



# GREEN FOOTNOTES

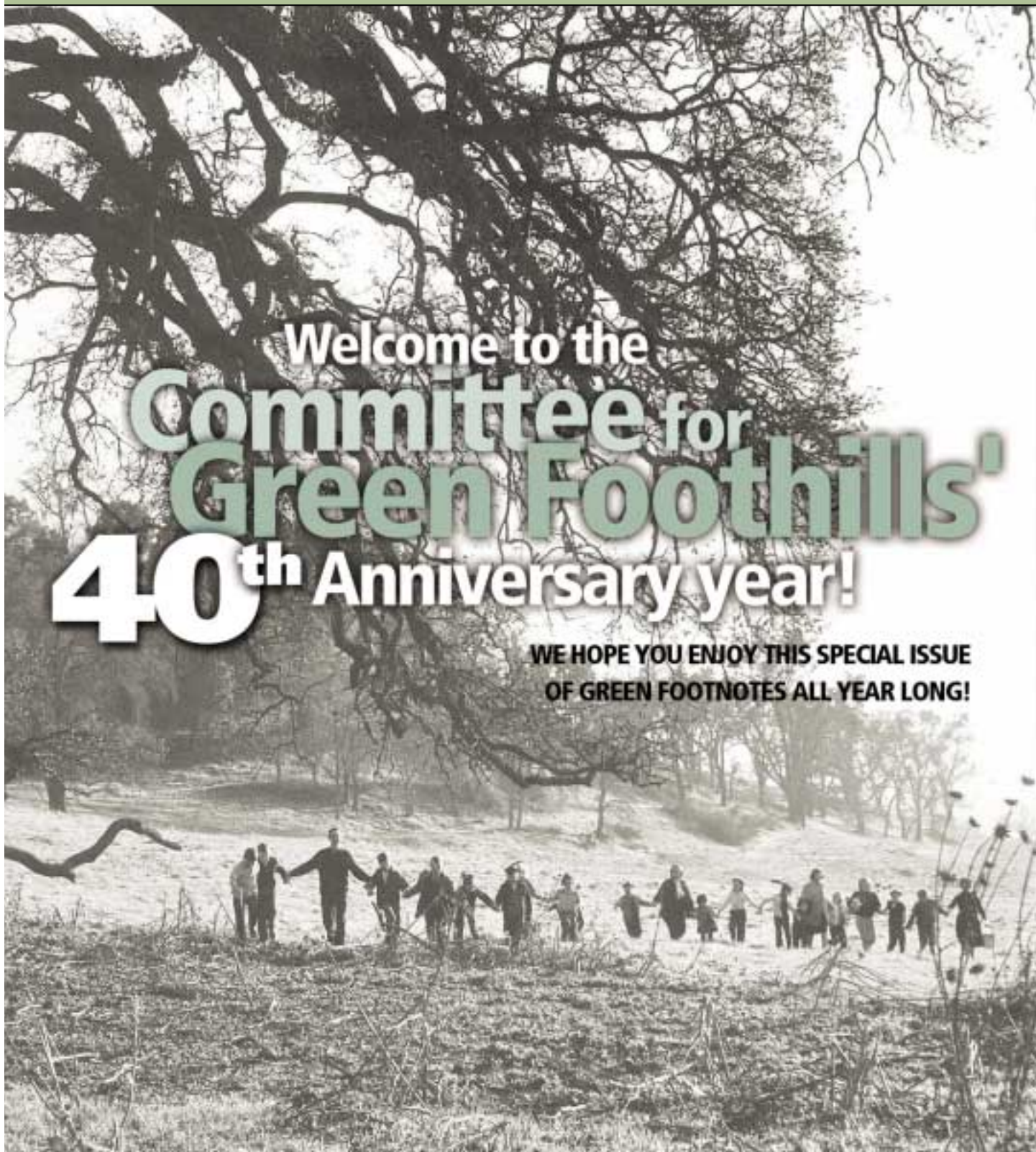
COMMITTEE FOR GREEN FOOTHILLS [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org)

40TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE 2002

SPECIAL ISSUE!

Welcome to the  
**Committee for  
Green Foothills'**  
**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year!**

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS SPECIAL ISSUE  
OF GREEN FOOTNOTES ALL YEAR LONG!





COMMITTEE FOR  
GREEN FOOTHILLS

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Peter and Sue LaTourrette  
Dave Perrone  
Chris Powell  
Lennie Roberts  
April Vargas

#### On the cover:

CGF members and young friends celebrating in the foothills, 1964. Photo by Hank Kranzler.

