

Lectures

POINT ARENA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVING A HISTORICAL TREASURE WITH JIM PLATT

Monday, APRIL 5, 2010,
7:00 p.m.
Admission is \$5

The original 1870 Point Arena Lighthouse was a brick and mortar tower with iron balcony supports and a residence large enough to house four keepers and their families. The 1906 Great Quake on the San Andreas Fault, damaged the lighthouse and keepers quarters beyond repair.

The lighthouse tower was rebuilt using a new concept in lighthouse construction; iron reinforcement rods in concrete. At 115 feet, it is the tallest in California. The rebuilt lighthouse began operation in September of 1908.

Jim Platt, President of the Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers Board, and Executive Director Rae Radtkey will describe the lighthouse's rich history and its restoration. The lecture will recount the marvelous pieces of engineering required to install the first order Fresnel lens. The largest type commercially



available, it and its drive mechanism weighed close to 5.5 tons. They will also outline future plans for this local treasure.

Through a series of California Cultural Historic Endowment grants, The Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers have renovated the historic fog signal building and relocated the historic Fresnel lens and its drive system from the tower to the fog signal building.

Today, the lighthouse continues its vital role using an automated beacon. It also has vacation rentals and museum tours. Tower tours feature a 145-step spiral staircase to the top's panoramic views of the Pacific coastline.

Learn about this intriguing piece of local history and the volunteers who are dedicated to preserving it for our enjoyment and that of future generations.

REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY WITH LOUISA MORRIS

Monday
APRIL 26, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Admission is \$5

Louisa Morris, representing Redwood Coast Land Conservancy (RCLC), will describe the important work of the RCLC and how private landowners can conserve the values of their unique properties by partnering with this local non-profit land trust.

The most traditional tool for conserving private land, a "conservation easement" (or a conservation restriction) is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values.

It allows landowners to continue to own and use their land, and they can also sell it or pass it on to heirs. Some other vehicles for land conservation include resale, donation, bargain sale and donation with a lifetime income.

Louisa Morris, RCLC executive director, will discuss these land conservation tools as well as the six RCLC projects already underway - the Gualala Bluff trail in downtown Gualala, St. Orres Creek and Bourns

Landing / Cooks Beach just north of Gualala, Hearn Gulch near Iverson Point, Hathaway Creek in Point Arena, and the Gualala Watershed up river from the county park.

The work undertaken and envisioned by RCLC volunteers preserves in perpetuity scenic areas and helps conserve important wildlife habitats in southwestern Mendocino and northwestern Sonoma Counties. These projects illustrate the strength of partnerships between landowners, state and federal resource agencies, and non-profit land trusts.

A graduate of both Stanford and UC Berkeley, Louisa Morris has lived and worked on the Mendocino Coast since 1992. She has served as Mendocino County's Coastal Access Coordinator and as the Land Stewardship and Coastal Access Program Manager at the Mendocino Land Trust.

More information on RCLC can be found at the website www.rc-lc.org.