



The mission of the Estes Valley Land Trust is to preserve and protect open space, valleys, wetlands, streams, ranch lands, and wildlife habitat in the Estes Valley and surrounding area. Lands adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park and the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest are of special concern.

# A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

The work of Estes Valley Land Trust benefits every resident, every visitor, and every animal in the Estes Valley by helping to preserve the spectacular scenery and amazing wildlife habitat that made this valley famous. That is why we are proud to say that EVLT is a community organization. Every project we undertake, every hour we work, every decision we make is for our community. And the sole reason every one of you, our members and supporters, is involved with EVLT is for the good of our community and its future residents and visitors. Together, we accomplished a great deal in 2015!

We are proud to support the Estes Valley Community Garden, scheduled to be open for planting in 2016, which will include garden plots for school classes and Crossroad Ministry's food pantry as well as rented plots.

Knowing that the future of conservation lies in the hands of our youth, EVLT awarded scholarships to two Estes Park High School seniors who plan careers that involve the understanding and preservation of our natural world. Also, we contributed to the Annual Dinner of Future Farmers of America (FFA), an impressive group of youth who understand how critical conservation is to sustainable agriculture.

EVLT often supports Rocky Mountain National Park by protecting land that borders the park, creating buffer zones for wildlife. This year we were able to further support the protection of land within the park

by contributing \$25,000 to Rocky Mountain Conservancy toward the purchase of Cascade Cottages, the last privately-held commercial inholding within RMNP.

Through a fiscal sponsor relationship with the new Estes Valley Watershed Coalition, EVLT is serving as an incubator for this non-profit, helping it to get off the ground to accomplish critical resiliency projects in the Estes Valley's stream corridors. In addition to these projects, we continue to work with our community by assisting landowners to restore grass, plants and trees to their flood-damaged properties.

Through our popular annual Summer Breakfast Series we strive to educate the community about conservation issues, and host a social gathering of people who share an appreciation for the natural world.

Finally, we regularly partner with other agencies in our community, including the Town of Estes Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer County Open Lands, and Estes Valley Recreation and Parks District, whose missions often overlap with ours.

Community depends on all of us to keep it strong. We at EVLT know that your support for our work is symbolic of your support the future of our community, and we are grateful. Our wish for you in the coming year is that you may live each day with a deep-seated appreciation for all that is the Estes Valley.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE**

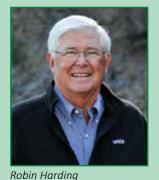
Heartfelt thanks go out to Marsha Yelick, Ken Martin and Harriette Woodard who completed their service to the EVLT Board this year. These outstanding individuals have contributed thousands of hours, remarkable wisdom and guidance, and terrific positive energy to EVLT over the years.

EVLT is very fortunate to welcome four new Directors to our Board, each elected to a 3-year term: Gail Albers, Wanda Curry, Robin Harding and Carly Lober. And, we renew our appreciation for Art French and Charlie Johnson as returning Board members who have been elected to their second 3-year term. These new and returning Board members bring depth and valuable experience to our organization and to our mission. When you see them, please thank them for their excellent service to land protection in our community.

For more information about these great people, visit www.evlandtrust.org, click on "About EVLT" and then "Meet Our Board and Staff."











Charlie Johnson

Wanda Curry

# **EVLT'S REVEGETATION PROGRAM CONTINUES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE** FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

Although the floodwaters receded over two years ago, many affected landowners are still dealing with the aftermath from the 2013 floods. Thanks to support from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), EVLT has been working with Eagle Rock School students and staff, other community volunteers, and landowners to restore critical riparian habitats that were damaged by the floods. Although there is still much work to be done, so far EVLT has coordinated the planting of over 4,500 trees, 350 acres of native grass seed and wildflowers, and the installation of over 3,000 square yards of erosion control blankets. Many thanks to our hardworking volunteers that make this crucial work possible!







# **Curry Conservation Easements: Protecting the forested flank of Twin Sisters Peaks**

Along Highway 7, you enjoy views of a beautiful forest stretching from the Baldpate Inn down to the Cheley Colorado Camp. Fish Creek begins its flow from nearby Lily Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park through the woods. Many people walk, bike and ride horses on the Homer Rouse Trail, which extends through this forest.

