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## CHANNELKEEPER SUES CITY OF SANTA BARBARA OVER SEWAGE

Beneath Santa Barbara's quaint brick sidewalks, multi-million dollar homes and first-rate beaches lies a dirty little secret that threatens the entire community – a dilapidated sewage collection system that has earned Santa Barbara the unfortunate distinction of having the highest sewage spill rate of any municipality from Santa Cruz to Thousand Oaks with similarly sized sewage systems. From 2006-2010, there were at least 171 spills from the City's sewage collection system. In 2010 alone, the City's sewage spill rate was triple the California average, or 13 spills/100 miles of sewer pipe. A well-performing sewage system has 0-2 spills/100 miles/year.

Sewage contains high levels of pathogens, toxic pollutants, nutrients, oil and grease, and can pollute surface water and groundwater, threaten public health, adversely affect aquatic life, and impair the recreational use and aesthetic enjoyment of our waterways. Sewage spills can also damage property and result in beach closures, harming our local economy.



In the last five years, more than 200 health advisories have been posted at the City's beaches (East Beach, Leadbetter and Hendry's Beach), including multi-day closures caused directly by sewage spills. While beach advisories can be caused by a number of problems, sewage spills and leaky sewer pipes are culprits. Recent studies by UCSB scientists found significant inputs of human fecal waste into Santa Barbara storm drains that lead to the ocean and provide direct evidence that sewage-contaminated water is "exfiltrating," or leaking out of damaged sewer pipes and into the surrounding soil and then seeping in through cracks in storm drain pipes, contributing to downstream fecal contamination of our beaches.

Sewage spills and exfiltration can and should be prevented through proper inspection and maintenance of the sewage system, and upgrading it as needed. The City of Santa Barbara, however, has failed to make the investments needed to maintain a robust and reliable sewage collection system. As a result, the city's aging system, largely constructed between 1900-1960 and made mostly of vitrified clay pipe, is in a state of disrepair and is failing.

Channelkeeper has been bird-dogging this sinister problem for a decade and has repeatedly attempted, through outreach, education, communication and advocacy, to persuade the City to address it. While the City has applied a few band-aids here and there, it has not made the necessary commitment and investments in the comprehensive overhaul that's sorely needed to fix its broken sewage system.

After careful deliberation, Channelkeeper turned to the legal system as a last resort. We recently filed a lawsuit against the City for violations of the federal Clean Water Act caused by sewage spills and the City's improper management and maintenance of its sewage collection system. Our lawsuit aims to compel the City to comprehensively address the serious problems with its sewage system which cause frequent spills and exfiltration of sewage into our creeks, beaches, storm drains and streets.

*(continued on page 3)*





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**FROM THE HELM**

Channelkeeper's charge is to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds, and we take that charge very seriously. We use a wide variety of tools to achieve our mission: water quality monitoring, research, community outreach, education, advocacy and enforcement.

Unfortunately, the current economic climate and fiscal crises have created a situation where government agencies are stretched increasingly thin. As such, Channelkeeper's role as a watchdog organization defending our communities' interest in and right to clean water has never been more critical. If our government fails to enforce the law – or fails to comply with it themselves – then we are not afraid to use the legal tools at our disposal to compel compliance with the laws that protect everyone's environment. Enforcing federal, state and local clean water laws is one of the most important and powerful tools that Channelkeeper has to safeguard our local waterways and communities from pollution. However, we don't file lawsuits every day; in fact, we view legal action as a last resort. We would rather educate, advocate and facilitate communication between decision-makers, scientists and engineers to develop permanent solutions to water pollution problems than engage in protracted and expensive debates between lawyers. But when legal action is called for, we don't shy away, and we get the job done, as we did with Halaco and the Santa Barbara Polo Club, and as we will with Santa Barbara's sewage system and the Regional Water Board's agricultural regulatory program. Thank you for supporting all of Channelkeeper's actions, from education to enforcement, to protect the world-class waters of the Santa Barbara Channel.

**CHANNELKEEPER FILES SUIT OVER AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION**

A recent report by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) states that discharges of waste associated with agriculture (e.g., pesticides, sediment, nutrients) are a major cause of water pollution on the Central Coast, and most waterbodies located in or near areas influenced by agriculture have unsafe levels of nitrates and pesticides and excessive turbidity. Agricultural discharges continue to contribute to already significantly impaired water quality and impose certain risks and significant costs to public health, drinking water supplies, aquatic life, and valued water resources.