# WELCOME TO THE Committee for GREEN FOOTHILLS' 40th ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

Some forty years ago an awakened group of community activists gathered in Ruth Spangenberg's living room to create a brand-new grassroots organization to save the Peninsula foothills from development. Organized by Lois Crozier-Hogle, this group had a "can do" mindset. Wallace Stegner was elected the Committee's first President on the proviso that Lois Crozier-Hogle would serve as the chief organizer, activist and cheerleader. Founding member Gary Gerard suggested the name "Committee for Green Foothills." Everyone agreed, and the group was formed.

Since that memorable start, the Committee has been a leading force in saving open space on the Peninsula and the San Mateo Coastside. We have worked tirelessly to protect open space, educate local residents about the need for a sustainable environment, and support the land acquisitions of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)

and the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST).

The core of our celebration this year is to honor you, our wonderful members, and our fellow environmental organizations with which we have worked over the last four decades: Greenbelt Alliance, Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Acterra (formerly Peninsula Conservation Center/Bay Area Action), MROSD, POST and Sempervirens Fund. This informal partnership of public and private agen-



cies, combined with the loyal support of our members, has truly made a difference in this area and has achieved national recognition for its effectiveness in saving open space and farmland.

Committee for Green Foothills salutes you, our energetic membership and fellow environmental organizations. Join us in a year of celebration!

MARY DAVEY, PRESIDENT  
*Committee for Green Foothills*

*As the first President of Committee for Green Foothills, Wallace Stegner — celebrated writer, Stanford professor, and passionate environmentalist — served not only as a galvanizing force for the public, but also as the most eloquent voice of the foothills. This piece, which Wally wrote twenty years ago, still speaks to those values we share in our work to protect Wally's beloved foothills.*

Industrial society in an area of expansive growth does not move with the dignity of geological change. The roads, cuts, and buildings of subdivisions, even much landscaping, have no slow inevitability about them. They are imposed on the hills by force, they obey no natural laws, they do not conform themselves to the terrain but conform the terrain to themselves. They allow for no gradual adjustments of erosional surfaces and channels, they permit no defensive adaptations that might let the wild species with whom our life is inextricably entangled find modified niches in a modified ecology. By luck, foresight, and the whimsies of economics there are blessed exceptions, blessed pockets of nearly-untouched naturalness; but most of what people have done to the hills they have done ruthlessly, against the grain, without foresight or concert for consequences. In most cases it has not even been home-owners themselves who have bent the hills to their own desires. Corporations have simply applied the available power, taking the shortest and most profitable crosslots path to the satisfaction of a perceived market.

Wherever the developer mentality has operated unchecked, the methods have been more or less consistent and the consequences more or less bad. They would be worse except for the enlightened policies of towns such as Palo Alto, Woodside, and Portola Valley, the environmental consciences of individuals such as Frank and Josephine Duveneck, and the efforts of such organizations as the Committee for Green Foothills, which twenty years ago was organized to try to save for everyone, for the hostile and indifferent as well as the committed, some of the health that flows down across the green ridges from the Skyline, and some of the beauty and refreshment of spirit that are still available to any resident of the valley who has a moment, and the wit, to lift up his eyes until the hills.

You do not have to live in the hills, you do not have to own any part of them, to feel their influence and to have a stake in them. There is a cynical assumption in some quarters that those who fight for a degree of naturalness in the foothills are

fighting to preserve for their own selfish benefit a place in which they arrived luckily early. I don't acknowledge that for myself and I don't believe it of any Green Foothills member I know. Many who work hard to protect the hills don't live in them, and those who do live in them fight just as hard to protect Alaska wilderness or Montana grassland that they will never see. They want the hills protected for the simple reason that they love and respect the earth, know its value for other purposes than profit, and want to leave to their children and grandchildren a heritage that has not been dug up and paved over and — it is an ironic word — humanized.

What that suggests, to anyone with a feel for the earth and its importance to human life, is that further building in the hills should be done with great caution; that in the public interest developers must be controlled in the numbers and kinds of houses they build and the areas they pave over and the views they destroy; that instead of serving a public need for housing they are actually building up a heritage of headaches and the possibility of serious floods. Nature knows more about the control of watersheds than builders or planning commissions have yet learned. Communities on the Peninsula that do not allow for open space — not token open space but extensive and natural open space — endanger both themselves and the communities around and below them.

