancy and local residents. As early as the 1920's this site was a gathering place for followers of Krishnamurti. During the late 1980's, the property was slated for a 100 condo development, but the community and the County were successful in preventing the development.

The Conservancy will need to raise \$660,000 by December 31, 2000 to acquire and preserve the parcel. \$450,000 will cover the cost of acquisition and the remaining \$210,000 will be for

protection, basic care and costs directly associated with the campaign. This project is an integral part of the Conservancy's *Campaign To Preserve Ojai's Special Places Forever*.

If successful, the Ojai Meadows Preserve will then contain 58 acres of grasslands, oaks, and wetlands between the communities of Ojai and Meiners Oaks. See page 5 for more information on how you can contribute to the Campaign to Expand the Ojai Meadows Preserve.

## Two Large Gifts Give Big Momentum To Campaign

A \$250,000 challenge gift has been made in memory of Pekka Merikallio, a long time Ojai resident and admirer of Besant Meadow. In order for the Conservancy to use the gift to acquire the property, we must first raise an additional \$250,000 from the community to match this generous contribution. If the match is not raised by December 31, 2000, then the gift must be returned. "This is an exciting and very meaningful challenge to our community," said Michael Shapiro, campaign co-chair. "We trust that the same generosity that was shown by our supporters in the recent Ojai Meadows Campaign, will be echoed here." The memorial gift from the Besant Meadow Preservation Group, in the form of a donated house, will be sold and the net proceeds used for the campaign. This is the second contribu-



Besant Meadow

tion of a house to the Conservancy during the last six months. Last fall, the Taormina Theosophical Community, Inc. donated the proceeds from a house sale to launch the acquisition of the 32-acre parcel next to the high school.

A \$167,500 contribution was also received from the Ojai Valley Sanitary District as part of a fine for an earlier sewage spill in Canada Larga Creek. The

District was required to spend the Supplementary Environmental Project (SEP) funds on a project that benefits the environment in the Ventura River Watershed. The Besant Meadow Project was chosen because of its outstanding opportunities for habitat protection, wetlands restoration, water quality protection, and strong community support. This contribution will not count towards the Merikallio challenge gift because it was announced in early March before the \$250,000 contribution was designated.

### BESANT CAMPAIGN UPDATE Campaign Goal • \$660,000

**Amount Already Raised**

**\$415,000**

**Amount Still Needed**

**\$245,000**

**Ojai Valley Land  
Conservancy**

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**206 N. Signal St. Suite 'J'**

**new website • [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org)**

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# A Message From Our President

## Match

The word has several meanings, but for those of us who love open space the key meaning right now is matching gift.

For many years the Besant Meadow Preservation Group and your Ojai Valley Land Conservancy have dreamed of protecting Besant Meadow as open space in perpetuity. Recently the Besant Meadow Preservation Group made the decision to donate a home on Aliso Street to the Conservancy for the purpose of saving the Meadow. Net proceeds from the forthcoming house sale are expected to yield approximately \$250,000 and will be used for the campaign, but only if the community can match this landmark gift.

With the \$250,000 from the house sale, the community's match of \$250,000, and the Ojai Valley Sanitary District's recent contribution of \$167,000, we will be able to purchase Besant Meadow, provide for long term maintenance, and begin restoration. Besant Meadow will become part of the existing Ojai Meadows Preserve and link Ojai to Meiners Oaks with 58 acres of beautiful open space.

We are already working toward joint education programs with the Ojai Unified School District on Ojai Meadows Preserve. Perhaps someday the Besant Meadow side of the Preserve will feature a nature center to maximize the land's educational potential. Perhaps a community garden will emerge. These decisions and others can be made over time.

For now, working together, we must all extend ourselves in order to meet the challenge of the Besant Meadow Preservation Group's extraordinary matching gift.

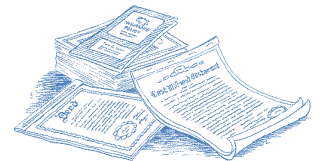
**John Broesamle**

## Leave A Legacy

### *Give A Gift For Future Generations Of The Ojai Valley*

Please join the nine families and individuals who in 1999 included the Conservancy in their will or trust. Consider the lasting impact of an estate gift for the preservation of the natural and agricultural heritage of the Ojai Valley. Your contribution will be used for:

- Preserving critical open spaces like the Ojai Meadows Preserve
- Restoring important natural habitats
- Educating our youth and community to be better stewards of our open spaces



If you have already named us in your estate plans, let us thank you for your generous gift and welcome you to the *Conservation Legacy Circle*. For a confidential inquiry about helping to protect the future and beauty of this valley, please **contact the Conservancy office at 646-7930**.

