

FRIENDS OF THE FISCALINI RANCH PRESERVE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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“In years to come, open space and beautiful space like this will become more valuable, more rare, than anything that any person could build.”

— Mary Cole, Cambria artist & environmental activist

MISSION

Our mission is to protect and sustain the diversity of life and the beauty of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve for everyone.

VISION

Our vision is a thriving, everlasting coastal habitat that nurtures wonder and appreciation for generations to come.



Friends of the
Fiscalini Ranch
Preserve



MESSAGE FROM JOHN NIXON, BOARD CHAIRPERSON



Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve (FFRP) was a milestone in the history of the Ranch as the year was a milestone for the world-wide challenges and suffering posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout 2020, however, the Ranch was open, offering a beautiful and calm respite from the pandemic and the restrictions required to reduce its spread. The online celebration of the 20th anniversary was a success and validation that virtual events can be inspiring and engaging, although we missed the personal contact and camaraderie of FFRP's live events. We hope to return as soon as possible to the Great Kitchens of Cambria tour, Songs of the Seasons, and the Wildflower Show to celebrate the Ranch and the community.

FFRP is a partnership with the local community, all visitors who love the Ranch, the many volunteers

who work tirelessly to protect it, and with the Cambria Community Services District, which owns the Ranch. Without the support and generosity of all the partners, the Ranch could not be sustained as a natural gem of the Central Coast.

The many trails through forest, marine terraces, and bluffs of the Ranch are both laboratories for studying nature and awe-inspiring portraits of scenic beauty. FFRP has responsibility for protecting and sustaining these natural wonders in perpetuity. FFRP counts on a growing membership and deep generosity of all who love the Ranch to support the ongoing work of maintaining the wonder and splendor of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve, so please join and contribute to the mission and vision of the Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve.

MESSAGE FROM KITTY CONNOLLY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It is safe to say that 2020 was not what any of us expected. During my first year at Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve, I was looking forward to meeting visitors and FFRP supporters like you and learning about your interests. Instead, we entered shelter-at-home orders almost immediately, and what I learned was how central the Ranch is to our well-being.

I do not think I could have gotten a better lesson on how important the Ranch is in the life of Cambria and in the imagination of its visitors. Visitation ticked up as locals took to the trails for exercise, escape, and peace of mind. Vacationers on a much-needed break discovered the delights of the Central Coast and showed up en masse.

2020 was in some ways a year when FFRP's goals were deferred and in other ways when we fulfilled our prime mission: The Ranch was a place of

comfort, beauty, and respite for those who could visit and held out the idea of these things for those who looked forward to returning.

This year also marked the 20th anniversary of the preservation of the Ranch as public open space. Like so many events in 2020, we marked the occasion online with a delightful concert, short talks from founders and supporters, and a successful fundraiser. Once again, patrons of the Ranch pulled together to celebrate its creation and support its future.

At the end of the year, I am struck with how strong and deep support for the Ranch and FFRP runs. Although we were unable to gather together, you have shown what a marvelous feeling of belonging and attachment the Ranch brings to those who love it. Thank you.

RESTORATION ACHIEVEMENTS

Volunteers spent 540 hours in 2020 keeping invasive plants at bay. The payoff was an outstanding wildflower bloom!



More than 75 volunteers planted 550 Monterey pine seedlings this year. Tree dedications supported the forest restoration program. Pictured: Mike Lyons.



FOCUS ON RESTORATION

Pandemic or not, Ranch volunteers were hard at work removing ice plant from the bluffs. Crews adapted their work to comply with health recommendations but did not let that slow them down.

Altogether, these hardy people removed nearly 40 tons of invasive ice plant in 2020! And that's how much it weighed *after* drying out for a bit.

Removing ice plant cleared the way for the return of native plants, including seaside daisy (*Erigeron glaucus*), sand aster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*), and California sea thrift (*Armeria maritima*), among other flowering beauties.



FFRP volunteers demonstrating proper attitude (and attire)!

EDUCATION & OUTREACH ACHIEVEMENTS

A group of skilled volunteers pulled together to sew face masks for FFRP's shop. With Cathy Larsen's leadership, Angie Morgan, Becky Kincaid, Mary Nixon, Susan Loganbill, and Yvonne Kantor made nearly 100 masks!