Although the forest farther to the east is part of Forest Service land, it's stunning to learn that the portion closer to Highway 7 was zoned "Accommodations," and some of it still is, allowing for guest lodging or one residence per acre. This means that rather than gazing at the forest as you descend Highway 7 from Lily Lake, one day you could be looking down on motels or subdivisions.

Fortunately, Wanda and Ken Curry have ensured that 85 acres of that forest will remain mostly natural.

The Currys began coming to Estes Park in 1988 for family reunions. Their two daughters, Anna and Rebecca, later attended Cheley Colorado Camp for a total of 19 summers. Needless to say, the family loves the area.



In 1999 Ken and Wanda saw a sales listing for property below the Baldpate Inn and bought 43 acres from Houston attorney and developer, Rex Baker. Determined to prevent their land from ever being riddled with houses, they immediately began working with EVLT to permanently preserve it with a conservation easement.

When an adjacent 42 acres was listed for sale in 2000, the Currys became "conservation buyers," purchasing and preserving that property with a conservation easement to restrict its development and, after holding on to to it for several years, relisting it for sale. On the 85 total acres, they reserved two 5-acre building sites, ensuring that the rest will always remain natural.

The properties that Ken and Wanda conserved provide critical habitat for mule deer during severe winters and potential habitat for lynx. Users of the Homer Rouse Trail pass through the properties and enjoy the forest views.

Preserving the beauty of the land and supporting its wildlife was the Currys' main priority. However, when they learned about the state and federal tax advantages of conservation easements, "it sounded too good to be true." They may eventually purchase additional land to conserve and then re-sell.

For now, though, Wanda and Ken are enjoying their new home and being fulltime residents of Estes Park, having recently retired from their careers in finance with energy companies. Taking her commitment to conservation further, in August Wanda joined EVLT's Board of Directors so she can ensure that the spectacular mountain views and wildlife habitats that she and Ken love remain for their grandchildren to enjoy. She and Ken have already contributed so much!





The Curry Conservation Easements protect important wildlife habitat, such as ponderosa pine woodlands and rock outcroppings that provide nesting habitat for raptors (left). The Currys' donation of conservation easements also ensure that a highly-visible forested flank of Twin Sisters Peaks will remain natural forever (right). Photos by Charlie Johnson.

# AN ANNUAL THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS - GIVING IN MANY WAYS

Sincere thanks from EVLT to the following people and businesses that provided special financial support during 2015!

## Stewardship Fund

Bill & Kimber Van Horn Leo Weber & Deborah Hughes Ron and Patricia Kayne

## Office Space Fund

Craig & Kristine Axtell Robert & Joyce Bramwell Jim Broomfield & Linda Johnson Curt Gleaves & Patricia Gianelli Gail Johnson & Steve Saeger Barbara & Wayne Jolly G. Kent & Janet G. Keller Bruce Nickels & Marsha Yelick Terry Rizzuti & Mary Banken

Jan & Jim Swaney Leo Weber & Deborah Hughes

#### **In-Kind Donations**

**Hobert Office Services** Kind Coffee Sonny & Donna Petrie

#### **Matching Gift Donations**

ConocoPhillips **Estes Valley Sunrise Rotary** ExxonMobil Shell Oil Thrivent Financial for Lutherans **WPX Energy** 

## To Honor/In Memory

Nancy Amos in memory of Wendell Amos Susan & James Alvillar in memory of Bill Lamm Margaret Clark to honor Alice Reuman Donna & Dan Dilts Jr. to honor Dan & Linda Dilts Eric Hecox to honor Nilmini Hecox Steven Jobst & Jill Anderson to honor Kris & Bruce Adams Mary Lamy in memory of John Elder William & Gail MacNeill in memory of Jack Lungstrum **Betty Mapes** in memory of Glen Mapes John J. McKetta III to honor Tosh & Suzanne McKetta John & Sally Stevenson to honor Vicky & Bill Craig to honor Warren & Mary Jo Plowden Laura Trump in memory of Robert Trump Joan Winstein in honor of Cecily Drucker

Our 2015 Summer Breakfast Series focused on changes in the natural world and how scientists and conservation-minded citizens are monitoring and responding to those changes to encourage healthy natural systems. 275 attendees enjoyed delicious breakfasts served by Catering for All Occasions and listened to experts on a variety of conservation-related topics. We thank our excellent speakers and the hosts who provided scenic outdoor venues for the events.