In a word, building a human community in the hills by following the direction only of the market inevitably overpopulates the hills, exceeds their carrying capacity of human beings, crowds out the populations of wildlife, and ignores the consequences to the water table, the erodable slopes, and the floodable valleys.

That perception, that conviction, is essentially what the Committee for Green Foothills has lived by. In its first twenty years, as this book demonstrates, it has had its failures, but it has also had some notable successes, and the successes are at least as visible as the failures. All who look out at the hills in the morning... owe to the people of that Committee many of the blessings that they see.

WALLACE STEGNER  
January 1, 1982

*From 20-20 Vision: In Celebration of the Peninsula Hills,  
a book published by Committee for Green Foothills  
in celebration of the organization's 20th anniversary.*

## The Peninsula

BY WALLACE STEGNER





# 2002 SPECIAL EVENTS

## COMMITTEE FOR GREEN FOOTHILLS

## Celebrating the membership of Committee for Green Foothills

PROTECTING OPEN SPACE FOR 40 YEARS!

For the past four decades, Committee for Green Foothills has been working to protect the local environment here on the Peninsula and Coastsides. The Committee's many successes have been possible only because of the hard work, support, and combined efforts of our volunteers and members. In celebration of our victories for local open space — and in celebration of you, our members — our Board of Directors and 40th anniversary volunteers have put together a year of special events and activities to help connect you to each other and to the work for which we share a commitment. We have some wonderful events planned — we hope to see you soon!

### MARCH

#### Hike the foothills in Calero County Park

■ **Saturday, March 2, 2002; 9 am - noon**

■ Join CGF Directors Peter and Sue LaTourrette and Santa Clara County Advocate Denise Dade for a walk through the south Bay foothills, west of Coyote Valley. We'll hike a 3.5 mile loop, heading up a gentle canyon in oak woodland and climbing to a ridge with a spectacular view of Coyote Valley and the site of San Jose's proposed development. See how much we have — and what we could lose.

■ Bring water, and a sack lunch for after the hike.

■ This hike is limited to 25 people; all ages welcome. RSVP by Thursday, February 28 with the CGF office at (650) 968-7243 or [Velma@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Velma@GreenFoothills.org). Rain cancels this hike.

■ Meet at 9 am in the day-use parking lot at the main entrance of Calero County Park (at the east end of the park), 23201 McKean Road, San Jose. Take Almaden Expressway south to its end at Harry Road; go right on Harry Road to McKean Road, then left on McKean Road to Calero County Park. Continue past the reservoir to the park entrance.

■ To carpool, meet at the Page Mill/280 Park 'n' Ride at 8 am.

### APRIL

#### Hike up to the wildflowers of Coyote Ridge

■ **Saturday, April 6, 2002; 9 am - noon**

■ Join CGF Director Peter LaTourrette and native plant expert Don Mayall for a hike in this very special (and unprotected) area above the east side of Coyote Valley. We'll hike through serpentine soil habitats that are home to some thirteen rare or endangered native plants, and the last healthy population of the endangered Bay checkerspot butterfly. We'll hike a steep roadway with an 800-foot elevation gain, observing changes in the vegetation as we ascend. On reaching the top we will have ample time to enjoy the spring wildflowers on the ridge and the views of Coyote Valley far below. This is a rare opportunity to see some special privately-owned lands.

■ Bring water, and a sack lunch to eat on top.

■ This hike is limited to 25 people; no children under 12. RSVP by Thursday, April 4 with the CGF office at (650) 968-7243 or [Velma@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Velma@GreenFoothills.org). Rain or wet conditions cancel this hike.

■ Meet at 9 am outside the Kirby Canyon facility office, 910 Coyote Creek Golf Drive, San Jose. Take 101 south to Coyote Creek Golf Club Drive exit, turn left under the freeway, drive through the gate and continue to the office parking lot.

■ To carpool, meet at Page Mill/280 Park 'n' Ride at 8 am.

## MAY

### Annual Members' Meeting at McNee Ranch — hike and picnic!

🌿 **Sunday, May 5, 2002; 10 am-1 pm hike; 1-3 pm lunch and program**

🌿 Join us for a day on the coast and the 2002 Committee for Green Foothills Members' Meeting. For our 40th anniversary year, CGF Directors Gael Erickson, Chris Powell, and April Vargas are organizing a special day that will start with a hike at McNee Ranch, part of Montara State Beach, where CGF and other environmentalists have spent nearly four decades fighting a proposed freeway.