## Conservancy Forges New Trail Agreement

The Conservancy has received a trail easement for a new section of the Fuelbreak Road Trail thanks to the cooperation of land owners, the Konig Family, and the U.S. Forest Service. We also thank the Alliance for Public Trail Access, who directed the easement to the Conservancy. The agreement will allow public access for the first time in four years to this popular route near Gridley Road. The new trail construction is being paid for by the Conservancy, Andrew and Judith Gustafson and the Konigs, while the dedicated youth of The C.R.E.W. perform the hard work. May 20 is the targeted day for opening the new public route and volunteers will have the opportunity to help complete the last section of trail across US. Forest Service land. *Please call the Conservancy for the latest information on the trail opening.*

## Education Agreement Signed With School District

The Ojai Unified School District has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Conservancy to encourage programs and projects that enrich students' learning experiences and offer valuable assistance with the restoration of the Ojai Meadows Preserve. Students from elementary to high school will assist with the restoration of the sites' natural landscapes, develop brochures about the Preserve and create works of art which can be used for raising funds for the restoration efforts. Classes will also use the site as an outdoor classroom for science, art and writing. "This is a great chance for our children to learn about their community, natural environment and themselves," says Gwen Gross, Superintendent of Schools.

## UCSB To Design Restoration Plan

The Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara has agreed to provide a team of graduate students to study the Ojai Meadows Preserve and then develop a habitat restoration plan for the site. Students will work with Conservancy experts and students from Nordhoff High School to evaluate the feasibility of restoring the wetlands and oak woodlands to enhance wildlife habitat and educational opportunities. The plan will take approximately one year to complete.

## New Website Up And Running

A completely redesigned website is now available at [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org) and offers information on how to protect open space, background on the Conservancy's Preserves, the latest on our fundraising campaigns, upcoming events, and other exciting news. Members who provide the office with their e-mail address will receive notice of the latest changes to the site. "We plan to keep the site fresh and offer the latest news about our open space efforts before it appears in the newspaper," said Jim Engel, Executive Director.

## Burrell Added To Conservancy Team

Ronda Burrell has joined the Conservancy as the new Membership Services Coordinator. Her key responsibilities are to keep the membership database current, prepare renewal and acknowledgment letters and answer questions from our members and the public about the Conservancy and its activities. Ronda brings strong organization and people skills to the job. Ronda, her husband Dave, and their two children moved to Ojai from Bellflower last November. "Ojai is the kind of place we've always dreamed of living," exclaimed Ronda. She replaces Linda Solomon who managed the membership and event services for the past year.



## Volunteers Lend A Helping Hand



Marqui Bury, Carol Garramone, Ronda Burrell, John Dieges and Allison Leete map out volunteer opportunities at the Ojai Meadows Preserve.

“I never knew this was here,” exclaimed Carol Garramone. “I’ve always just driven past this land. I had no idea what a great place this is.” Garramone is one of the people who showed up March 25 at the Ojai Meadows Preserve for a volunteer orientation and training. During the half day of activities, volunteers learned how to be Preserve Hosts and care for the large Valley Oaks on the property.

The Conservancy plans to develop a dedicated group of volunteers who will walk the trails, talk to visitors, observe wildlife and report back their findings. This will assist Preserve management and protect its valuable resources for the enjoyment of the public. During the coming months, Allison Leete, volunteer/education coordinator will be seeking new volunteers who are interested in lending a helping hand.

Contact Allison at 646-4108 if you want to learn more about how you can help with the volunteer opportunities listed below:

### Preserve Coordinator

Help train, organize and motivate our volunteers force.

### Preserve Hosts

Walk trails and report on Preserve conditions. Contact and educate visitors about the Preserve.

### Tree Caretakers

Provide watering and basic care for our old and young Valley Oaks.

### Tour Leaders

Help guide nature walks of the Preserve for school groups and individuals.

### Trail and Sign Maintenance Assistants

Help keep our trails in good shape for the public’s enjoyment and safety.



