



# SISKIYOU LAND TRUST NEWS

## Fall 2011

**We** hear this question often... “So, what is the land trust doing right now? Any projects lined up?” Well, it’s summer time, and the land trust is humming with activity. We are currently working hard to accomplish our mission. To do this we focus on two primary objectives (1) acquire land or conservation easements to protect agricultural lands, forestlands, and wildlands in Siskiyou County and (2) actively steward the easements and land once it is held by the land trust. Both objectives require attention throughout the year.

This Summer, we implemented a stewardship program, and assigned lead stewards – or caretakers – to oversee our annual responsibilities. We are incredibly thankful to these volunteers for stepping up to this leadership role. It requires knowledge of the land and easements, monitoring, maintenance, and organizing to accomplish the many tasks involved. Thank you SLT Stewards John Brennan & Tom Wearing: *Hammond Pond*, Sam Baxter & Rebeca Franco: *Sisson Meadow*, Amanda Smith: *Plank/Whipple Easements*, Jess Ward: *Trinity River Easement*, Tristan Behm: *Plank/Whipple and Trinity Easements*. Also thank you Roger Kosel, Stewardship Committee chair, for leading this dedicated team!

We are currently working on five active projects. These include Easements over forest, ranch, and recreation lands, Property Acquisition, and a conservation program for Rainbow Ridge. Together these projects would protect over 3,000 acres. We are also reviewing several potential projects and working with a half dozen landowners and local organizations that have inquired about conservation easements, trails, and other acquisitions. Land trusts walk a fine line between sharing project information as it is developing and maintaining landowner confidentiality while reviewing and negotiating land transactions. We thank you all for your confidence and patience as we work out project details to fulfill our mission. We are happy to let you all know that the land trust has received an influx of interest, perhaps more than the current half-time staff position and available funds can manage, and are working hard to be effective and efficient to turn this interest into successful projects. We appreciate your continued support that enables Siskiyou Land Trust to pursue this important and timely work.

Kathleen Hitt, Conservation Director

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### The Siskiyou Land Trust Speakers Bureau

The Siskiyou Land Trust (SLT) has formed a Speakers Bureau. Our mission is to inform, inspire, and educate groups about the exciting events and activities that we are doing at the Land Trust in the Siskiyou area. We are available to offer slide show presentations, relevant movies, presentations about how the Land Trust secures and preserves land in this area, and discussions about how you can become involved.

We would love to share SLT’s vision for preserving Sisson Meadow, Hammond Pond, Plank-Whipple Easement as well as our other projects with your group. Kathleen Hitt, Janet Zalesky, and Sam Baxter are available to come to your location to share our excitement about the work we are doing.

For additional information, or to schedule a date for a presentation, call Sam Baxter at 530-925-9077.





## Conservation Easement Workshop Recap



Kathleen Hitt

**Siskiyou County residents** had a chance to learn more about the nuts and bolts of conservation easements in June thanks to a free workshop organized by the Siskiyou Land Trust. SLT Board members and staff planned the event in response to numerous requests for information about how conservation easements work.

SLT Board member Jan Schrag notes, "While many people are familiar with the term 'conservation easement,' we realized that the majority of interested community members were looking for an introduction to conservation easement basics – so we tried to share some of the core concepts and leave people with a few digestible pieces of information."

About fifty people attended the educational

event in Montague that covered a range of presentations including landowner perspective, legal and tax ramifications of easements, conservation easement mapping and monitoring, and federal easement programs. As John Brennan put it, "This is an important conservation tool used by SLT to protect working landscapes and wildlands in Siskiyou County. It is imperative that we get the word out to the community about what [easements] are and how they can be used to enhance and protect the character of Siskiyou County. If people don't understand what is available, they won't use it. It's as simple as that. SLT Conservation Director, Kathleen Hitt added that "The land trust is looking forward to hosting more workshops in the future." Stay tuned.