🌿 Naturalists will lead easy and moderate hikes before lunch. We'll learn more about McNee Ranch, about adjacent Rancho Corral de Tierra, a 4,000-acre parcel that POST has an option to purchase, and about CGF's advocacy to protect the San Mateo County Coast.

🌿 Afterwards, we'll enjoy a complimentary "no-trash" picnic lunch in a lovely spot overlooking the ocean. Bring water for the hike. Lunch is provided!

🌿 RSVP by Monday, April 29 with the CGF office at (650) 968-7243 or [Velma@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Velma@GreenFoothills.org). Members and non-members of all ages welcome!

🌿 More details will be mailed to CGF members in April.

## JUNE

### Board of Directors Reunion and Foothills Millennium Fund gathering

🌿 **Saturday, June 8, 2002; 5 - 8:30pm**

🌿 Committee President Mary Davey invites current and past members of the CGF Board of Directors (from the last 40 years!) and members of the 2002 Foothills Millennium Fund to join her for a special evening with old friends and new conservation leaders.

🌿 This special event is only for our board alumni and for members of the 2002 Foothills Millennium Fund, those who contribute \$1,000 or more to the work of the Committee or the Green Foothills Foundation. For information about joining the Foothills Millennium Fund, contact CGF at (650) 968-7243 or [Zoe@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Zoe@GreenFoothills.org).

### Green Foothills 100K and 50K Bicycle Tour!

🌿 **Sunday, June 23, 2002; 100k at 8 am and 50k at 9 am; lunch from 1-2 pm.**

🌿 Join CGF Directors and avid cyclists Dorothy Bender and Brielle Johnck, Menlo Park Mayor (and rider!) Steve Schmidt, and experienced ride leader Rao Loka to ride the foothills in the name of environmental preservation. We'll ride in groups along two routes (50k and 100k), each led by local cyclists and environmental leaders. Each group will regroup in several locations — no one will be left behind. We'll pedal through the foothills cherished by novelist Wally Stegner, Committee for Green Foothills' first president, taking in the oak and redwood forests of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties where hundreds of CGF members have worked to protect open space.

🌿 Before the finish, we'll stop at the infamous Alpine Beer Garden (Zott's) for a no-host lunch and outdoor celebration. Prizes will be

awarded for those hardy greenfeet who bike to the starting line, those who can name five of Mr. Stegner's novels, and the techies who check out our website at [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org) before the ride.

🌿 Bring water, your helmet, money for lunch, and your road or mountain bike. Our route will follow paved roads.

🌿 Start at Peers Park, 1899 Park Boulevard, Palo Alto; lunch at the Alpine Beer Garden (Zott's), 3915 Alpine Road, Portola Valley; finish back at Peers Park.

🌿 Rider registration is \$10; for registration forms call the CGF office at (650) 968-7243, or visit [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org) or local bike shops after May 1. We encourage advance registration, but riders may register at Peers Park the morning of the ride.

## AUGUST

### Bird Walk at Pescadero Marsh Natural Reserve

🌿 **Saturday, August 17, 2002; 9 am - noon**

🌿 Join CGF Director and bird expert Peter LaTourrette and San Mateo County Advocate Lennie Roberts for a bird walk in this rightfully famous coastal marsh and estuary. We should see myriad herons and egrets, shorebirds, terns, and waterfowl, as well as fascinating insect and plant life. This will be a leisurely walk over a moderate distance.

🌿 Bring water, binoculars, and a sack lunch.

🌿 This hike is limited to 25 people; all ages welcome. RSVP by Thursday, August 15 with the CGF office at (650) 968-7243 or [Velma@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Velma@GreenFoothills.org). Rain cancels this hike.

🌿 Meet at 9 am in the first state beach parking lot on Highway 1 south of the Pescadero Creek bridge. Take 84 west to Highway 1, then south to Pescadero State Beach — the middle parking lot. If you reach Pescadero Road, you've gone too far.

🌿 To carpool, meet at Page Mill/280 Park 'n' Ride at 8 am.

## SEPTEMBER

### "Umbrellas Over Time"

— An evening to remember...and an event not to be missed!

🌿 **Sunday, September 8, 2002**

🌿 We will conclude our 40th anniversary year with a spectacular celebration and fundraiser atop the foothills.

🌿 Hosted by Board President Mary Davey and CGF Directors Paul and Maureen Draper, this event will gather members, friends, and other environmental leaders for a party that will reflect the spirit of the people and organizations committed to protecting open space here on the Peninsula.