In April, Channelkeeper joined Monterey Coastkeeper, San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper and the Environmental Defense Center in filing a lawsuit against the RWQCB for failing to adopt an updated and improved regulatory program to protect water quality and public health from polluted discharges from irrigated agricultural lands (widely known as the "Ag Waiver"). The Ag Waiver, adopted for its first 5-year term in 2004, was supposed to be updated and renewed by July 2009, but has since been extended three times as the RWQCB continues to buckle under pressure from the agricultural industry. Our lawsuit states that, "By allowing thousands of agricultural operations throughout the Central Coast region to continue discharging highly contaminated wastewater and runoff to surface and ground water without adequate monitoring or controls, the RWQCB is condoning, authorizing and shielding from liability agricultural activities and practices that regularly degrade water quality, destroy ecosystems, imperil fish and wildlife, and endanger public health and welfare."

In addition to our lawsuit, Channelkeeper has continued our advocacy efforts to counter intense lobbying by the agricultural industry to dilute and weaken proposals for an updated Ag Waiver program being considered by the RWQCB. We've written numerous comment letters, delivered presentations at RWQCB hearings, met with RWQCB staff, and engaged in mediated negotiations with key agricultural industry representatives in attempts to facilitate the adoption of new policies to better protect our waters from agricultural pollution. We will continue these efforts leading up to the RWQCB's September 1st hearing, when we will once again urge the RWQCB to adopt a strong new Ag Waiver program that protects water quality and public health from the widespread pollution caused by agriculture on the Central Coast.

## PROGRESS TOWARD REDUCING DISPOSABLE BAG USE



*Channelkeeper's Kira Redmond speaks at a "Ban the Bag" rally on August 4th at West Beach alongside Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider, Assemblymember Das Williams, and a 30-foot inflatable turtle.*

As of July 2011, 12 cities and counties in California had passed laws to reduce plastic bag pollution, joining several other US cities and nations across the globe, including Ireland, Italy, China, Kenya, Mongolia, Macedonia and Bangladesh, to name just a few. Channelkeeper has been leading the charge locally to lobby the Santa Barbara City Council to follow suit, and our efforts are finally beginning to bear fruit.

At their July 12th meeting, City Council discussed various options at their disposal to reduce the use of disposable shopping bags in Santa Barbara. Channelkeeper and our environmental allies urged them to adopt an ordinance that would ban plastic bags and place a nominal fee on paper bags at grocery stores, but the Council voted 4-3 to oppose this option. Instead, following a lengthy discussion, the Council voted unanimously to develop an ordinance that would require grocery stores to post signage and train their employees to encourage

customers to use reusable bags. In a surprising move, the Council also voted 5-2 in support of putting a measure on the ballot to seek voter approval for a fee on plastic and/or paper shopping bags. They directed their Ordinance Committee to develop an ordinance for such a measure to be placed on the ballot during next general election in November 2013, if not sooner. While these are steps in the right direction, Channelkeeper will continue to push for stronger and timelier action by the City to meaningfully address this serious environmental problem, including hopefully before a more environmentally-minded Council majority after this November's election.

Seeing the momentum of action by other California cities, the Carpinteria City Council also revisited the issue of single-use bags at its August 8th meeting, and voted unanimously to move forward with an ordinance to regulate disposable bag use. Carpinteria may put the Santa Barbara City Council to shame by being the first municipality along the Santa Barbara Channel to ban plastic bags!

In an effort to add weight to our advocacy efforts, Channelkeeper formally requested that the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council adopt a resolution highlighting the detrimental impacts of plastic bags on marine life and encouraging federal, state and local governments to adopt legislation to ban the use and distribution of single-use plastic bags. Our request was well-received and we were asked, through our active role on the Sanctuary Advisory Council's Conservation Working Group, to draft a resolution for the Council's consideration, and the Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution at its July 22nd meeting. Channelkeeper has transmitted the resolution, which also supports efforts by local business to transition away from single-use plastic bags, to local government bodies, and we are leveraging it to further demonstrate the need and support for strong action to significantly reduce plastic bag use in our area.

Meanwhile, Channelkeeper continues to partner with the City of Santa Barbara's Environmental Services Department, Choose to Reuse and the California Grocers Association on the "Where Your Bag?" campaign, which aims to raise public awareness about the negative environmental impacts of disposable bags and to promote a shift to reusable bags. To date, the campaign has distributed more than 3,800 free reusable bags to local citizens, aired several public service announcements, and provided a suite of educational materials to participating grocery stores to encourage reusable bag use.

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### **SEWAGE LAWSUIT** *(continued from page 1)*

Channelkeeper hopes to resolve this matter quickly rather than engaging in a long and costly legal battle. We are engaged in settlement negotiations with the City at present, though they are not proceeding as quickly as we'd like. Whether via a negotiated settlement or a court order, however, Channelkeeper will ensure that spills and exfiltration come way down by imposing performance standards, milestones, public progress reports and compliance oversight, all which will be enforceable by the court. Our ultimate goal with this enforcement action is to protect public health, the environment, our local economy, and the quality of life in Santa Barbara. Stay tuned....