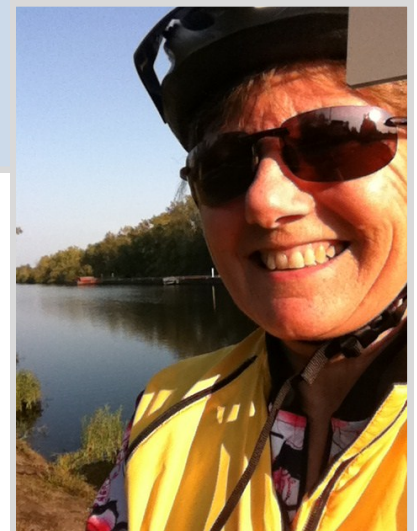
Special thanks to Tom Wearing, Barry Price, Josh McPherson, Tristan Behm, Gareth Plank, Kathleen Hitt, and Natural Resource Conservation Service staff, Allison Pierce and Kathleen Giogri, for volunteering their time and sharing their knowledge with our community.

## Siskiyou Land Trust Fall Fundraiser

**Thursday, November 10th at 6:30PM!**

**Mt. Shasta City Park Upper Lodge**

*Save the Date. Dinner, Dancing, and a Knock-Your-Socks off Auction! Fun! Fun! Fun!*



## From the President's Bike

I am writing this as I cycle the Erie canal from Buffalo to Albany, NY on a Sierra Club outing. One of the things I've noticed is that volunteers are what make the preservation of history and land happen. They clean up and work on trails. They find money to improve museums and historic sites. I listened to volunteers talk about the Erie Canal's importance to their city. I saw a museum dedicated to model railroads started by one man's dream and brought to life by a group of volunteers. I saw parts of the abandoned Erie canal made into a garden area by locals.

Volunteers are everywhere!

SLT needs volunteers to keep it running smoothly and I am personally asking for your help.

Please call (530) 926-2259 or email us to learn about volunteer opportunities. Volunteering rocks.

Belinda Higuera, President



# Slideshow Series: Cycling Through Turkey

Linda Roddy & Mike Hupp



## Merhaba!

*In April & May of 2010, we (Linda Roddy and Mike Hupp) spent 5 weeks touring Turkey's Aegean-Mediterranean coast and the Cappadocia region using folding bicycles, a gulet (a 40-50 foot commercial yacht), ferries, a scooter and public buses.*

Traveling on our own with Linda's trusty Lonely Planet Guide and no fixed schedule, we were able to adapt our plans and travels to the countryside we encountered. Throughout the trip, we stayed in small pansiyons (a Turkish bed and breakfast) that provided great meals and information about things to see and do in the local neighborhood.

Every place we traveled, the Turkish people were friendly and helpful. Language was not a barrier, though there were some interesting 'conversations' in more remote villages. When we were lost in small towns (which happened often), someone always stepped up and helped us find our way. In Cirali, on the Turquoise Coast, one kind person even loaned us their car to ferry our bikes and gear.

Covering over 400 miles by bicycle, we visited deserted white sand beaches on the Aegean Sea, ancient Roman ruins in remote villages, coastal Crusader fortresses and monastic cave dwellings carved into the hillsides of Cappadocia. In big cities like Izmir, we simply folded up the bikes and caught a bus to avoid the crowded highways.

When the Mediterranean coastline got too rugged for bikes, we hopped on a gulet and motor-sailed the coast visiting villages and islands that had no road access. In Cappadocia, a rented scooter provided a whirlwind tour of outlying villages and ruins. Istanbul proved to be a dizzying mix of ancient and modern.

*For more picture and the rest of Linda & Mike's trip come to the Slide Show!*

*This is just a sample, for more please join us:*

Siskiyou Land Trust's slide show series resumes

**7:00 PM Tuesday, Nov. 1 in the Highland Room; The Mt. Shasta Resort**

\$5 donation requested. Land Trust members at the 'Conservator' & 'Protector' levels receive complimentary admission.