🌿 We'll serve up spectacular views, tantalizing treats, and luscious wines at Ridge Winery on Montebello Ridge.

🌿 The evening's affair will include a live auction, commandeered by local elected officials, and special honors for CGF's collaborators over the years.

🌿 Sponsorship, donation, and volunteer opportunities available. For more information, contact Committee for Green Foothills at (650) 968-7243, or [Zoe@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Zoe@GreenFoothills.org).

🌿 Save the date — and look for your special invitation in summer 2002. This is an event you won't want to miss!



# Green Foothills Timeline

A DECADE BY DECADE LOOK AT CGF'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

## 1960

**1959** | Citizens organize to keep industrial development out of Palo Alto foothills

**1962** | Grassroots activists found Committee for Green Foothills and elect Wallace Stegner as first President

**1962** | Plans emerge for developing urban metropolis; CGF begins work on Coastside

**1964** | Proposed Willow Road freeway to Skyline rejected

**1965** | Environmentalists lobby California Legislature to create San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to regulate activities in Bay and tributaries

**1968** | CGF helps create park at Palo Alto Baylands

**1968** | Designation as "Scenic Highway" regulates growth along Skyline Boulevard

**1969** | CGF urges Palo Alto to conduct Hillside Study; report leads to creation of 10-acre minimum zoning in foothills



Donald Atken

## 1970



Ollie Mayer

**1970** | Battle to protect Edgewood Park begins when developers target native habitats

**1971** | Stanford issues Land Use / Policy Plan — concerns include job-housing imbalances, increasing traffic, and continued conversion of open space

**1972** | CGF supports legislation to acquire Montara State Beach

**1972** | Devil's Slide Bypass struggle begins

**1972** | In separate campaigns, Committee for Green Foothills leads voters to approve public funding of parks in both Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

**1972** | CGF leads creation of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)

**1973** | CGF helps secure strict logging ordinances in San Mateo County

**1976** | CGF provides leadership to expand boundaries of MROSD

**1977** | Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) formed

**1979** | Committee denies development that would convert 1300 acres of agricultural lands west of Gilroy

## 1980

**1980** | CGF wins suit to prevent expansion of San Jose's urban service area

**1980** | San Mateo County Supervisors adopt strong Local Coastal Plan

**1981** | ROLM seeks to build huge new plant in Coyote Valley

**1983** | CGF helps defeat South Shores Plan, protecting baylands and Bair Island

**1983** | CGF protects more than 4,000 acres of agricultural lands in Coyote Valley from development



CGF Archives

**1983** | Stanford withdraws poorly planned Stanford West Project

**1984** | Cascade Ranch fight begins

**1985** | Coastal Commission rejects proposed multi-lane freeway at Devil's Slide

**1985** | Stanford foothills protected from Reagan Library

**1986** | Environmental organizations sue over Devil's Slide bypass

**1986** | Measure A wins by 62% vote; protects coast from pro-development interests

**1988** | CGF wins lawsuit over Devil's Slide; CalTrans is required to study alternatives to the proposed bypass through McNee Ranch State Park