In 2004, Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve adopted Cambria's Main Street. Every year FFRP volunteers give back to the community by picking up litter along its full 3-mile length. Pictured: Mary Nixon and Tom Pope.



FOCUS ON OUTREACH

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Fiscalini Ranch's becoming public open space was a true highlight of the year.

Our thanks to Jill Knight, Brynn Albanese, Brian Williams, and Neal Dundas for their beautiful music. Gloria Fiscalini, Kat McConnell, Fr. Mark Stetz, Brian Morgan, Jo Ellen Butler, and Carlos Mendoza inspired us with their experiences and aspirations for the Ranch. Paul Irving and David Chock of BigBigSLO, and Will von Dauster pulled it all together into a rousing program enjoyed by more than 180 people.



Neal Dundas in full regalia and ready to play on Fiscalini Ranch Preserve.

RECREATION ACHIEVEMENTS

Keeping the trails in good shape is year-round work for FFRP volunteers. Although removing invasive grass by hand from gaps in the boardwalk was hard work, they got it done under the leadership of Brian Morgan.



The last of seventeen benches destined for the West Ranch was installed in December. Designed by Walt Andrus and made from local stone and wood, its wide-ranging views made it an instant favorite.



FOCUS ON RECREATION

As public spaces closed throughout the region last spring, Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve and Cambria Community Services District worked to keep the Ranch open and safe for everyone.

We instituted a temporary one-way path on the Bluff Trail, installed many, many directional signs, and helped acquaint people with the new routes. Carlos Mendoza, CCSD's Ranch Manager, and his team widened trails and tirelessly patrolled the Ranch to ensure safe conditions.

The community pulled together to adopt new practices and to accommodate the influx of visitors desperate for a breath of fresh air and access to wide open spaces.

We thank the California Wellness Foundation for their support.



Directional signs were supported by a grant from the California Wellness Foundation.

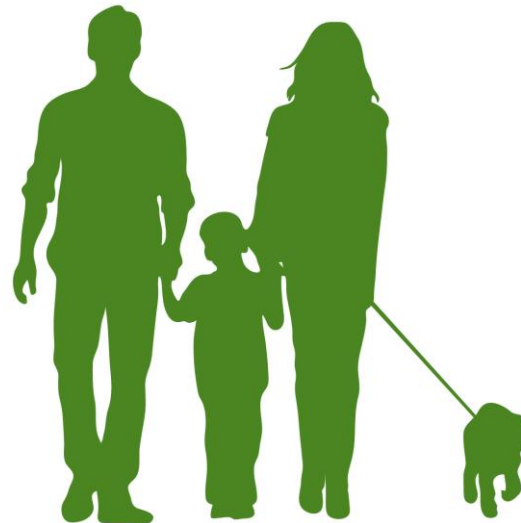
2020 BY THE NUMBERS



3,940 hours by
more than 120
volunteers =
1.9 full-time staff,
Including ...



2.5 acres of
Monterey pine
forest planted



8 miles of
trails kept
open & safe

100 hours
refilling
Mutt Mitts



575 hours
(at minimum!)
spent in Zoom
meetings

MESSAGE FROM TED SIEGLER, TREASURER



During 2020, Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve (FFRP) incurred \$240,000 of operating expenses. Operations were supported by \$75,000 in donations, \$32,000 of membership renewals, \$11,000 of fundraising revenues, grants of \$9,000 and about \$10,000 of other revenue. These sources constitute approximately 60% of the total spending. The remaining 40%, or \$103,000, was withdrawn from FFRP's reserves and long-term investments.

FFRP complies with all relevant federal and state laws governing nonprofit financial management.

By policy, FFRP maintains cash and reserves equivalent to approximately two years of spending. The purpose of these reserves is to protect against negative markets and associated revenue impacts. At the end of 2020, FFRP held almost \$414,000 in cash and short-term reserves.

At the end of 2020, FFRP's long-term investments totaled over \$4.4 million. During 2020, FFRP had total investment income of \$576,000, almost all the result of returns on long-term investments. The year's performance reflects a strong recovery in the markets after a sharp drop due to the Corona Virus.