## Other Ways To Help Ojai’s Open Spaces

- Include the Conservancy in your will or trust.
- Honor or memorialize a friend or family member with a gift in their name.
- Use your RAINS Card. We receive 3% of the total purchase.
- Receive extra tax benefits, potentially, by donating shares of stocks and or mutual funds to the Conservancy.
- Tell your friends about the Conservancy and why our mission is so important to the Valley’s future.



## Other Opportunities

### Event Planners

Want to help plan and implement our next successful and exciting event? A great chance to make new friends and help the Conservancy grow.

### Volunteer Coordinator

As our volunteer ranks grow, we need your help to inspire and train new volunteers.

### Newsletter

#### Editor/Writer/Designer

Have you got the interest and the skills to help us prepare our newsletter or write an occasional article?



# Preserving Ojai's Special Places Forever The Besant Meadow Campaign

The latest campaign update is available at [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org)

## Gift Naming Rights Opportunities

*"When you put your money into the protection of the earth, the land becomes your legacy."*

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy is offering a limited number of gift naming rights for donors who want to honor or memorialize family, friends and/or mentors. All gifts can be made over a two-year pledge period.

### **\$250 - Time Capsule**

For a gift of \$250 and above, a donor's name will be made part of Ojai "End of the Century" time capsule which will be buried at the Preserve in early 2001.

### **\$500 - Historical Markers**

For a gift \$500 and above, a donor's name will be recorded on a beautiful marker placed on the property and incorporated into a time capsule buried on the site in early 2001.

### **\$1,000: Alan and Helen Hooker Memorial Monument**

For twenty-five donors who would like to memorialize two of Ojai's most distinguished individuals Alan and Helen Hooker. Their love for Ojai was exemplified through the creation of the world renowned Ranch House Restaurant and dedication to Besant Meadow. All gifts will be recognized on one plaque at the Preserve.

### **\$2,000: Eucalyptus Grove Trees**

For thirty donors who want to recognize the beauty and majesty of our Eucalyptus trees. This grove of trees was established in the early 1950's by Frank Noyes and other local citizens. All gifts will be recognized on one plaque at the Preserve.

### **\$5,000 Annie Besant Memorial Monument**

Annie Besant, who, among her worldly travels, loved Ojai for its beauty and spiritual inspiration. Ten gifts will be recognized on one plaque.

### **\$10,000; Sitting Grove Bench**

Five gift donors will be honored with a beautiful sitting bench at one of six locations within the grove of eucalyptus trees. A perfect place to enjoy the beauty of open space and peaceful surroundings.

### **\$25,000 - \$75,000 For Preserve Trails**

6 gift donors will be honored with a plaque at the start of each trail. *Two trails already reserved!*

### **\$100,000: Meadows Preserve Centerpoint Trail**

The midpoint of the Ojai Meadows Preserve will be marked with a beautiful sign signifying the centerpoint of the property. This is a very popular area and perfect for donors wanting high visibility.

### **\$150,000: Besant Meadow Bridge**

This bridge will become a very high use area as it connects the east meadow to the west. School kids and nature preserve enthusiasts will enjoy the walk over the bridge.

### **\$250,000: Besant Grasslands - *Already reserved!***

## Legacy Circle Event

**O**n February 26, over 100 members of the Conservancy's *Conservation Legacy Circle* (CLC) met to toast last year's successful open space efforts and to review this year's exciting plans, including the campaign to expand the Ojai Meadows Preserve. The Ranch House Restaurant hosted the event on a beautiful warm winter day and guests enjoyed a delightful array of food and wine graciously donated by the restaurant. CLC members have made significant financial, volunteer or other commitments to open space in the Ojai Valley. If you are interested in learning more about how to become part of CLC, please call the Conservancy office.

## Help Meet the Challenge

- 1. Double Your Gift:** Make a donation of cash, securities or real estate and your gift will automatically be matched dollar for dollar by the \$250,000 Pekka Merikallio Challenge Gift. Your contribution of \$1 will actually be worth \$2!
- 2. Twice As Much:** Consider a larger gift by pledging to pay the donation over two years.
- 3. Word of Mouth:** Let your friends and family know how they can help.
- 4. A Gift For the Future:** Consider a naming right to a trail or a Preserve feature to honor or memorialize a family, friend or mentor. **Remember:** *This incredible gift will be lost if we don't match it by December 31, 2000.*

## Sign Unveiled at Site of Ojai's Newest Park

On Friday, April 14 a large group of interested community members gathered at the recently purchased half acre property at Ojai Avenue, El Paseo, and Rincon to hear about the plans for the site from Conservancy officials and local political and community leaders. Sheila and Don Cluff, who contributed over \$200,000 to the acquisition of the parcel, also spoke about their vision for the site.



