



Watershed Voice

The **ESCONDIDO CREEK**
Conservancy

Please join in our conservation efforts by becoming a member.

A Publication of The Escondido Creek Conservancy

SPRING / SUMMER Edition 2007

The Elfin Forest Preserve is Growing!

TECC Adds Two New Properties to the Elfin Forest Preserve

TECC is pleased to announce that we have assumed management responsibility for two beautiful properties in the heart of Elfin Forest.

These properties have come to us through a negotiated agreement with the property owners who were required to set aside these high-quality habitat lands to mitigate for development or infrastructure projects that they have undertaken in the region.

Greenlands Unit

This 73-acre property is situated on the east-facing slope of Paint Mountain in the heart of Elfin Forest. Escondido Creek crosses the property at the south-east corner. The steep slope and riparian habitat includes coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, coast live oak, and coast live oak riparian forest.

San Elijo Ridge Unit

This 28-acre property is located along Questhaven Road, north of the Elfin Forest community. It is home to over 18 acres of coastal sage scrub - a prime California gnatcatcher (CAGN) habitat.

For more information and maps of these properties, visit TECC's 'land' infor-

mation page on the web, where you will find parcel numbers, current status, maps and photos of all of TECC's properties. Visit: www.escondidocreek.org/lands.

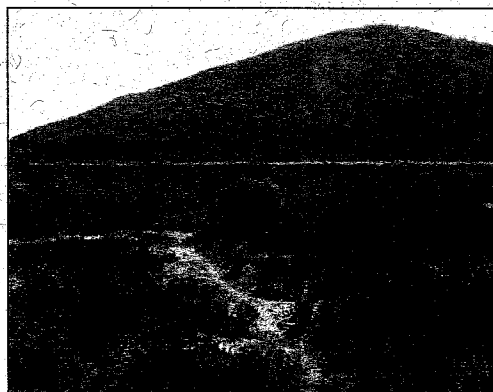
Under terms of the habitat management agreement, a permanent endowment has been established at The San Diego Foundation for each of the properties.

These endowments will provide management and monitoring funding in perpetuity. An endowment is defined as an investment of funds in which the principle is untouched, and only the interest, or 'pay out' is used for funding of the program.

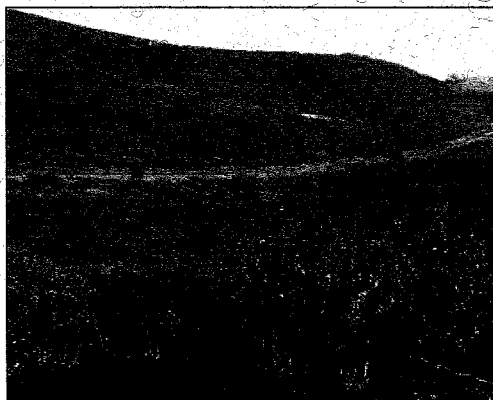
These new acquisitions further TECC's mission of preservation, restoration, and protection of the natural open space within the Escondido Creek watershed. TECC is proud of this accomplishment, which the support of our members has made possible.

Want to learn more about the watershed? See the 'Outings' section of this issue for trips.

And contact the TECC office to find out how you can help with TECC's habitat manager responsibilities. Opportunities include: brush management, signage, site monitoring, trash removal, and community outreach.



The Greenlands Property.



Questhaven road bisects the San Elijo Ridge property.

**Look
What's
Inside**

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Up and Down the Creek *By Geoffrey D. Smith, Executive Director*

Trivia Quiz: Bridges Over Troubled Waters

Over its more than 26-mile length, our Escondido Creek has been bridged numerous times.

A recent trip up the creek revealed to this writer a number of bridges over the creek - bridges for cars, bridges for pedestrians, bridges for trains.

Some of these bridges are not bridges at all - but rather 'Arizona Crossings' or swales.