One-year results must be viewed in a larger context. Overall, the annualized returns on FFRP's long-term investments have been approximately 6-7%. When measuring the value of the long-term investments after the effects of inflation and withdrawals for spending, FFRP has realized a modest surplus in purchasing power over the original funds invested. Market returns are unpredictable, and the favorable conditions of the last decade are unlikely to continue at pace in the future. However, with prudent management, FFRP's long-term investments will support current operations and provide for a healthy future.

2020 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Revenues and Support

Donations	74,894
Fundraising	11,268
Grants	8,975
Membership Dues	31,675
Interest and Dividend Income	65,755
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	510,342
Other	10,407
Total Revenues and Support	713,315

Expenses

Programs	87,474
General and Administrative	76,730
Expenses Related to Investing	51,682
Fundraising	24,490
Total Expenses	240,376
Change in Net Assets	472,939
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	4,387,162
Net Assets - End of Year	4,860,101

Financial statements are unaudited.

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	414,120
Inventories	4,749
Total Current Assets	418,869
Property and Equipment Net of Accumulated Depreciation	17,976
Long-Term Investments	
Endowment	811,713
Quasi Endowment	3,252,020
Other	371,776
Total Long-Term Investments	4,435,509
Other Assets	506
Total Assets	4,872,859

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities	
Payroll Tax Liabilities	1,780
Sales Tax Liabilities	600
Long-Term Liabilities	10,379
Total Liabilities	12,759
Net Assets	4,860,101
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	4,872,859

SINCERE THANKS TO OUR LOYAL & GENEROUS DONORS

Please join in supporting the Ranch.

\$3,000 and up

Richard Lee & Shirley
Paulson-Lee
Carmen Peterson
Jo Porter
Arturo Tello

\$1,000 to \$3,000

Phebe Nan Allen
Adelina Y Alva-Padilla
Anonymous
Lyn Baker
Pamela Briggs
Coca Cola Corporation
Bryn & Phil Forhan
Patty Griffin
Craig & Marianne Knox
Mark & Chris Landgreen
John Nixon
Michael & Kim Ridder
Catherine Ryan Hyde
Hope Schneider
Ted & Suzy Siegler

\$500 to \$999

Xandra Alpiser
Walt Andrus & Loree Parral
Michael Armstrong
David Beringer
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Nancy Catherman
Kitty Connolly & Terry
Young
Connie & Stewart Edwards
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Eleanor Etter
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Susan & Tom Loganbill
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Elaine Munroe
Kathleen & Otto Obrist
Jim & Janelle O'Grady
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Aneena Pokkamthanam &
Sunil Tellis
Judith Pratt
Kathryn Price
Carolyn Pye
Joseph Quinonez
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Larry Rhoades
John Russell
David Schulze
Jack & Judy Scilley

Carson & Sonja Smith
David & Cynthia Stiles
Angeline Szentgyorgyi
Barry & Laurie Weaver
Jane Welter
Cort & Patricia Willmott
Evan & Ann Wride
Mary Beth Yudovin



SINCERE THANKS TO OUR LOYAL & GENEROUS DONORS

Please join in supporting the Ranch.

\$100

Ginny & Greg Aitkens
Susan & Adolph Atencio
Jan & Jim Bahringer
Carol Bean
Elaine Beckham
Brent & Susan Berry
Howard Bolinger
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Yolanda Waddell
Nicholas Wagner
Bill Warren
Ginger Wesner
Russ Wiggins
Robert Wilkinson & Nancy
Tholen
Linda Winans

And 167 additional
generous donors gave
nearly \$6,500



DEDICATIONS & TRIBUTES

The Ranch is a beautiful place to honor and remember family and friends.