**1989** | Cascade Ranch Fitness Center and Campground approved; environmental groups sue

# 1990

**1990** | Apanolio Creek saved from landfill; steelhead habitat preserved

**1991** | Golf course threatens Edgewood Park

**1992** | Voters deny large coastal development on Cassinelli Ranch

**1993** | Supervisors put a halt to Sargeant Ranch proposal in south Gilroy

**1993** | Edgewood Park established as natural preserve

**1993** | Open Space Authority formed to acquire public lands in Santa Clara County

**1994** | Committee for Green Foothills helps increase creek setbacks in San Jose

**1994** | San Mateo Supervisors uphold Timber Harvest Buffer Zone

**1994** | Santa Clara County approves new General Plan with environmental protections

**1995** | Fight to protect Bear Creek Redwoods begins

**1995** | CGF opposes Garlic Country USA; funding falls through

**1995** | Development in St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park approved

**1995** | San Jose enacts its first Urban Growth Boundary

**1996** | Bed & Breakfast at Pigeon Point approved despite CGF protests

**1996** | Lion's Gate Reserve slated for 16,000 acres; CGF lobbying lead to significant improvements

**1996** | Measure R (to limit growth in Palo Alto) defeated

**1996** | Measure T, the Devil's Slide Tunnel Initiative, wins in a landslide

**1998** | Committee for Green Foothills fights Measure M, helps form Midpeninsula Action for Tomorrow (MPACT)

**1998** | Voters approve expansion of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to Coast

**1998** | POST purchases Bair Island wetlands

**1998** | Voters narrowly approve Stanford's proposal to develop Sand Hill corridor and develop Ohlone field

**1998** | CGF helps uphold logging regulations along Skyline; Timber Harvest Buffer Zone challenge denied

**1999** | Cascade Ranch Fitness Center is dead; bittersweet end to battle to preserve Coastal open space

**1999** | CGF helps prevent golf courses on San Mateo County watershed lands

**1999** | POST and MROSD purchase Bear Creek Redwoods

**1999** | Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors begins work on Community Plan and General Use Permit (GUP) for Stanford University; CGF helps form Stanford Open Space Alliance (SOSA)



CGF Archives

# 2000

**2000** | Pigeon Point B&B closes before it opens; POST preserves property

**2000** | Santa Clara County enacts first growth control measures for Stanford with approval of Community Plan and GUP

**2000** | Environmentalists unite to keep Cisco out of Coyote Valley; CGF helps form People for Livable and Affordable Neighborhoods (PLAN)

**2000** | CGF supports realignment of Marine Sanctuaries

**2000** | CGF joins new alliance working to save Coyote Ridge

**2000** | San Jose Greenline enforced

**2000** | CGF protects Skyline viewshed from hillside convent

**2001** | POST gets option to purchase Corral de Tierra — 4,262 acres of coastal terrace and hills above Montara — after three decades of work to prevent large-scale development proposals

**2001** | MROSD manages more than 45,000 acres as public open space

**2001** | CGF works to ensure that the proposed Carnegie Foundation development complies with the regulations in the new Community Plan and GUP



Michael Kahn

**2001** | Santa Clara County Supervisors heed CGF's cries to uphold protective Ranchlands zoning and deny massive development at Sargeant Ranch

**2001** | Proposed development turns into community park in Mirada Surf

**2001** | PLAN leads way to protect Coyote Valley; CGF works with environmental community to prevent south county sprawl

**2001** | CGF adds to professional staff; launches new website, [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org)

**2001** | Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors upholds hillside zoning, protecting open space throughout the County

**2001** | CGF leads environmental and community groups monitoring the implementation of environmental policies in Stanford's Community Plan and GUP

**2001** | CGF helps forge policies to protect stream habitat and water quality from erosion and animal waste in Coastal watersheds

# 40th Anniversary Honorary Committee



*Committee for Green Foothills celebrating its 40th Anniversary with the support of an impressive Honorary Committee – all current or former directors of the Committee for Green Foothills or the Green Foothills Foundation. The more the merrier! If you are – or know of – a former board member, and would like to lend your name to this Honorary Committee, please let us know.*

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY CHAIRPERSON

🌿 Mary Davey

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS

🌿 Lois Crozier-Hogle,  
Founder

🌿 Mary Page Stegner

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY HONORARY COMMITTEE

Jessica Agramonte  
Donald Aitken  
Betsy Allyn  
Pat Barrentine  
Betsy Bechtel  
Dorothy Bender  
Eleanor Cranston Cameron  
Diane Chapman  
Kirke Comstock  
John Davey

Larry Dawson  
Bill Dawson  
Claire Dedrick  
Paul and Maureen Draper  
Linda Elkind  
Gael Erickson  
Jane Gallagher  
Betty Gerard  
Gary Gerard  
Herb Grench  
Hertha Harrington  
Walt Hays  
Carroll Ann Hodges  
Mahlon Hubenthal  
Ellie Huggins  
Allen Jamieson  
Adaline Jessup  
Brielle Johnck  
Tom Jordan  
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Mel Kerwin

Karen Kidwell  
Judith Kleinberg  
Liz Kniss  
Vicki Kojola  
Peter and Sue LaTourrette  
Sid Liebes  
Terri Lobdell  
Pauline Lord  
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Debbie Mytels  
Nils Nilsson and Grace  
Abbott  
Enid Pearson  
David Perrone  
Chris Powell  
Bob Reese  
Emily Renzel  
Lennie Roberts

Annemarie Rosengreen  
Betsy Boardman Ross  
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Jon C. Silver  
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Ruth Beahrs Spangenberg  
Lynn Torin  
Ruth Troetschler  
Harry Turner  
Taylor Vanderlip  
April Vargas  
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COMMITTEE FOR  
GREEN FOOTHILLS

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