A very significant crossing over the creek is not a bridge or a swale - can you name it? In the short European human history of Escondido Creek - with a year-round source of spring water under what is now the Lake Wohlford reser-



voir - we have managed to pave, dam, channelize, cross and in many ways turn our backs on the very life-giving stream that brought us

here in the first place.

We should have a little more respect!

TECC is actively working on a number of educational initiatives to attempt to change the way people think about our creek.

"Like a bridge over troubled water, I will ease your mind." Paul Simon wrote of bridges as a means of relief when times get rough.

Escondido Creek: Your

time has come to shine. I'll see you in the watershed.

Now for the quiz:

Can you name these creek crossings? Send your answers to me at information@escondidocreek.org or call 760.471.9354.

The winners will receive an honorable mention in the summer issue of the *Watershed Voice*.

I would love to hear from you. Write to information@escondidocreek.org or call 760.471.9354.



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...ABOUT PAGE 1 PHOTOS

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Chalk Dudleya (*Dudleya pulverulenta*); located on the Greenlands Unit of Elfin Forest Preserve. Black Sage (*Salvia mellifera*), remnant blossoms; on the San Elijo Ridge unit, Elfin Forest Preserve. Bush Lupine (*Lupinus longifolius*); on the San Elijo Ridge Unit of the Elfin Forest Preserve.

Unless otherwise noted, all text and photos in the newsletter are by Geoffrey Smith.

TECC relies on your generous support to further its mission of watershed protection.

Here are some ways to give:

Donate your car or boat. Remember to specify 'The Escondido Creek Conservancy' as your beneficiary. Call 1-800-766-CARE or go to www.cars4causes.net.



Dozens of merchant partners

(including Major Market, Pep Boys, Claim Jumper and others), have created a system that rewards customer loyalty by contributing a percentage of purchases to TECC. It's simple and convenient - all you need to do is register your grocery club card and debit/credit card(s) at www.escrip.com.



Donate online with your debit or credit card. Conveniently contribute a single gift or provide ongoing support by establishing automated monthly recurring charges. www.escondidocreek.org



Did you know... After your lifetime, remaining retirement assets will be heavily taxed if left to family, but will have full value if left to TECC? We invite you to join others who are making a difference through TECC and Endow San Diego. Call our Executive Director at 760.471.9354 for details about this important endowment program that can derive personal benefits for you NOW.

(Money placed in endowment is left untouched in perpetuity - only the interest is spent.)



Jon Dummer Joins TECC Board

Jon Dummer is a 50 year resident of San Diego County, his parents having moved the family from Los Angeles to Escondido in 1956, seeking a more rural environment to raise their family.

In 1962 the family acquired eight acres at the end of Cordrey Drive in Harmony Grove, where they built their adobe home and where his father still lives.

Jon spent his formative years hiking and horseback riding through out the Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest community, developing a love and respect for native environments. He spent many nights camping alongside the Escondido Creek.

Jon attended local grade schools and Palomar College before attending the University of California, Santa



Jon Dummer

Barbara, where he studied economics, geography, and environmental studies, graduating in 1980 with a BA.

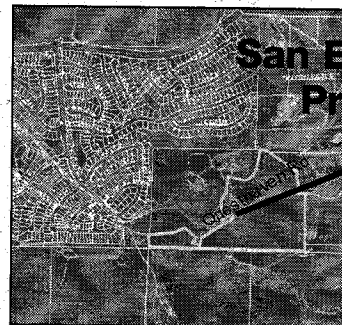
He has spent the last 26 years working in the aerospace industry. He currently is the CEO of Surface Optics Corporation - an Electro Optics company located in Rancho Bernardo.

In 2000, Jon and his wife, Debbie, and

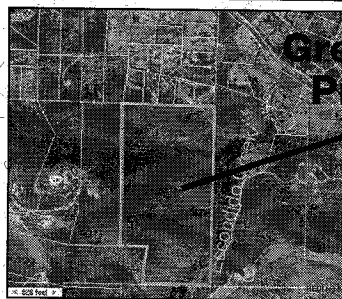
daughters Erin and Jessie built their new home on Cordrey Drive, alongside the old family home, where he intends to spend the rest of his life.