**Tuesday Jan. 3rd, 2012:** Steve Morrell's 'Antarctica'.

**Tuesday Feb. 7th, 2012:** Bill Miesse with a unique slide show of art featuring Mt. Shasta.

Both Shows will be in the Highland Room at 7PM.







## Garden Update

Bayla Greenspoon

**Harvest time has come!** After several months of planning and digging, planting and scattering seeds, weeding and watering, we are now enjoying the fruits (and vegetables!) of our labors at the land trust garden. What a joy it is to eat the vibrant, beautiful produce from our Garden-Share. For the past couple of months we have been graced with an evolving bounty of lettuces, arugula, kale, chard, strawberries, peppers, beans, peas, mustard greens, herbs, cucumbers, carrots, beets, onions, orach (mountain spinach), and zucchini. The tomatoes, potatoes and eggplant are ripening now, too! We are very grateful that David Reese has provided us with use of the land. We have been sharing our harvest as well; many bags of greens have been given to St. Anthony's pantry for distribution to the community.

The process has been an interesting one...and sometimes challenging - as it can be when engaging in a collective pursuit. The garden-share project is a group of about 15 active garden members that are very diverse in terms of gardening experience, skills, energy, availability and personalities. What we have in common is a desire to work the land and grow delicious, nutritious, organic food together for the good of ourselves and others. This is a strong connecting force.

As summer moves on, I find intimacy in growing, harvesting and eating food together. We gather for potlucks at the garden every second Sunday after a work party. I am learning that people put in what they can, and harvest what they will. This garden offers a great practice in developing acceptance, tolerance, gratitude, and building community. We feel truly blessed.

*What's going on with Hammond Pond?*

## To Swim or Not to Swim...That is the Question!

Janet Zalewski

*Every July as the weather starts to reach those summertime highs many locals are drawn to Hammond Reservoir to cool off on a hot afternoon. So, here's a quick attempt to provide some history, shed some light as to why this is not an OK thing to do.*

Back in the 1990's, some private citizens donated the parcel of land underneath the reservoir to the newly formed Siskiyou Land Trust to preserve wildlife and other conservation values for future generations. So, the Siskiyou Land Trust holds the land in trust and has access via an easement to exercise its stewardship responsibilities.

The SLT's easement does not allow for public access to Hammond Reservoir. All roads in the Hammond Ranch area are private and are posted as such. Individual landowners have access and are only allowed to use roads to access their own property- but not to trespass on the SLT parcel.

Here's another twist...the water that flows into Hammond Reservoir is owned by the Shasta Valley Irrigation District. Every summer the reservoir is drained to provide irrigation or agriculture in the Shasta Valley. The SV Irrigation District does not allow public use of the water in the reservoir.

The long and the short of it is, anyone swimming in Hammond Reservoir is trespassing. Anyone who drives on Dale Creek Road who does not own property accessed by Dale Creek Road, or is not a guest of a landowner is trespassing. Currently the SLT and the Hammond Ranch Landowners Association are involved in discussions to determine answers to ongoing issues of enforcement and stewardship responsibilities to ensure that wildlife and other conservation values are protected.

So, will there ever be public access to Hammond Reservoir? It's possible, but many critical issues need to be worked out prior to that happening. What type of access, where are the access points, who will perform maintenance, where will we park and where does the funding come from are just a few of the questions we need to answer. The Land Trust Board of Directors is tackling some of these issues. If you have further questions or comments, please contact a Board Member.



# Membership Matters

Janet Zalewski

Yes, Membership DOES matter.

**Do you ever wonder where The Siskiyou Land Trust gets money to pay the bills??** Bills you say??? Yes; telephone, electricity, rent, etc. Oh how boring is that. Sounds like a household budget. Well think about this. Our mission is a lofty one, and we are passionate about preserving vital agricultural, forest, & wildlands in Siskiyou County. But those boring things keep our doors open, and that's one of the ways OUR MEMBERS play an important role.