- The June Breakfast, held at the pavilion in beautiful Hermit Park Open Space, provided an opportunity for attendees to learn about and become involved with citizen science projects. A panel of experts discussed research projects investigating the natural world, including the Front Range Pika Project, Cliff Nesting Raptors in the Northern Front Range study, Project Budburst, Project Noah, and various studies in Rocky Mountain National Park.
- At the July Breakfast, which took place at the Salvation Army High Peak Camp, attendees learned how NEON, the National Ecological Observatory Network, conducts research on ecosystem changes at national and local scales, and how the tower that was recently constructed in Tahosa Valley contributes to that research.
- In August, at the Fall River Hydroplant Picnic Grounds, members heard an update on river restoration efforts in the Estes Valley. Staff from the Estes Valley Watershed Coalition, the Town of Estes Park, and Estes Valley Land Trust discussed current and planned projects. They answered questions about Estes Park's continuing recovery from the September 2013 floods and explained how the organizations are working together to create resilient rivers. The Annual Membership Meeting was held in conjunction with this breakfast, and members elected several new and returning Directors to the Board.

We hope you will join us and bring a friend for our 2016 Summer Breakfast Series!







# THANKS FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIPS...

Conservator Member Level
Nancy Amos
Vaughn Baker
Marty Lamm family
Barbara Marshall
Jan and Jim Swaney

**Brian and Michell Thomas** <u>Protector Member Level</u> Buettner Legacy Endowment Plan **Terry Cohen and Robert Bellows Art and Marsha French** Mark Holdt Mary Lamy **Bruce and Dorothy Lehmkuhl** William and Lucia Liley, Jr. **Prospect Mountain Townhome Assn Sherry Rielly** Terry Rizzuti and Mary Banken **Snowy Peaks Winery, LLC** Maurita E. Stueck Tom and Jean Sutherland William and Nancy Sweet **Jack and Donna Vanier Rosemary Wolf** 

<u>Steward Member Level</u> Judy and Sol Bassow Sonya Binns

**Harriette and Scott Woodard** 

Warren Clinton Rob and Sheila Cohen **Patsy Cravens** Ken and Wanda Curry Charley and Linda Griffin **Bud and Fleur Hampton** Harold and Ginnie Haunschild Thomas and Kathryn Hornbein Gail Johnson and Steve Saeger Roger Klingenberg and Elaine Foe Glen Kroh Mary Ann Kundtz Jill and Frank Lancaster **Larimer County Open Lands** Tom and Margy Lininger Ken and Cherie Martin Deanna Ochs Ken and Jacqueline Oldham Frank G. and Betty Ottesen Todd and Amy Plummer Don Priem Jodi Radke and Doug Jalving Alice and Peter Reuman Mel and Gray Rueppel Jerry and Linda Rutledge George and Elizabeth Shoffner Pamela and Bob Street Candace and Jim Sulzbach Jack and Dee Willome

#### Benefactor Member Level

Gail Albers and Pat Hammond Gil and Susan Anderson Rene Archambault and Kathy Theriault Aspen Eye Center Craig C. and Kristine E. Axtell William "Biff" Baird John G. Banker Dr. Randy Barker Allan Beezley, P.C. Sandy and Pat Begley Donald D. and Martha H. Bender Lynn and Sandy Bonge Joan E. Borel Walter R. and Marlene M. Borneman David and Loretta Brewer Jim Broomfield and Linda Johnson Bruce and Marlene Brown Ron Bubar Robert and Elizabeth Burkart Tyler and Debby Campbell David G. Chambers Stephen P. Cherner Kim and Teri Comstock Barbara and Edward "Mac" Corley Hal and Bonnie Dalzell

James and Karen Daugherty

Sandi and Charles DeJoseph

Daniel L. and Linda M. Dilts John and Prudence Dings Joe and Vivian Dodds Tom and Annette Dreiss Paula Edwards Laura and Gary Emerson Clark and Martha Ewald William R. and Sharon Farr James Frank Photography, Inc. Stephen Goldmann Tom Gootz Sarah and Christopher Greene Robin and Stacey Harding Keith and Beth Heaton Jeffrey and Trudy Hines Thomas and Reggie Hisey Beverley and Dan Hoben Dr. Thomas and Kathryn Holder Pieter and Helen Hondius Steven Jobst and Jill Anderson Robert Wells Johnson Clare M. Johnson and Dino Valaoritis Phil Jorgensen Kathleen Kase G. Kent and Janet G. Keller Jim and Deb Kiple continue to page 6

# 2015 MONITORING SEASON: A GREAT SUCCESS (MOSTLY!)

Being an easement monitor gives me the opportunity to visit some beautiful private properties and to talk with the owners about how they care for and about the land.