He continues to hike in the area on a daily basis and provides support when possible to protecting the environment in his community

Please join us in welcoming Jon to the TECC board!



San Elijo Ridge Property



Greenlands Property

NEW TECC PROPERTIES

These two new properties bring to 161 the total number of acres of natural habitat that TECC has responsibility for managing in the Elfin Forest Preserve.

Photos by BEDI

TECC HONOR ROLL

The Escondido Creek Conservancy gratefully acknowledges the following donors for their generosity during the past three months.

TECC endeavors to recognize all donors. If we have inadvertently left your name off of this list, please don't hesitate to contact the office. We'll make it right in the next issue!

Members

The Daryl and Anne Carlson Family
Richard & Dolores Barber
Kathy and Jennifer Bishop
Lita Bowles
Linda & Larry Cammorata
Janet Fairbanks Dammann
Joe & Marie Fanelli
Susan Flieder & Paul Eichen
Gail Hanna
Anne & James Hubbell
Stephen & Phyllis Isaac
Deborah & Brian Jones
Lucille Khoury
Alta & Albert Kisselburgh
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Doug & Kathleen Wescott

Friends of the Creek (\$100+)
Jayne Ellen Bernasconi

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The De Bellis - Fallon Family
David & Edith Felker
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David & Mary Garman
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Susan S Hayes
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Becky Howell
Kim Hunter
James & Linda McKim
Laura Mitchell, PhD
Dan Silver, M.D.

Protectors of the Creek (\$1,000+)
Elizabeth Keithley

Roberta & Byron MacFarlane
- Collectables
Jack Olmstead - Document
Shredder
Trace Wherry-Phillips
- Collectables
Inez & Richard Yoder
- Collectables

Grants

\$25,000 for Education Outreach/
The San Diego Foundation
\$600 for PA System &
Camera/The Elfin Forest
Community Foundation

Interpretive Center Capital Campaign

Cardiff School, MAC Class
- \$200
Camille Armstrong and
Geoffrey Smith - \$1,000
Devore and Ruth Smith - \$100

Visit the TECC website to subscribe to the free 'e-TECC' electronic bulletin for up-to-the-minute news and activities. Issued monthly.



In-Kind

Claudia & Tim Costanzo
- File Cabinet
Jean Costanzo - Collectables
Lori & Carey Lawrence
- Collectables

Join Us as We Learn About the Escondido Creek Watershed

"Going to the mountains is going home." - John Muir

TECC Outings and Events

Outing Sign-up Procedure

Contact the outing leader at 760.471.9354 or information@escondidocreek.org to learn more about each week's trip and to sign up. Registration is required in case there is a change of plans, and to manage trip size. All outings are led by our

Executive Director, Geoffrey Smith, who is well-versed in the local land-use and resource management issues in the watershed. Meet 15 minutes prior to start time. Please no dogs. Children are welcome on some trips when accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

Wednesdays in the Watershed

Mid-week half-day hikes to special places in the watershed. If your work or school (or retirement!) allows, this is a great way to break up your week and avoid the weekend crowds (first and third Wednesday of every month).

June 20, 9 am - noon: Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve - Lake Hodges Overlook Hike

Hike up the Way Up Trail and Lake Hodges Overlook loop, overlooking Del Dios, Lake Hodges, and East County. We'll hike through the proposed 17 houses, 100-acre 'Cielo Azul' development on the way up. Meet at staging area at EFRR. Intermediate, 6 miles, 700' gain/loss. Call 760.471.9354 or go to information@escondidocreek.org for required sign up.

Weekend Events

Aug. 25, Saturday: 6th Annual 'Concert on the Creek' featuring Berkley Hart.

This year the concert returns to the Lazy J Ranch in Elfin Forest. Plan now to attend this extraordinary event. See details elsewhere in this issue!