Whether your membership is \$20.00, \$1,000.00, or anything in between... YOU are important to our mission. We are grateful for your support. We welcome the following 15 new household memberships since June 15!

Duncan Barr, Ernie and Marsha Behm, Kristofer Ellingson, Dale and Janet Haines, Margaret Hollenbeck, Donna Larson, Shanhong Lu, Monica Mais, Chip May, Roslyn McCoy, David and Patricia Nelson, Janet Rainville, Steve and Eloise Larson, Pauline Uri, and Kate Yorke.

Thank you to our new AND continuing members for supporting this vital mission.



## Midwinter Pesto

Time: 30m Yield: 1 3/4c

**1 Cup Walnuts** or Pine Nuts

Coarse **Salt** and ground **Pepper**

**8 Cups** lightly packed fresh **Basil** leaves (can replace a portion with Italian Parsley)

**2 Garlic** cloves, coarsely chopped

**2/3 cup** extra virgin **Olive Oil**  
Parmesan Cheese

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Spread nuts evenly on a rimmed baking sheet; toast in oven until golden and fragrant, tossing once 8-10 minutes. Let cool completely
2. Meanwhile, bring 4 cups salted water to a boil; add basil, and submerge with a spoon. Immediately drain in a colander. Rinse with cold water until cool then pat basil completely dry.
3. In a food processor, combine nuts, basil, cheese, and garlic, season generously with salt and pepper. Process until nuts are finely chopped. With machine running, pour oil in a steady stream through the feed tube, and process until smooth. Use immediately or freeze.

**Try freezing pesto in ice trays.** Put the fresh pesto in a decent Ziploc bag, cut a corner of the bag and squeeze like icing into cube trays. Freeze the trays and then transfer into freezer bags. When you want **pesto in the middle of winter** just pop out a couple of cubes and toss in the dish. Much easier than carving out of a large frozen block.



## Board Members Step Down

Jan Schrag

Sincere thanks to Michael Zanger and Leslie Andrews for their tireless efforts as SLT Board members. Michael and Leslie are stepping down from the Board to focus their efforts in the Land Stewardship and Land Acquisition committees. They have both contributed countless hours to fulfilling SLT's mission. We will miss your presence on the Board, but are thrilled that you are committed to continue your work with the land trust! Here's what they had to share regarding their time on the board:

**Michael Zanger:** *"It was a great time! I loved being a part of the non-confrontational and win-win efforts and results in preserving the beauty and resources of our area...and the State of Jefferson. I look forward to remaining a part of the Siskiyou Land Trust."*

**Leslie Andrews:** *"I joined the SLT board because I love this area and am firmly committed to its preservation. I really enjoyed my time on the board and would still be on it if my schedule [permitted]. It was a privilege to hear the behind the scenes information about projects for preservation in this area, and to be involved in planning and prioritization. It was exciting to see the first big project, the Plank/Whipple Ranch in Scott Valley finally come to completion! The people on the board are an interesting mix of skills. They are enthusiastic and diversely knowledgeable, and involved and committed to preservation in Siskiyou County. They were also a lot of fun! I plan to continue as a member of the Lands and Stewardship committees."*



## 2011 Member List

**Conservator**

Joseph and Kathleen Heller  
Berryvale Grocery  
Leslie Andrews  
Susie Boyd  
John Brennan  
Alistair and Carol Mowat  
Anonymous  
Duncan Barr  
Janet Zalewski & Linda Richter  
Shanhong Lu

**Sustainer**

Kathleen Hitt and Tristan Behm  
Kristofer Ellingson  
Wearing Household  
Taylor Household  
Michael & Jane Sojka  
Domenic & Joan Favero  
Griffin and Penny Bloodhart  
Chris & Sharon Stromsness  
Laraine Lewis  
Neal and Benita Clark