—Susan Harris



"Monitoring for EVLT enables me to get to see some interesting and beautiful places in the Estes Valley—from hilltops to river bottoms—that are not generally open to the public. I also get to meet some dedicated and knowledgeable people—landowners, co-monitors, EVLT staff and board members—who are committed to the conservation of land and the preservation of wildlife habitat.

Many have become close friends."

—Wells Johnson

As a state-certified holder of conservation easements and an accredited land trust, EVLT is required to visit each property we preserve annually. Since we have over 160 conservation easements, this is no small feat. We are so thankful to our corps of over 100 volunteer monitors who get the job done!

As our monitors can attest, monitoring season always brings interesting experiences. From meeting new landowners and neighbors to walking some beautiful properties (some of which are so steep it is more like doing gymnastics than walking...) to seeing the wildflowers change with the seasons, monitoring is rarely dull for either volunteers or EVLT staff.

The 2015 monitoring season was a great success, even with a few minor setbacks like when a monitor created a beautiful GPS track of his long walk and then accidentally deleted it, or when several monitors and landowners discovered the hard way (by nearly stepping on it) that a very large rattlesnake had made its home in our area, or when Erica got a little too close for comfort to a bear (both the bear and Erica exited the premises quickly).

Are you interested in becoming an EVLT monitor? We can guarantee a unique experience! Contact the EVLT office before the end of March to become a monitor for the 2016 season.



# **THANKS TO OUR MONITORS!**

David and Deb Adams Gil Anderson Craig Axtell Pat and Sandy Begley Jim Broomfield Rob Buettner Vernon and Peggy Burch Jane Bush Bill and Chris Childers Earl and Carol Clark Terry Cohen and Robert Bellows Dr. John Cooper Hal and Bonnie Dalzell Dan and Linda Dilts Joe Dodds Paula Edwards Becky Elrod Frank Falzone Renate and James Fernandez Tony Fink Art French **Curt Gleaves** 

Charley and Linda Griffin Jill and Pat Hardman Susan Harris Carmen and Bruce Johnson Wells Johnson Charlie Johnson Bob Joseph Ellis and Pat Laitala Linda and Pete Langer Nan Lederer Sandy Lindquist Steve and Irene Little Carly Lober Tom and Marilyn Maher Ken Martin Nancy and Earl Matson Linda McKee Suzanne and Alan Miller Jackson and Lisa Moller John Nolan Ken Oldham Diane and Tony Palmer Vicki Papineau

Bill Pinkham Todd and Amy Plummer Anita Prinzmetal Alice Reuman Mark and Val Riffle Joan Sapp Lee Schlitt Frank and Donna Shavlik Peter Sinnott John and Sally Stevenson Maurita Stueck Jan Swaney Marcia and David Tavel **Corinne Thomas** Scott and Karen Thompson Joan Van Horn David Van Wert Gary Wallace Linda Walsh and Terrell Dixon **Russ Waring** Leo Weber Drew Weiman

Sally and Wayne Park

Lynn and Susan Weissenrieder Jim White Mike and Linda Wold Joanne Zagorda

## Farewell, Erica!

Many thanks to Erica Goad who has led us through two monitoring seasons with splendid results! At the end of December, Erica will be moving on to a new job that will take her to conservation projects throughout Colorado. We are excited for this new opportunity for Erica, even though we will all miss her skills and her passion. We wish Erica all the best!



Frica Goad

Like us on Facebook! When news happens—big events or small—you will find timely posts to keep you informed. Also, check out our improved website at <a href="https://www.evlandtrust.org">www.evlandtrust.org</a> where you will find updated information, blog posts, beautiful photos, and everything "EVLT." It's also a great place to send people who want to know more about us and what we do.