Visit the TECC website for additional outing details, and outings not listed on this page: www.escondidocreek.org.

2003 BMW X5 SUV: Is It Yours?



The BMW on display at TECC's Spring Celebration.

64K mi/100K mi warranty.
3.0 liter engine. Class 3
hitch. Gray Green color.
Leather interior.

Through the generosity of the Claudia and Tim Costanzo family, this beautiful vehicle has been donated to TECC to be auctioned to the highest bidder.

Proceeds will benefit the Interpretive Center campaign.

Get complete specifications and make your bid today by visiting the TECC website, or calling the office. The current highest bid is posted on the website, starting at \$20,000.

Remember, TECC is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible charity, so be enthusiastic in your offers!

Hubbell and Hubbell Architects Selected for Elfin Forest Interpretive Center

The renown father/son architectural firm of James and Drew Hubbell has been selected to design the new Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Interpretive Center.

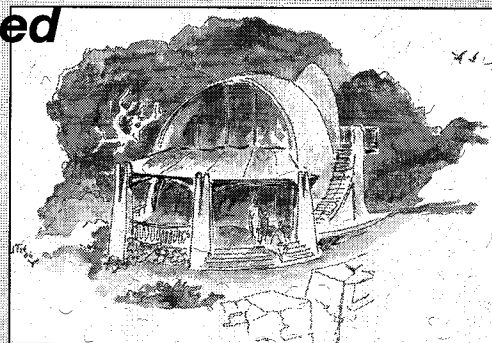
From a competitive field of five highly qualified firms, the proposals were reviewed and the challenging decision was made by the OMWD Board of Directors with the support of our dedicated Citizens Advisory Committee:

Lynne Christenson, PhD, County Historian, County of San Diego; Tim Costanzo, Small Business Owner (ret.); The Escondido Creek Conservancy, Elfin Forest; Janie DeCelles, Interpretive Center Funder, Encinitas; Susie Hayes, Rancho Santa Fe; Virginia McMannus,

PhD, Psychologist, Elfin Forest; Laura Mitchell, PhD, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Harmony Grove; Anne Mudge, Artist, Elfin Forest; Geoffrey D. Smith, MA, The Escondido Creek Conservancy; Jeff Swenerton, Public School Administrator (ret.) The Escondido Creek Conservancy, Elfin Forest; Dorothy Tavui, Culture Committee, San Pasqual Band of Kumeyaay Indians.

The Hubbells will produce three conceptual plans, from which a single design will be chosen in mid-July. Architectural plans will be completed and construction will commence in early 2008.

Your financial support is needed!



This early conceptual design has been created by James Hubbell, one of several that will be considered.

At \$300,000 raised to date, we are half-way to our goal of \$600,000 to complete the project. Please consider a generous legacy gift for this important project and send your check to the TECC office soon.

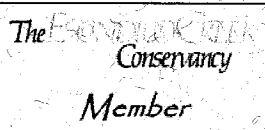
THE ESCONDIDO CREEK CONSERVANCY

YES! I support TECC's efforts. Please send the *Watershed Voice* newsletter. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation.

I want to be a member at this level:

Basic Membership

- ☐ \$15 Student
☐ \$50 Individual or Family
Includes quarterly newsletter & TECC window sticker



Friends of the Creek

- ☐ \$100 *Includes basic premiums plus TECC baseball cap*
☐ \$300 *Includes basic premiums plus Eagle Creek Day pack*
☐ \$500 *Includes basic premiums plus invitation to Spring Celebration*



Protectors of the Creek

- ☐ \$1,000
☐ \$2,500
☐ \$5,000
☐ OTHER _____
- These levels of membership include basic premiums, plus additional recognition as appropriate*



- ☐ I wish my name and contribution amount to remain anonymous.