**Supporter**

Karen Aldous  
Aviani/Siegel Household  
Wheeler & Tere Birdwell  
Steve Bollock  
Evelyn Callas  
Kristen Carter  
Chris Schneider Design, Inc.  
Richard & Jackie  
Desrochers/Johnson Household  
Lon and Liz Fitton  
John & Denise  
John Soares and Stephanie  
Carol Jenkins, Ph.D  
Mona and Bruce Johnston  
Allan and Kathleen King  
Brett and Nancy LaMott  
Barry Lopez and Debra Gwartney  
Monica Mais  
Kerry & Eleanor Mauro  
Chip May  
Marie Mitchell  
John & Norma Moore  
Michael & Wendy Murray  
Jean Nels  
David and Patricia Nelson  
Pan and Neera Paine  
Jackie Parker  
Neil & Stephane Posson  
Janet Rainville  
Nick & Pat Satariano  
Jack & Lori Saunders  
Carl & Fai Schwarzenberg  
Dave & Pam Scott  
Timothy Stearns  
Janet Stensaas  
Tom Stokely  
Swift/Chandler Household  
George & Bonnie Thomas  
Michael Williams  
Kate Yorke

Pauline Uri  
Katy Chapman  
John & Evelyn Ward  
Margaret Conard  
Donna Larson  
Dale and Janet Haines  
Kristin & George Stroud  
Steve and Eloise Larson  
Barbara Allen  
Mark Gibson  
Ernie and Marsha Behm  
Terry and Sally McGraw  
Carmen Kinch  
Joan Randall  
Nancy & Jerry Harmon  
Stone Household  
Chantal Langenfeld  
Thalis & Robert Hunt  
Gray Household  
Michelle Berditschevsky  
Neil Jacobs  
Brian & Katie White  
Richard Lucas  
Findling/Damschroeder Household  
Julie & Mike Cassidy  
Joan Roemer  
Carol Winston  
Phil & Barbara Ward  
Evelyn Callas  
Mark Foster  
Marie Mitchell  
Russ Porterfield  
Francis W. Mangels  
Bill and Mary Larsen  
Diane Kirwin  
Lawrence Jordan  
Robert and Donna Forrest  
Durbin/Barnett Household  
Colescott/Kopplin Household  
William and Judy Broeckel  
Swift/Chandler Household  
Craig Chase  
Tom & Yvonne Waite  
Ernest & Ingelore Weinberg  
Thom Wick  
Sandy Scofield

**Protector**

Jack Moore  
Jim Parker  
GE Foundation  
Jan Schrag and David Vogt  
Joe & Michael Wirth  
John and Lori Harch  
Rick & Linda Chitwood  
McFall Household  
Wholesale Solar, Inc.  
Conkle Household  
Roger Kosel  
Belinda Higuera  
Jack & Lori Saunders  
Thamar Wherrit

Deadra Knox  
Living Visions  
Rebecca Franco and Dale Stanley  
Charlie Brown  
Linda & Ronald Stremel  
Robert and Olivia Hall  
Cunningham/Mansfield Household  
Marge Apperson  
Connie Marmet  
Carol & Victor Medrano  
John & Linda Sue Runnels  
Christina & Jason Benz  
John C. and Patricia S. Hitt  
Jay & Eve Thompson  
John Yoakley  
Rick and Karen Poore  
Desrochers/Johnson Household  
Barry Lopez and Debra Gwartney  
Vicki Houle  
Ray and Sharon Williamson  
Keith & Harriet Whipple  
Spring Hill Nursery  
Hall Household  
David Collier  
Morrell/White Household  
Corzine/Dennis Household  
Cohn Household  
Boyd, Donna  
Seawell Household  
Mauro, Kerry & Eleanor