Sheila and Don Cluff urge the community to join the campaign to create Ojai's Newest Park.

architect will be hired to initiate the planning process which will include community input. "This site won't be your typical city park," comments Jim Engel, executive director. The site design will encourage visitors to take a rest from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and reflect on the beauty of the Ojai Valley. The

Land Conservancy will begin the fundraising campaign in July when the site design has passed the mid-way point toward completion.

During early May, a landscape

## Celebrating Gifts to the Ojai Meadows Campaign

The Conservancy will be honoring all donors for their gifts to the Fall 1999 Ojai Meadows Campaign on Wednesday, June 21 at 5pm at the Ojai Meadows Preserve. Plaques will be unveiled for the \$2,000 donors to the Old Oak Grove and several other large naming rights. This event will also be a chance to meet with former Conservancy Founders and Board Members Ellen Hall and Rich Handley for the first time since they moved to Australia.

The time capsule recognizing donors of \$250 or more and the

plaque for donors of \$500 or more will be unveiled in April 2001, when the current campaign to purchase Besant Meadow is complete.

### Recent Donors To The Ojai Meadows Campaign

Gerold Dunn, Jr.  
Connie Eaton and W. Hart  
Marcia Greycloud  
St. Andrews Episcopal Church

## Campaign Launched

On February 26, over 70 people listened as community and political leaders expressed their support for the Besant Meadow Campaign. Rikki Horne, Ojai School Board Member, Steve Olsen, Ojai City Council Member and State Assemblymember Hannah Beth Jackson all spoke to the audience about how the project would greatly improve the quality of life for Ojai Valley residents.

Campaign co-chairman and Conservancy President, John Broesamle reminded the crowd that the success of the Ojai Meadows Campaign depended on the strong support of the community. "Close to 80% of the funding came from local individuals and businesses," said Broesamle. "And we will need this kind of support again, if we are going to be successful."

## Recent Donors To The Besant Meadows Campaign

Stan and Mary Baker  
George Berg  
Besant Meadow  
Preservation Group  
Chris Brennan  
Wendy Lockwood in honor of:  
Ed and Julie Kopta  
Jeanette Nelson &  
Lori and Larry Mohr  
Martha Moran

## A Special Thanks To...

**Alliance for Public Trail Access** for directing the Fuelbreak Road Trail Easement to the Conservancy. **Earl Bates** for his Ojai Valley News articles about the Conservancy's Ilvento Preserve. **Gael Belden** for her *Roaming the Los Padres* program as part of the *Environmental Learning Series*. **Alice Chesley** for her hard work as a board member and as our tax preparer. **The Besant Meadow Preservation Group** for their contribution of a house for the Besant Meadow Campaign. **Rebecca Bury** for her hard work at the office. **City of Ojai** for their ongoing support and assistance on a variety of Conservancy Projects. **Marqui Bury, Pat Hartmann, Matt Kelly, Janice McCormick, Carol Peterson, and Chris Smithers** for agreeing to be part of the education committee. **Konig Family** for deeding and completing work on the Fuelbreak Road Trail Easement. **Linda Solomon** for all her dedicated work during the last year. **Michael McFadden** for all his fantastic photographic work. **Mellon's Deli and The Oaks** for providing refreshments and appetizers for the sign unveiling at Ojai's Newest Park. **Ventura Party Rentals** for donating the podium and PA system for the sign unveiling at Ojai's Newest Park. **Ojai Valley Sanitary District Board and Staff** for their strong support of the Besant Meadow Campaign. **Ojai Center for the Arts** for again sponsoring a fundraiser to support open space programs. **John Broesamle, David Lavender, Manny Sprague, Carl Thelander** for their work on the Organizational Structure Committee. **Precision Works** for their great discount on their non-toxic termite control for the Aliso Street House. **Paul Rogers** for his help on Orientation Day and tree consultations. **The Ranch House Restaurant** for generously donating the wonderful food, wine and location for our annual Conservation Legacy Circle gathering. **David Magney, Michael McFadden, Paul Rogers, Carl Thelander** for agreeing to serve on the Restoration Committee. **All Support Team Members** who are working so hard to raise funds and offer exciting events for our members. **All volunteers** at Orientation Day for their commitment to the protection of the Ojai Meadows Preserve.