I am interested in donating regularly. Please send reminders
 _____ Monthly _____ Quarterly

Please make your check payable to 'The Escondido Creek Conservancy' OR

Please charge my credit card: _____ One Time _____ Monthly _____ Quarterly

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card No. _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security Code on back of card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Name on Card: _____

(Note: For your protection, your credit card number information in our files is destroyed after being processed.)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Company that will match my gift: _____

BE A VOLUNTEER.

Yes, I would like to volunteer to work with TECC. Please contact me with opportunities to serve.

Your contributions are tax deductible.

You can support TECC with the click of a mouse! Click the 'DONATE NOW' symbol on the www.escondidocreek.org website for secure and efficient donations by credit card.



Spring Celebration

More than 80 members and supporters enjoyed a beautiful spring day on May 5 that included hikes, talks about our chaparral ecosystem, and guided bus tours of TECC properties in Elfin Forest.



Board members Jack Olmstead, Steve Barker, Jerry Harmon, Jeff Swenerton and Everett DeLano confer on the guided bus tour plans.



Martha Blane, founding board president, interprets an oak woodland on a guided walk.



Volunteer Firefighter Tim Jenkins assists patrons across Harmony Grove Road.



Inez and Richard Yoder tour the Olivenhain Reservoir Dam site.



Founding board member and current Vice President Steve Barker delivers inspiring remarks on the vision for open space in Elfin Forest.



Geoffrey Smith provides commentary during one of three guided bus tours of TECC properties.



Rick Halsey addresses the large crowd before lunch.

The Escondido Creek Conservancy

P.O. Box 460791 Escondido California 92046

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consider a membership today!*

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Mission Statement

The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) is a non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to the preservation, enhancement and protection of the natural open space within the Escondido Creek watershed. We support educational programs and compatible outdoor recreation within the watershed for the benefit of all residents of the area.

The Escondido Creek Conservancy Officers

June Rady.....	President	Jack Olmstead.....	Director
Steve Barker.....	V. President	Jeff Swenerton.....	Director
Brent Alspach.....	Secretary	Leonard Wittwer.....	Director
Tim Costanzo.....	Treasurer	TECC Office.....	760-471-9354
Kevin Barnard.....	Director	Email.....	information@escondidocreek.org
Everett DeLano III.....	Director	Website.....	www.escondidocreek.org
Jon Dummer.....	Director	Geoffrey D. Smith, MA....	Executive Director/Watershed Voice Editor
Jerry Harmon.....	Director	Mary Beth Francis.....	Watershed Voice Design/Layout
Laura Mitchell, PhD.....	Director	Vickie Kleen.....	Bookkeeper

The Escondido Creek Conservancy

Saturday, August 25th
6 pm

Returning to ... The Lazy J Ranch
Elfin Forest Lane
Elfin Forest

\$50 per person (\$60 at the gate)
Includes dinner, beer from Stone Brewing Co., wine, Starbucks coffee
Silent Auction - Bring your checkbook!

Ticket Purchase Information:

- 1) credit card at www.escondidocreek.org
- 2) mail check to:
The Escondido Creek Conservancy
PO Box 460791, Escondido, CA 92046
- 3) pay at the gate (seating limited)
- 4) purchase from any TECC Board member
- 5) Lou's Records in Encinitas

\$30 of ticket price benefits The Escondido Creek Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, public benefit corporation dedicated to the preservation and protection of the natural open space within the Escondido Creek watershed.

Concerts on the Creek 2007
6th Annual

760.471.9354

featuring

Berkley Hart

www.berkleyhart.com

"Together, Berkley Hart is one down-home guitarist, one African drum specialist, two songwriting gurus, and a harmony more powerful than moonshine."
- SLAMM Music Magazine



The TECC Traveling Road Show is ready to come to your community! Contact the office to schedule an informative multimedia presentation by our Executive Director about the Escondido Creek Watershed and TECC's exciting programs. Your Rotary, Kiwanis, school, church, town council or professional association will love what they see and hear! Call today: 760.471.9354.