Donations were made in the names of:

Hal Bernson
Mabel Black*
Marshall & Audrey Brown*
Karen Cahoy
Ted Case
Friends of the Ranchland
Pat Gergen & Heather Smeall
Grace, b. 1916*
James & Patricia Griffin
Ronald Conner Hillary
Josephine Howell
James & Emily Hughes
Greg Kelsay
Robert & Fay Kennedy
Bill Honor Kerler
Oliver Kinkaid
Gary Kumpe
Holly & David Ludwigson

Eileen Madden Hilliker
Doug & Terri May*
John & Betty Maynard
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Penny Nichols◇
Lucie & Wouter Nicolai*
Barbara Owen
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Phoebe, Wyatt, Eleanor, Ava, Farin & Madelyn*
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Dana Stockton*

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Patricia Taylor*
Tom Trout
Alexandria Rei-hua Tsao*
Joyce & Bob Volk *

Joylene & Robert Wagner
Don & Toddy Wagner

◇ Bench dedications
* Tree dedications



WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR MEMBERS' SUPPORT

Members help to protect and enhance the Ranch. Please join or renew today.

\$1,000 Conservator

James & Lauren Kranzthor
Kat McConnell
Ted McConnell
Judy Rollins & Liz Haslam

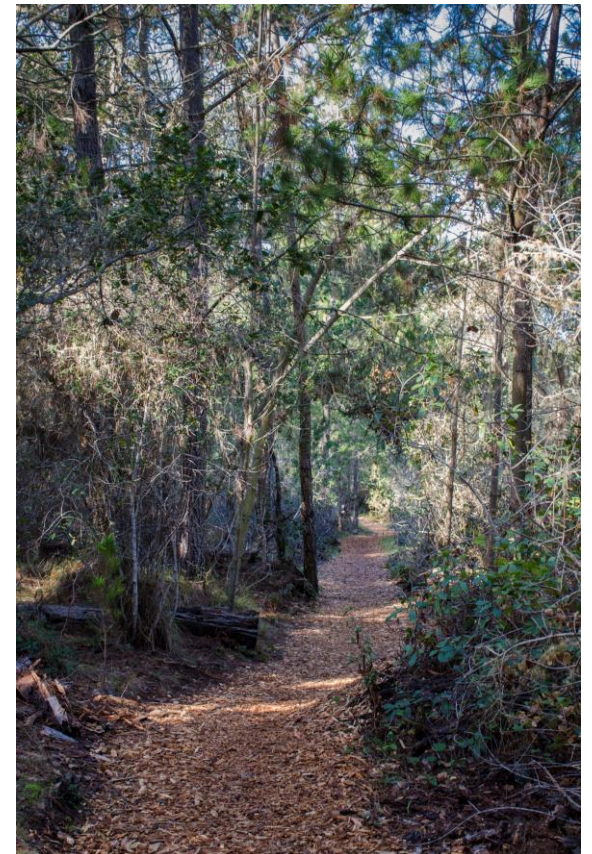
\$500 Protector

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Kathleen Grassi & Tina
Starks
Robert Graves
Becky Kincaid
Susan & Tom Loganbill
Lizabeth Maynard
John & Mary Nixon
Lou Pitelka
Joyce Renshaw
Turtle Rudolph
Ted & Suzy Siegler
Doug Stewart

\$250 Guardian

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Lyn Baker
Nancy Catherman
Julian & Donna Crocker
Bob & Susan Detweiler
Ken & Mary Anne Donnell
Marnie Duda & Barrett
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Sheryll Ebbs
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Swenson
Sharky & Nancy Warrick
Barbara Wellington &
Alan Brovar
Patricia & Cort Willmott
Amie Young



WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR MEMBERS' SUPPORT

Members help to protect and enhance the Ranch. Please join or renew today.

\$100 Steward

Susan & Adolph Atencio
Jo Baxter-Miguel
Chris & Becky Beagle
Stephen Beck & Avril Allan
Terry Bergen
Teresa Borstelmann
Jane & Kevin Boylan
Todd & Karen Bria
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Ginger Wesner
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Robert Wilkinson & Nancy
Tholen
Alice Witt
Wendy Wright

And more than 100
additional Advocate and
Supporter members!

