



Mojave Desert Land Trust

NEWSLETTER - Fall/Winter 2009

From the Desk of the President

Mindy Kaufman



With the arrival of fall and the holidays fast approaching the Mojave Desert Land Trust would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' for your past contributions and your continued support. It is only with your help that we have been able to preserve a large quantity of land, water, and wildlife.

We also recognize that in these difficult economic times your continued support carries with it additional responsibility for the Land Trust - commitment, trust, hope and collaboration for the preservation of critical desert wild lands in the Mojave Desert. As supporters of the Land Trust you are our true partners in preservation.

During the past year I have often been asked "What does the Mojave Desert Land Trust do?" I don't usually have a copy of our newsletter, or access to our web site at those times, but I think it is important for people to understand that the Mojave Desert Land Trust's mission to "Preserve Land to Enjoy Forever" covers a lot of ground and addresses the major issues affecting the desert today.

Perhaps even more importantly, when you look beyond the nuts and bolts of our work, and think about the extraordinary emotional benefits of the Land Trust's accomplishments, we realize that the special places we are working to save can be very important to people coping with the turbulence in which we suddenly find ourselves. They can be places of peace, contemplation, repose, and even renewal—unchanged by the hustle and bustle of modern life—connectors between a simpler past and a more hopeful future. We all hope that 2010 will bring better times. I know that the work we do, which I hope this newsletter gives you a little extra insight into, will go a long way to begin to build a brighter future in land conservation for generations to come.

An Update: The Land Trust's Campaign to acquire 955 acres of critical wildlife habitat in Joshua Tree California is in full swing. To date we have raised \$374,000 towards our matching grant fund requirements. The Quail Mountain Project still needs your generous support to succeed! You can make a difference this holiday season by choosing one of the great gift ideas you will read about in this newsletter. For that special person in your life who has almost everything please give "The Gift that Keeps On Living."

A happy and healthy holiday season to you all!

Mindy Kaufman

THE ALMA ALLEN PROJECT

Local artist and sculptor, Alma Allen, has created these two lovely bronze sculptures in editions of 50 each exclusively for Mojave Desert Land Trust. 70% of the proceeds from the sale of these sculptures will be donated to the Land Trust's campaign to support The Quail Mountain Project. These are limited editions of 100 pieces, so act fast! With each purchase, you will receive a membership in the Mojave Desert Land Trust.

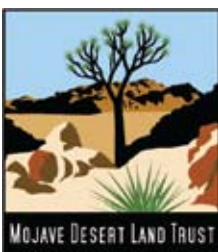
Alma came to us with the idea for this Land Trust exclusive specifically for The Quail Mountain Project. If you are already a member, we hope that you might consider gifting one of these handmade sculptures in honor of a friend or loved one so that they too may become members and join in our efforts to save land! For more information about Alma Allen, please visit www.allenpearce.com.

We thank Alma for his generous gift which, to date, has raised \$9,000 for The Quail Mountain Project. By saving this land and others like it we are helping to create a balance in nature - our legacy to pass on to future generations.

P.S. Speaking of future generations...Congratulations to Alma and his partner Nancy, on the new life they are bringing into this world!



Alma Allen's bronze sculptures "Tortoise" (4"x2") and "Rabbit" (4"x1.5") can be ordered for \$150 each at mojavedesertlandtrust.org or call 760-366-5440.



Mojave Desert Land Trust, 6393 Sunset Road, Joshua Tree, CA 92252
Renew your membership online at www.mojavedesertlandtrust.org

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LAND STEWARDS NEEDED

As the cool breeze starts to roll into our lovely desert, it's time for the Land Stewardship Program to come out of summer hiatus. The Land Trust needs your participation to make the Stewardship program work!

This season there are two ways you can get involved as a Land Steward for Mojave Desert Land Trust – as a Monitoring Ranger and/or a Land Restoration volunteer. Please contact Miz Seita at your earliest convenience if you're interested in working with the Land Stewards. Call 760-366-0542 or email mizseita@gmail.com.

Monitoring Ranger Program

The land purchased by the Land Trust must be permanently monitored to ensure it remains untouched, even after it is donated to the National Park Service. Monitoring property is one of the fundamental activities a land trust or natural resource management agency can perform. Specialty training for volunteers will be provided by field professionals.

Volunteers play a central role in the Land Trust's ability to ensure that donated lands are protected forever. A Monitoring Ranger will:

Adopt a Parcel: Pledge to receive field training as needed and then monitor one or more properties ranging from 5 to 320 acres in Mojave National Preserve for the monitoring season 2009-2010:

- Locate properties in the field using GPS units
- Monitor properties including maintaining a written and photo log
- Document threats, such as illegal use by off-highway vehicle, cutting of illegal roads and dumping
- Document Long Term Change as part of the NPS data on the effect of global warming
- Document wildlife sightings for habitat modeling
- Land Restoration Program

The land purchased by the Land Trust must be free of solid waste and roads leading up to and ending at the property before the land is donated to the National Park Service. Volunteers play a major role in cleaning up and restoring the land to its natural state by using hand tools.

Restoration events are conducted every third Saturday of the month between November through May.

- Remove solid waste (debris) from properties the Land Trust has acquired
- Learn arid land restoration techniques using hand tools (a great skill you can use in the future)
- On occasion, join a fun overnight camp-out with fellow volunteers in our beautiful desert the night before a restoration event.
- Restoration, safety and tool training will be provided by the Stewardship Coordinator at the beginning of every event.

STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

For those participating, event details will be sent via email prior to each event.

11/21/2009 – Mojave National Preserve
01/23/2010 – Mojave National Preserve
02/20/2010 – Joshua Tree National Park
03/20/2010 – Old Woman Mountains Wilderness Area
04/24/2010 – Mojave National Preserve
05/22/2010 – Mojave National Preserve
06/25/2010 – Mojave Desert Land Trust Volunteers
end of the season party.

If you are interested in Land Stewardship Program, or have any questions please contact MDLT Stewardship Coordinator, Miz Seita at 760-366-0542 or email mizseita@gmail.com



1. Restoration point #1 along Sunset Road before restoration.



2. Restoration point #1 along Sunset Road after restoration.



3. Big thanks to all of the volunteers!
Front row from left: Brendan, Leslie, Mark, Francene, Cindy, Jenna, Mandi, Valerie, Maureen and Dan.
Second row from left: Alan, Jane and Frank.

Give organic this holiday season!

Show your support for the Mojave Desert Land Trust by purchasing one of our organic t-shirts! They are the softest cotton shirts ever! Women's tees come in organic moss green or black. Men's tees come in organic black or recycled off-white. Each shirt is \$22 + shipping. Call us to place an order 760.366.5440 or purchase online at mojavedesertlandtrust.org.





Dear Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and the staff of the Land Trust, we gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their generous gifts in 2009. **Thank You** for choosing to save land for future generations!

A very special thank you to **Mr. Robert Lee and the Lee Family Foundation** for their grant in the amount of \$5,000 that will be applied to the Quail Mountain Project land acquisition. Mr. Lee, a Joshua Tree resident, has a tradition of generous giving that preserves land, provides research, educates the community on conservation issues and serves conservation-minded organizations within the Morongo Basin. All of us at the Land Trust wish to thank Mr. Lee and his family for your commitment to conservation and to your community.

All the best, *Nancy Karl*

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR MEMBERS - WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 29 Palms Creative Center & Gallery | Chris Crow and Caroline Conway | Norm and Velma Harrison | Jacquelyn Marchand | Frank Schneider |
| 29 Palms Inn | Mitzi Cruz | Sam and Karen Harrison | Judith Marchyn | Rebecca Schneider |
| Larry Aaron | Laura Cunningham | Stan Haye | Liseanne Frankfurt Marlinspike | Schoolhouse Fire Safety |
| William Acquino | Jennifer Cusack | Rhonda Hayes | Johnny Ray Martin | Dennis Schramm |
| D'Anne Albers | Kerry Dagger, Groovee Gear | Robert Hayward | Robyn Martin | Sandra Schulman |
| Abraham Allen | Danika da Matta | Tara Hazher | Joyce Martini | Cornelia Schulz |
| Alma Allen and Nancy Pearce | Gail Dallas | Pamela Hemmer | Frank Martino | Miriam Seger |
| Dorothy Allen | Abe Daniels | Sherri Hennessey | John Marton | Mizuki Seita |
| Jane Allingham | J. Robert Daniels | Alex & Anna Henrikson and Allison | Lisa and Mike Martucci | Yaelle Shaphir |
| Hector Alvarez | Laird and Valerie Davis | Rotondo | Jacqui Masson | Susan Shaw |
| Ron Amos | Mark Deane | Ted Henriksen | Alicia Mau | Diana Shay-Diehl |
| Cynthia Anderson and Bill Dahl | Brian Dearth | Alice and John Hershberger | Annette Mau | Angelina Shoerberger |
| Edward Anderson | Bobbie Dempsey | Hermi Hiatt | Chris Mau | Anne and Ruth Sholtz |
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| Diane Best | Angela Franzer | Pamela Kellman | Adam Paige | Trek America |
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| California Desert Video Astronomers | Keith Gillmore | Terry Kuwanoe | Ellen Coxie Price and Bryan Price | Dusty Wakeman |
| Jazz Callner | Donald Givens | Lynn Lang | Rich & Vera Pringle | Brenda Warren |
| Goody Canavan | Shaun Gonzales | Wendy Lapham | Elena Ray | Cynthia Weaver, Cyber Photo-Graphics |
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Give the gift that keeps on living...

The legacy of land, water, and wildlife.



Adopt a Quail Mountain Animal:

 Bobcat	\$25
 Big Horn Sheep	\$25
 Coyote	\$25
 Tortoise	\$25



Adopt a Quail Mountain Acre:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/8 Acre	\$175
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/4 Acre	\$350
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/2 Acre	\$700
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Acre	\$1,400

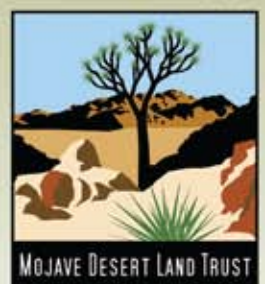
Join with us to save the Quail Mountain Wilderness!

For each tax-deductible gift, you or your loved ones will receive an 'Adoption Certificate' and a one-year membership in the Mojave Desert Land Trust, a 501(c)(3) public charity. You can gift an animal or an acre to your friends and family this holiday season and know that you have preserved irreplaceable resources for future generations to enjoy.



Adopt land and/or animals online through our website: www.mojavedesertlandtrust.org. We will mail a beautiful certificate to the person you are gifting and welcome them as a member of the Land Trust.

Your donation directly supports the Quail Mountain campaign to acquire 955 acres in Joshua Tree, CA.



For more information visit www.mojavedesertlandtrust.org or call 760-366-5440