**REMAX** 

Janice Ricker

Mark and Valerie Riffle

Matt and Lauretta Rion

Bus and Rita Schageman

Dan and Tami Scace

David and Janet Robertson

Mark and Kathryn Semerad

# **MORE THANKS FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIPS...**

#### Benefactor Members cont.

Celeste and Robert Kling John and Marlene Krueger Ron and Sylvia Kuhns Dr. Janice A. Larkin Isabel Lamy Lee Sandra Lindquist Janet and Randall Maharry **Betty Mapes** Curt and Maryanne Martin Linda McKee and Roger Fankhauser **Ed Menning** Fred and Virginia Merrill Miller Curio Co. Tara and Phil Moenning Pat and Ward Nelson Dr. Thomas and Barbara Nichol Bruce Nickels and Marsha Yelick Ray and Joanne Nieder Cliff and Muriel Noll James and Debbie Paddock Tony and Diane Palmer Franz and Carol Peterson Jerry and Mary Ann Petr Jim and Pat Pickering William J. Pietenpol Bill and Sue Pinkham Peter and Elizabeth Plaut Rex and Sharon Poggenpohl Larry and Gwenda Purdy

Joan and Marcus Sessel Frank and Donna Shavlik Peter F. and Stephanie C. Sinnott Don Smith Jon and Theresa Sonstroem Donna Spence Greig and Ann Steiner Keith and Jackie Stephenson Elizabeth and Gerald Stonecipher Charles D. Swaney Tahosa Valley Landowners Assn. David and Marcia Tavel **Tax Credit Connection** Jerry and Felice Thorson-Boudreaux Van Horn Engineering David and Sally Van Wert Al and Frances Velthoen Evelyn and John Vittone Tom and Carolyn Warner Nathan and Emily Weber Lynn and Susan Weissenrieder Joann Welton

## Donald and Eunice Wilbur, Jr. Defender Member Level

Kim and Patte Barrier JoAnn and David Batey Roberta and Bill Berry Jude Blitz and Tom Daly Dennis and Libby Bryan Jane Bush and Mike Brooks **Betty Dolman** Renate and James Fernandez Tony and Sarah Fink Larry and Jeri Frederick Ted J. and Shelly R. Fuchs Good family

Scott and Dana Hacker Hobert Office Services, Ltd. Bob and Sumi Jamieson Charlie and Char Johnson Loren and Lynette Johnson Bob and Terry Joseph Jack and Marlena Kochner Fred and Paulette Mares Forrest McVicar Stephen R. Ptacek and Joan L. Sapp Robert and Barbara Schwartz Robert and Judy Taphorn Russell and Lynn Waring Waldo M. Wedel

#### **Basic Member Level**

Joe and Mary Liz Adair David and Deb Adams Donn and Sylvia Adams Kris and Bruce Adams Kenneth and Donna Allen James and Kathy Arcidiacono Mr. and Mrs. Owen Ard Mr. and Mrs. E. Warner Bass Mitchell and Patsy Benedict Edith C. Besson Skip and Dianne Betts Gary and Sharon Bickel Ed and Julianne Biehl Merrill and Leona Bolner William P. Bowie Robert and Joyce Bramwell Sid and Laura Brown Gerald H. Brownfield Vernon and Peggy Burch Anne S. Buttner Ed and Jean Carlson

James Carr and Judy Ross Marty Yochum Casey & Madison Casev Alison Chilcott Chris and Bill Childers Mary and Sue Childers Karen and Bill Chionio Jane Vesy Colrud Beth and Harris Cooper **Curry & Solomon LLC** Thomas and Laura Davis Beck Lee and Rolf Dehmel Steve Dilts Marjorie Dunmire Cindy Elkins Rebecca and Mark Elrod Wendy Emrich John and Karen Ericson **Estes Park Board of Realtors EVRPD** Keith and Lorraine Fairmont Colin Forbes Ionathan Ford Tom and Mari Jo Friehe Bill and Dana Fritz Sibyl Gardner Marvin and Charlotte Gee Mrs. George Gibbs and Peter Gibbs Erica Goad and Paul Larson Nancy and Reynold Gobris Jane E. Gordon Christine Grabish Lorraine and Joseph Green Pat and Don Green Michael and Connie Griffith Nancy and Chuck Grob, Sr. Julie Guzzetta

# Your Support Means So Much! There Are Many Ways to Give

#### PRESERVE THE LAND YOU LOVE ON COLORADO GIVES DAY!

Help us get our share of the Colorado Gives Day \$1 Million Incentive Fund. Support EVLT on Colorado Gives Day on Tuesday. December 8! On this day, thousands of donors will come together to support Colorado nonprofits, like EVLT. This is Colorado's largest one-day online giving event, presented by Community First Foundation and FirstBank.

