



Patti Townsend

Director

Through a series of fortunate events, her infectious love of the desert and its people has drawn Patti to Desert Foothills Land Trust. Starting at the age of eleven, she became a full-fledged snowbird migrating from Montana. Her cousins Ozzy and Juanita Foster abated this cultural shock. They took her under their wing and nearly every weekend they explored the desert in search of ancient Indian ruins and petroglyphs, all the while Ozzy entertained her with stories of folklore and native civilizations. Her love of nature, which stemmed from these adventures never, stopped growing.

Patti's first introduction to Desert Foothills Land Trust was through her stepfather Louis W. Menk, a great proponent and advocate of DFLT. His whole-hearted support of the Land Trust introduced and garnered many more supporters, including Patti, to the importance of stewardship of the Sonoran Desert.

After studying economics and accounting at Montana State University in Bozeman. Her love of nature and financial needs drew Patti outside to work construction. It was then she found her true love, dirt and hydraulics. While working as a highway contractor she bought a 1974 International dump truck and Case 680G backhoe to earn extra money on the weekends. Soon after, Patti founded Pace Construction Inc. As President and operator, her company was successful working throughout the western United States, Canada and Russia. Pace Construction, Inc. specialized in underground utility installation, maintenance, testing and rehabilitation. She sold her company in 2006 for the freedom to spend more time in Arizona and to travel.