**Steward**

Sam and Kris Baxter  
Stacy Smith  
Seawell Household  
Bruce Shoemaker  
Wearing Household  
Michael Merten and John Jacobson  
Lynn Teuscher  
Robert and Kathleen Polkinghorn  
Michael Zanger  
Driscoll Household  
Siskiyou Design Group  
Chris Marrone and Mona Gutierrez  
Joy & Barry Price  
Roman Loranc  
Mark & Eleanor Kennedy



**Board of Directors***President* **Belinda Higuera***Vice President* **Stacy Smith***Treasurer* **Susie Boyd***Board:* **John Brennan****Roger Kosel****Jan Schrag****Conservation Director****Kathleen Hitt***Tech* **Mike Sojka***Layout, Photos* **Claire Tenschler***Additional Photos***Kathleen Hitt****Sam Baxter****Linda Roddy & Mike Hupp****SLT Holdings****Sisson Meadow****Mt. Shasta, CA**

7.7 acres of scenic view-shed and wetland habitat

**Trinity River****Conservation Easement**

70 acres of open space, view-shed and river corridor

**Scott Valley Conservation Easement**

5,500+ acres of agricultural land, rangeland, river corridor, and wildlife habitat

**Hammond Reservoir****Weed, CA**

67 acres of open space, wetland, and habitat

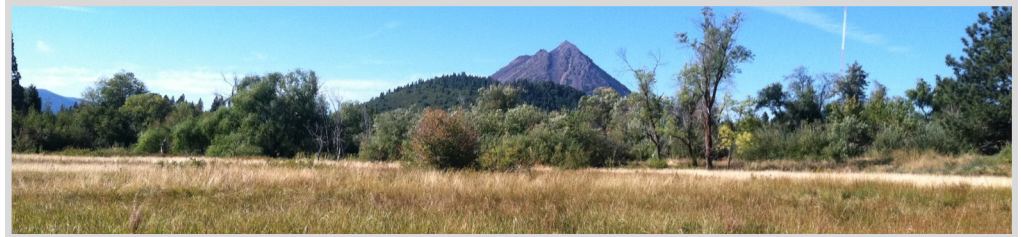
# Changing Hats

Janet Zalewski

Given the current state of our economy, times are tough for non-profit organizations. Grant funding is scare to non-existent, and because corporate revenues are down, foundation giving is down. This spring while I was preparing the budget for the next fiscal year, it became clear to me that the Siskiyou Land Trust needed to change the way it was operating to ensure its ability to fulfill its conservation and stewardship obligations. It is critical for the financial stability of the Land Trust, that expenses to not exceed revenues generated. And, generating revenues for operations in this economy is no easy task. As such, I offered to step down from the paid position as Executive Director but continue working with the SLT on a limited volunteer basis.

Kathleen Hitt will continue as Conservation Director to ensure the mission of the SLT in Siskiyou County. I will continue to work on a volunteer basis with the board of directors in areas of board development, fundraising, and governance. Members, we ask you to continue your membership support!

Members, please know that I strongly believe in and support the Siskiyou Land Trust. Our mission is more critical than ever, with the changes we have made and your continued support, our financial picture will remain stable and we will continue to do conservation work in Siskiyou County for years to come.