#### \$1 MILLION INCENTIVE FUND

For the first time ever, Colorado Gives Day features a \$1 Million Incentive Fund, one of the largest gives-day incentive funds in the country. This means every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the Incentive Fund. Your gift to us on Colorado Gives Day increases the value of every dollar you donate.

## VISIT OUR DONATION PAGE AT COLORADOGIVES.ORG TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR DONATION IN ADVANCE!

#### ALSO CONSIDER—

The enclosed envelope might be the perfect way to send your Annual Gift to EVLT. You can give through Mountain Strong for Nonprofits (mtnstrongnonprofits.org) and the Estes Valley Legacy (http://plannedgiving.epnonprofit.org). There is a Paypal link on the evlandtrust.org DONATE page if you prefer that route!

Please contact our office with any questions about these programs. We thank you for your support of nature's beauty, wildlife habitat, and the community's ability to enjoy it!



#### Basic Members cont.

Grace Hahn and Sonja Hahn Bob and Joyce Hamblin Barry and Mary Hannigan Pat and Jill Hardman **Carol Henning** Bernie and Kris Holien, Jr. Herb and Barbara Hoover Michael and Anne Hulbert Catharine Hurley Wayne and Joyce Hutchens Bob and Shirley Jackson Bruce and Carmen Johnson Walt and Nancy Kaesler Cheryle and Dan Kapsak Amanda Keegan Orval and Orpha Kendall Leola Kennicke and Marilyn Bradley Tom and Jan Kuepers Steve and Irene Little

Carly and Keith Lober MacGregor Trust Tom and Marilyn Maher Earl and Nancy Matson Sonja and Hugh McTeague Bill Melton Suzanne and Alan Miller Steven Mitchell Wavne and Pat Newsom Jesse and Evelyn Noah John and Mary Nolan Eugene E. Oja, DDS Jack and Mary Overly Rick and Vicki Papineau Gordon Pedersen Jeri and Jerry Peirce Diane E. Phillips Andrew and Anne Purdes

Janet Rasmussen Ravencrest Chalet **Rockwood Estates POA** Carole Rouse Laura and Terry Rustin Peter Sartucci Rainer Schelp and Mia Marletto Roger, James and Jeanne Sherman/
Mary Lucas/Eleanor and Rich German Alta Wachs Nathalie and Marty Simsak JoAnne Slizeski Mary Lou and Richard Smith Pete and Carol Smith Don Smitherman Dwight and Linda Strandberg William and Toni Swanson Bob and Lyda Sweeney

Rick and Janet Taylor

Norman and Dianne Tempel

7 Dr. Corinne Thomas Wyndell and Frieda Thomas Scott and Karen Thompson Laura Tritch-Albrecht and Duane Albrecht Uplands at Fish Creek P.U.D. Jeff and Penny Van Bogaert Bill and Kimber Van Horn

Peter Wall Claire Walter Jean Weaver Olin Webb

Sam Weidner and Bethany Meadows Wild Basin Lodge & Event Center

Wildwood Inn Mike and Linda Wold William D. and Jane S. Woodburn Marilyn and John Zimmann

## Does Your Will Include EVLT?

Robert T. Raffel

This is a topic that leaves all of us a little uncomfortable, but what kind of legacy will you leave when you die? Will the Estes Valley be a better place because of you? Through our affiliation with Estes Valley Legacy (http://plannedgiving. epnonprofit.org) we are learning about the options and the benefits of creating a Plan for Giving. We would love to share that learning with you! If you have already included EVLT in your estate plans, or if you would like to do so, please let us know. We are starting a legacy group called Forever Estes, and we would like to add your name to our guest list. Thank you!

## You Will Be Missed!

#### Friends of the Land Trust who passed away this year

Dr. Jack Lungstrum—Former EVLT Board President

**Betty Freudenburg** John and Jo Hazlitt

Richard Heumann—CE donor/owner John Elder—CE donor/owner

Barbara Hoover—CE donor Ron and Sylvia Kuhns

**Carroll Mock** 

# COMMEMORATIVE BENCHES ON THE RIVERWALK HONOR LAND PROTECTION CHAMPIONS







Along the downtown Riverwalk, visitors and residents will now be tempted to relax on a nature-themed bench while admiring the Big Thompson River and the scenic, open hillside beyond.