Business Sponsor
Body in Motion



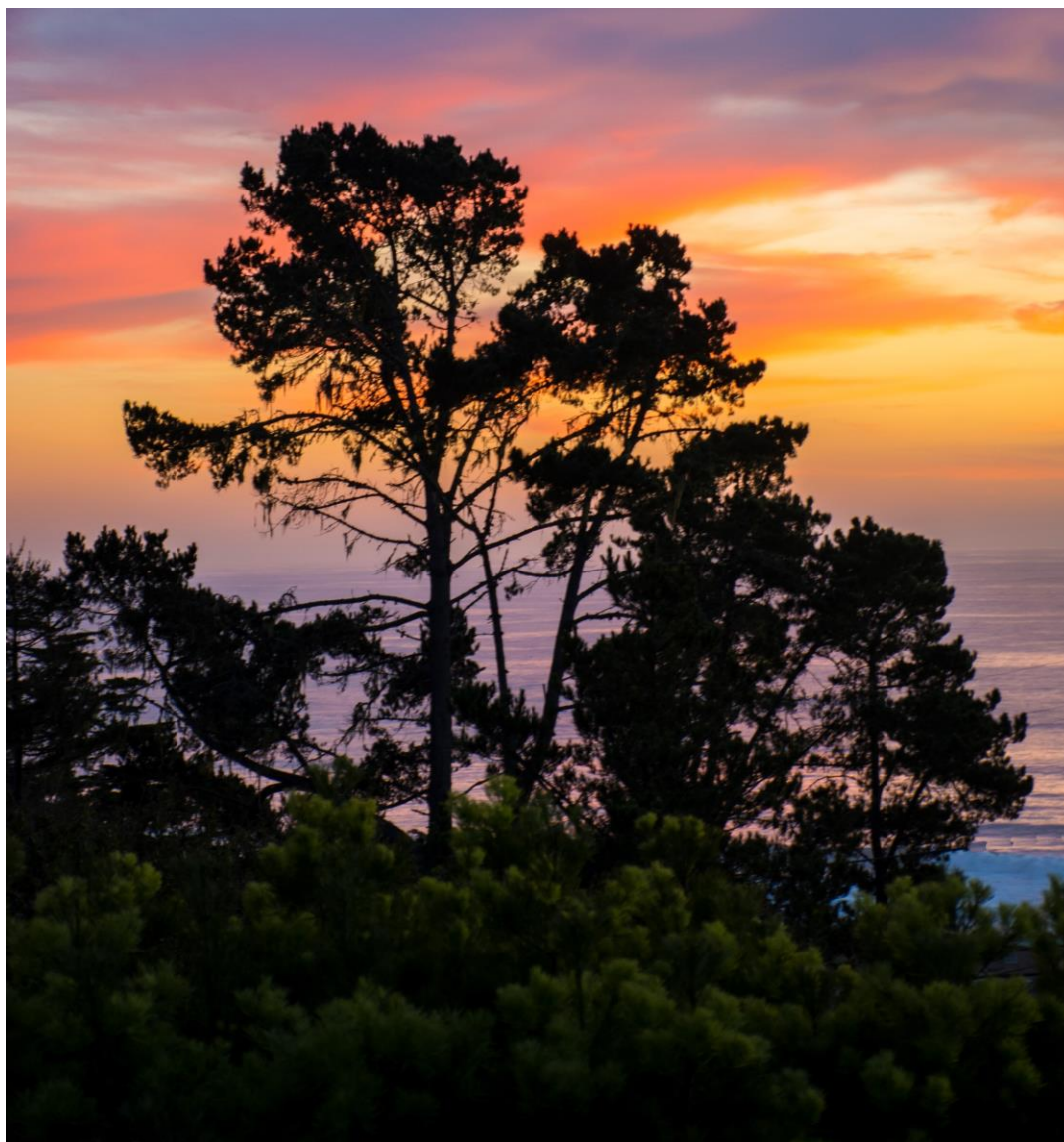
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Walt Andrus
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Sheryll Ebbs
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Joyce Renshaw
Ann Wride

Kitty Connolly, Executive Director
Barbara Beuche, Assistant to the E.D.

2020 BOARD MEMBERS (RETIRED)

Jan Bahringer
Gail Robinette





Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve is a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation supported by donors, members, and volunteers. EIN: 91-2161009

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fiscaliniranchpreserve.org

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Friends of the
Fiscalini Ranch Preserve