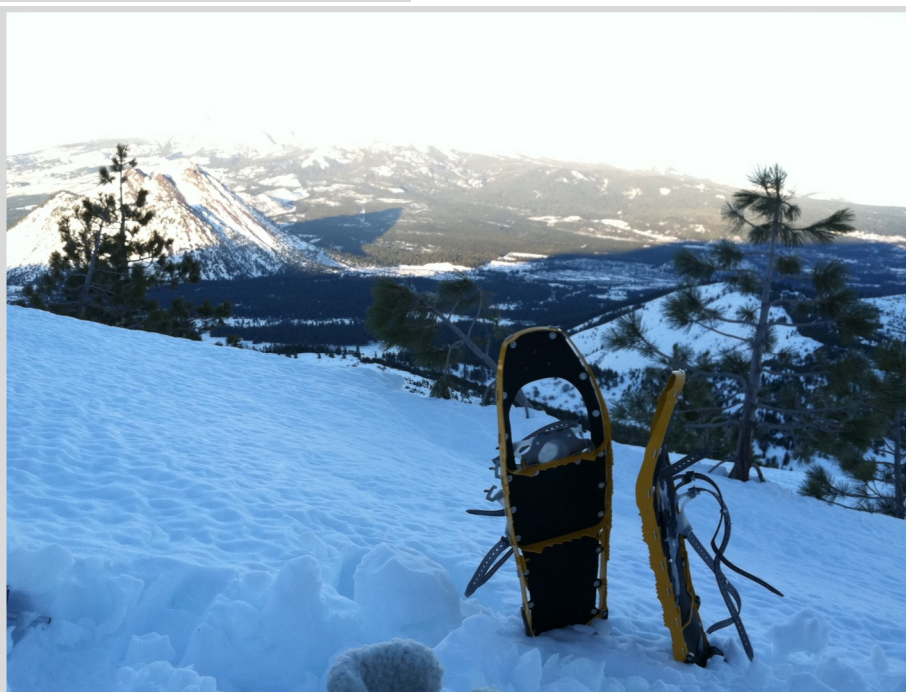
# Rainbow Ridge Forest Update

Kathleen Hitt

SLT is gearing up to facilitate a Rainbow Ridge forest conservation program.

Rainbow Ridge is a forested hillside located on the outskirts of Mt. Shasta. This steep ridge runs parallel to I-5 between Lake Siskiyou and Mount Eddy. SLT will be renewing its previous efforts to gather landowners in that area for a collaborative approach to forest management and long-term forest protection.

The land trust will be partnering with Shasta Resource Conservation District (Shasta RCD), U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and interested landowners who own property on Rainbow Ridge. The Shasta RCD recently received grant funding from the California Department of Conservation to hire a watershed coordinator to assist with this effort. SLT is excited to move this concept forward, and hopes to establish a program that includes extensive landowner participation and a long-term forest conservation!







The Siskiyou Land Trust is dedicated to long-term stewardship of agricultural, forest and wild lands in Siskiyou County by working with willing landowners, agencies and organizations.

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P.O. Box 183  
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067

Phone: (530) 926-2259

[www.siskiyoulandtrust.org](http://www.siskiyoulandtrust.org)

Would you like to write an article for the next newsletter?

Have a slideshow or picture you want to share?

Email us at:  
[newsletter@siskiyoulandtrust.org](mailto:newsletter@siskiyoulandtrust.org)

## SLT CALENDAR

Visit: [siskiyoulandtrust.org/calendar](http://siskiyoulandtrust.org/calendar)

### OCTOBER

**OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 9-12PM**

SISSON MEADOW FALL CLEANUP  
Contact Sam Baxter

**OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> 6PM-8PM**

WALTER TALKS SERIES  
Sisson Museum Activities Room  
1 North Old Stage Rd

### NOVEMBER

**NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 700PM**

SLIDESHOW SERIES: BICYCLING TURKEY  
Highland Room  
Mt. Shasta Resort

**NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> 630PM-8PM**

ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER  
Mt. Shasta City Park

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

**JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> 2012 700PM**

SLIDESHOW SERIES: ANTARTICA  
Highland Room, Mt. Shasta Resort

**FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> 2012 700PM**

SLIDESHOW SERIES: ART OF MT SHASTA  
Highland Room, Mt. Shasta Resort

## Annual Membership Categories

\$1,000 Conservator  
\$500 Protector  
\$250 Steward  
\$100 Sustainer  
\$50 Supporter  
\$20 Friend

Annual memberships with the Siskiyou Land Trust fund local project development, community outreach activities, and the organization's long-range planning.

Give the gift of SLT membership to a friend, share this newsletter with your neighbor, or simply renew your membership. Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support!