Twelve commemorative benches and plaques now grace the Riverwalk. They honor some of the early champions who volunteered hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of hours with EVLT to ensure that the breathtaking mountain vistas and wildlife habitats of the Estes Valley are permanently preserved for our children and grandchildren.

The benches were dedicated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 22 with Mayor Bill Pinkham wielding the scissors. They were funded entirely with donations from the honorees' families and friends.

The next time you are downtown, take time to sit on one of the benches and appreciate Estes Park's scenic beauty and those who worked to ensure it remains preserved forever for all to enjoy.

## Special thanks go out to project-motivator Jim White and to the donors who made this bench project possible!

Linda and Kevin Barry Robert and Joyce Bramwell Jim and Carol Crain

Sandra Ellison The Freudenburg Family Marvin and Charlotte Gee Pieter and Helen Hondius

Barbara and Wayne Jolly Marty Lamm family Mary W. Lamy Ken and Jacqueline Oldham

SCN LLC **Greg Thomas** Jim and Joanne White

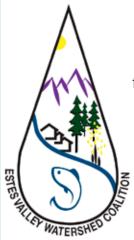
# Estes Valley Land Trust

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Did you know that Estes Valley Land Trust is the fiscal sponsor for the newly-formed Estes Valley Watershed Coalition? Check out the great work that EVWC is accomplishing at their website: www.evwatershed.org. We are grateful for their partnership and glad to be supporting resilient stream corridors in Estes Park!

# **EVLT OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & STAFF**

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VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TREASURER
ASSISTANT TREASURER
DIRECTOR

Leo Weber
Craig Axtell, Art French
Peter Sinnott
Alice Reuman
Curt Gleaves
Wanda Curry
Gail Albers, Jim Broomfield, Robin Harding,
Charlie Johnson, Carly Lober, John Nolan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mary Banken Erica Goad Jan Swaney

# **Conservation Projects Update**

This has been an interesting year for conservation in Colorado. In the legislative session last spring, both the State Senate and the State House of Representatives almost unanimously supported the passage of Senate Bill 206, which significantly raised the ceiling for the tax credit values that can be obtained in a conservation transaction. This was great news for the entire conservation community!

Before getting too excited about that, however... A new set of State rules and processes were implemented through the Colorado Department of Revenue and Department of Real Estate in 2014. These changes were designed with the cooperation of the Land Trust

community, with a mutual goal of enhancing the integrity of the Conservation Easement Tax Credit program. But the details to implement these changes have proven to be a challenge! To put it simply, applying for a Colorado Conservation Easement Tax

Credit now takes a lot more time and a lot more money than in the past. Currently, EVLT has three exciting conservation projects that are at the appraisal/review stage... and we can hardly wait to announce them. Stay tuned.



# Supplemental Member Listing

Due to a unique circumstance from the past year, some of our valued members renewed their annual membership in October of 2014, and since we used a cutoff date of November 1, these people were missed in our newsletter membership lists. With great apologies and great appreciation, we give you the following supplemental member listing.

#### **Conservator Member Level**

The Freudenburg family

#### **Protector Member Level**

Judy and Sol Bassow

## Steward Member Level

Ed and Marge Getchell John and Sally Stevenson Leo Weber and Deborah Hughes

#### **Benefactor Member Level**

Paul and Melisse Anderson
John D. and Dona R. Cooper
Arlene Dawson
R. James and Margery T. Giguere
Susan Harris
Carol Holden
Robert and Janet Ludlum
Shaun McMullin
Cliff and Muriel Noll
John and Ann Vernon

## Defender Member Level

Jim and Joanne White

Ralph Wrobley

Ed and Julianne Biehl Earl and Carol Clark Bill and Janice Newman

#### **Basic Member Level**

Glen Haven Association The Reserve at Estes Park HOA Bob and Chris Benight Mary C. Bollinger Kathy Brazelton **Doris Byers** K-Lynn Cameron Norman and Elaine Carver Robert and Judy Corley, Jr. Colin Forbes Pat and Ellis Laitala Mary, Bill and Jolea Maffei Larry K. Pedersen J. Warren and Micki Pedersen Cora Petrocine Lyle and Marlys Polson Anita Prinzmetal

Ann M. Racine
Dorothy Savory
John Spooner
Lt. Colonel Daniel Starrett
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Dr. and Mrs. Grant Hulse Wagner