

SPRING 2008

*“Working together to protect
the Sonoran Desert for future
generations.”*

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Lasso A Dream

The 13th Annual

Sonoran Symphony

- Saturday April 26th , 5:30 pm at Rancho Manana Golf Club in Cave Creek.
- The Symphony of the Southwest under the direction of Maestro Cal Kellogg will join Cody Bryant's Riders of the Purple Sage to perform a concert of symphonic western music.
- Tickets are \$250.00. Table sponsorship opportunities are also available.
- The evening will include a silent auction, raffle and dinner prepared by Tonto Bar and Grill.
- For reservations call (480) 517-6475

RICHARD E. RUDOLPH MEMORIAL GARDEN DEDICATION

The Desert Foothills Land Trust has opened The Richard E. Rudolph Memorial Garden at the Caroline Bartol Preserve on Saguaro Hill. The dedication ceremony took place Tuesday, April 1, to celebrate the restoration of and community access to this beautiful site which commands 360 degree views of Cave Creek, Carefree, and North Scottsdale. The newly expanded Saguaro Hill preserve and Memorial Garden offer visitors an easily-accessible introduction to the Sonoran desert and desert adapted plants. The preserve expansion and Garden are being made possible through the generosity of a number of donors including Carol Rudolph.



The Richard E. Rudolph Memorial Garden includes a variety of specimen gardens. In the sensory garden, visitors will be able to smell the vanilla of Kidneywood blossoms, the grape soda scent from the Texas Mountain Laurel, and chocolate from Chocolate flowers. The edibles garden features plants that early indigenous Arizonans used in their diet. There is also a succulent garden, and a garden of brilliant blooms to attract butterflies and hummingbirds. The Garden and recent expansion of the Saguaro Hill Preserve have been a year and a half in the making. The Desert Foothills Land Trust is accepting donations for this \$500,000 project. The Garden's entrance is next to the Desert Foothills Library, with shared access via the Library parking lot at:

38443 N. School House Road
Cave Creek



Carol Rudolph

For information about volunteer opportunities at the new Richard E. Rudolph Memorial Garden and Saguaro Hill, please call the DFLT office at (480) 488-6131

**Like to shop? Can't attend,?
Bid for a Silent Auction
bargain on the web!
Visit www.dflt.org to view the
items up for auction and
place your bid.**

Hike Schedule 2008

- 04/12 New River Nature Reserve Birding Hike
- 11/01 P.A. Seitts Preserve @ Go John Canyon
- 11/15 The Jewel of the Creek
- 11/29 P.A. Seitts Preserve @ Go John Canyon
- 12/20 The Jewel of the Creek

- 10/18 The Jewel of the Creek
- 11/08 H.B. Wallace on Lone Mountain
- 11/22 New River Nature Reserve
- 12/13 New River Nature Reserve
- 12/27 H.B. Wallace on Lone Mountain

DESERT FOOTHILLS LAND TRUST

CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

As seems to be the case for many non-profit organizations, the mission of the Desert Foothills Land Trust – in short, to protect and steward important Sonoran Desert land – is both ambitious and broad. With limited time and financial resources, the Desert Foothills Land Trust continuously strives to work in the most efficient manner on projects that maximally contribute to our mission.

In past years, the Desert Foothills Land Trust has completed two planning processes which used digital geographic data to identify land protection priorities based primarily on the criteria of wildlife habitat, recreational value, and views. In recent months, the DFLT updated our conservation priorities map by applying these criteria to State land as well as previously ranked private land. Please visit www.dflt.org to view or download the Conservation Priorities map. Although DFLT staff cannot visit and “ground-truth” all of the priority land areas to identify errors of omission and inclusion, the Conservation Priorities map nonetheless suggests four areas of higher conservation-value land in our community.

One priority area for the Desert Foothills Land Trust is the county “island” east of Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area. This lightly developed area includes a section of State land, land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and a number of private parcels near and on Continental Mountain.

Another priority area for the DFLT is the private and State land in the heart of Cave Creek along Cave Creek proper and its tributary washes, and in the area between Spur Cross and Cave Creek Recreation Area. A third area of interest for DFLT is the open land at the far north end of Scottsdale on the north side of Desert Mountain and adjacent to Tonto National Forest. Finally, the fourth priority for DFLT is the conservation of a number of important State land parcels throughout our community. All four of these priority areas offer outstanding wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, and many provide the scenic backdrop for many portions of our community.

We welcome your comments or questions.



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