### Gifts In Honor of John Broesamle's Retirement

These donations will be used for the restoration of The Ojai Meadows Preserve.

Tony and Carolyn Arthur  
Susan and Eric Bennion  
Richard and Elizabeth Berry  
Richard and Norma Camp  
Robert and Miwako Cleve  
Harry and Eve Finestone  
Jim and Susan Jackson

Paul and Carolyn Koistinen  
Lynne Luciano  
Charles & Fayde Macune  
Vance and Nina Proctor  
Ron and Robbie Schaffer  
Gil and Carolyn Vondriska

### EXTRA GIFTS ARE A BIG LIFT

Steve Bennett  
Stanford and Eleanor Brown  
Cal and Dorothy Houston  
Fred and Nancy Linkenhelt  
Jeannette Nelson  
Patagonia  
*In memory of Robert Pulver:*  
James and Dorothy Loebel &  
Jill and Eric Kramer  
The White Family

## Local Supporters Help Us To Grow Stronger

Every year, hundreds of our members choose to renew their membership. We are happy to recognize the following individuals and businesses who have renewed their membership since the middle of April. Your loyalty is greatly appreciated.

Tucker and Phil Adams  
Michael and Marjorie Ambarian  
Sheila and Linc Anderson  
Anonymous (2)  
Rich and Joan Assenberg  
Avanti Pizza  
Alan Bandoli and Pamela Phillips  
John and Sue Bee  
George Berg  
Richard and Elizabeth Berry  
Gabriele Blackburn  
Wolf Bless and Anna Harris  
Alex and Kris Brodie  
Richard and Norma Camp  
Michael and Jean Case  
Sally Chenault  
Bert Collins  
Dr. Leon and Peggy Clark  
Peter and Linda D'Aprix  
Robert and Liz Dautch  
Robert and Greta Davis  
Lanyard and Mary Dial  
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Melanie and Aubree Hale  
Dale Hanson  
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Cal and Dorothy Hatton  
Ruth Hemming  
Harriet Herrick  
Caroline Herziger  
Doug and Barbara Hoff  
Marjorie Hubbard  
Merle and Glenys Jackson

George Jaidar & Malchia Olshan  
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Pat Jump  
John and Maggie Kaufman  
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Gil and Carolyn Vondriska  
Milton and Marguerite Van Winkle  
Joan and Bill Vogel  
Harriet Wenig  
Dana White  
Huora Williams  
Cathy Wilcox  
Susanne Wilson  
Jerry Zutavern

## Welcome To Our New Members

We have soared to **816 members**, thanks to your exceptional support. This is more than double the national average for similar land trusts! The Conservancy's successes in the last year are due to the generous financial and volunteer support of our members.

Stan and Mary Baker  
Chris Brennan  
Claude and Cynthia Brockhoff  
Sue Broidy  
Becky Contreras  
Jeff and Hope Corey  
Kirk Gable  
Darice Green  
Stan and Barbara Greene  
Marcia Greycloud  
Stan Hakes  
Mark Halvorsen  
Alice Herdina  
Ed and Julie Kopta  
Robert and Linda MacNeal  
Dan Miley  
Lori and Larry Mohr  
Martha Moran  
Jeannette Nelson  
Percision Works  
Chuck and Joyce Queen  
Rita Rivest  
Arne Schmidt and Laurel Moore  
Seven Seas Travel  
Sheila Snow  
Anne and Tony Thacher  
The Ranch House Restaurant

Yes! I'll help preserve open space in the Ojai Valley • Enclosed is my annual tax-deductible pledge/gift of:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25-\$49 Member            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$249 Donor            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999 Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50-\$99 Sustaining Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$499 Sustaining Donor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000+ Steward   |

MEMBERSHIP NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: **The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy.**  
P.O. Box 1092 • Ojai, CA 93024

## NEW

## “Wild About Ojai” Programs

Looking for fun things to do with the whole family this summer? Become “Wild About Ojai” and sign up for these exciting environmental education programs. Space is limited. Call 646-4108 for pre-registration and more information.

### **SATURDAY, MAY 6 • 10AM-3PM • “Wild Wings and Wild Flowers”**

Bring the whole family and learn about the relationship between flowers and butterflies. Learn how you can help attract caterpillars and butterflies to your garden. In the afternoon hike in the Ojai Valley to see the plants and butterflies. Includes art projects and scientific exploration.

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3 • 10AM-3PM • “Water, Water”**

In celebration of this musical weekend, join us to explore the magic of water. We will go to stream beds and with the music of water around us we will learn about the importance of water in supporting life in our valley. Includes water-color projects and scientific analysis of our water.

### **SATURDAY, JULY 8 • 10AM-3PM • “Crawly, Creeping Critters”**

A fascinating day to look and learn about the smaller things in life...the insect world! With the aid of microscopes and hand lens, see into a different world. Learn about the benefits of some of the smallest creatures of our valley.

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 • 10AM -3PM • “Our Mighty Oaks”**

Sit under the cool shade of great Valley Oaks and explore the whole community that lives in these trees, from insects, birds, lizards, mammals and much more. Learn how you can help protect and nurture these wonderful long-lived organisms. Includes art projects and scientific exploration.

## Landscape Artists Raise Awareness and Funds For Open Space

Through May 25, local artists are selling a selection of their paintings and contributing a percentage of the proceeds towards open space efforts here in the Valley. The event is hosted by the Ojai Center for the Arts. A successful reception to launch the fundraising effort was held on April 29 for Conservancy members and open space supporters at the Center. Please call 646-0117 for more information.

## Celebrating Gifts to the Ojai Meadows Campaign

The Conservancy will be honoring all donors for their gifts to the Fall 1999 Ojai Meadows Campaign on **Wednesday, June 21 at 5pm** at the Ojai Meadows Preserve. See page 6 for details about this event.

## Conservancy Events

**May 6 • 10am • Wild Wings & Wild Flowers**  
Wild About Ojai Education Program

**May 20 • 9am - Noon**  
**New Fuelbreak Road Trail Opening**  
and Work Day

**June 3 • 10am - 3pm • Water, Water**  
Wild about Ojai Education Program

**June 21 • 5pm**  
**Plaque Unveiling** for Ojai Meadows Preserve

**June 24 • 10am**  
**The Enviornmental Learning Day**  
Ojai Meadows Preserve

**July 1 • 6pm • Ojai’s Newest Park Campaign**  
Launched at The Oaks

**July 8 • 10am - Crawly, Creeping Critters**  
Wild About Ojai Education Program

**August • 10am - 3pm - Our Mighty Oaks**  
Wild about Ojai Education Program

**September • TBA**  
**Rescheduled, An Evening at Besant Meadow**  
Dinner and Auction

## Environmental Learning Camp

As part of the Rural Trust Project, educators from five Ventura County school districts will gather at the Ojai Meadows Preserve and Nordhoff High School in late June. The participants will learn how to incorporate the use of the natural environment into their classroom studies and enrich their students’ learning experiences. This hands-on educational conference is a cooperative project between the Conservancy and the Ojai Unified School District.

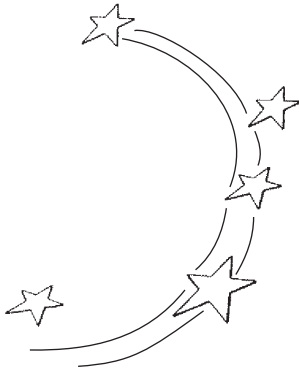
Parents, youth and other interested community members will also have an opportunity to learn more about the Preserve and this outstanding program on Saturday, June 24. Visit [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org) in June for more details about the event.

# Our Wish List

## Conservancy Will Move Forward With Your Help

As the Conservancy grows, so does our need for additional resources. One way you can help is through the donation of new or used stewardship tools, reference books, and office equipment. Please call us if you can donate any of the items below or if you know of anyone who might like to contribute to the needs of the Conservancy.

- Digital camera
- Shovels and other trail maintenance tools
- Stacking chairs
- Laptop computer



Other items that you think would be useful? Please, let us know • 646-7930

**Visit Our New Website At [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org)  
for the Latest Open Space News.**

 *printed on recycled paper*



**Ojai Valley Land Conservancy**  
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Ojai, CA 93024

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Ojai, CA