### KEEPING OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN!

Channelkeeper and our dedicated partners and volunteers have been very busy cleaning up our local waterways over the past several months, preventing more than 1,300 pounds of trash from making its way to the ocean.

#### ADOPT-A-STREAM CLEAN-UPS



Through our “Adopt-A-Stream” program, Channelkeeper hosts quarterly events to clean up Goleta’s creeks. Over the past year, 51 volunteers have helped us clean up more than five miles of creek, conducting 32 Rapid Trash Assessment surveys and hauling more than 1,000 pounds of garbage out of 16 different sites in eleven streams throughout Goleta. Rapid Trash Assessment is a protocol developed by the State Water Resources Control Board as a means for citizen monitoring groups to systematically assess trash levels in streams in order to aid the development of water quality protection programs. Highlights of the trash we removed included a car door from the upper reach of San Jose Creek, a car tire from San Pedro Creek, 13 plastic shopping bags from a 100-foot stretch in San Pedro Creek, and 408 pieces of plastic trash - mostly plastic bottles and Styrofoam pieces - from Atascadero Creek. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have participated in our Adopt-

A-Stream clean-up events, particularly those from Geosyntec Consultants, Citrix Online and UCSB, as well as to the City of Goleta for coordinating trash pick-up services. If you would like to become an Adopt-A-Stream volunteer, please contact us at [info@sbck.org](mailto:info@sbck.org) or (805) 563-3377 ext. 0.

#### SYCAMORE CREEK COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

On April 9th, more than 500 volunteers participated in Looking Good Santa Barbara’s community-wide clean-up day on the Eastside, removing graffiti, planting trees, painting bridges, and cleaning up neighborhood creeks and parks. Channelkeeper and the Santa Barbara City Creeks Division led six adventurous volunteers donning hip waders and rubber boots into Sycamore Creek, where we conducted two Rapid Trash Assessment surveys and removed approximately 200

pounds of trash, including 42 plastic grocery bags, from a quarter-mile stretch.



#### WEST BEACH CLEAN-UPS

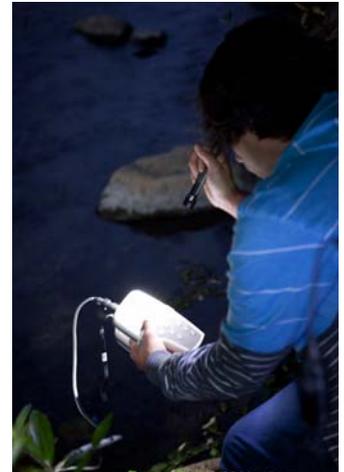
This summer, Channelkeeper hosted two clean-ups of West Beach, our adopted beach. Thirty volunteers contributed a total of 54 hours to remove trash from this popular and highly visible beach. Cigarette filters, plastic bags and bottle caps continue to be the most common items picked up during our beach clean-ups. Channelkeeper thanks all those volunteers who help us keep West Beach clean!

#### TRACKING OIL SPILL RESPONSE READINESS

Learning from the experience of our Gulf Coast Waterkeeper friends, Channelkeeper has begun to play an active role in ensuring that Santa Barbara is as prepared as possible in the event of a major oil spill. We were one of only three non-profit organizations invited to join state, county and local agencies, municipalities and oil companies for an Oil Spill Training Workshop hosted by California’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response on June 30th. The all-day workshop provided a briefing on the state and regional operational plans in place to respond to a major marine oil spill, and aimed to ensure and reinforce local readiness. Channelkeeper has also begun attending regular meetings of the Los Angeles / Long Beach North Area Committee, which is responsible for oil spill contingency planning for the Southern California region (which includes Santa Barbara). In addition, Channelkeeper will provide support for the major Coast Guard-sponsored offshore oil spill response exercise scheduled for September 13-15 in the Santa Barbara Channel.

**STREAM TEAM DAWN PATROL EXPANDS TO CARPINTERIA AND GOLETA**

This summer, Channelkeeper expanded our watershed monitoring efforts to include pre-dawn monitoring of streams in Goleta and Carpinteria. This special Stream Team project, which we started in the Ventura River four years ago, aims to determine the extent of water quality impacts caused by algae blooms. Algae blooms, which can be caused by excessive nutrient pollution, can lead to problems for water quality and fish, such as deficient oxygen levels and excessively alkaline water. These problems exhibit themselves best at certain times of day due to biochemical processes. In the case of oxygen deficiency, water must be tested before the sun comes up to accurately evaluate the extent of the impact. Therefore, Channelkeeper and some of our most dedicated volunteers rise before dawn once a month during the algae growing season (April-September) to measure dissolved oxygen and pH levels in our local creeks. The data we're gathering are providing important insights to government agencies tasked with implementing regulatory programs to restore waterways impaired by excessive algae. Contact us at [ben@sbck.org](mailto:ben@sbck.org) or (805) 563-3377 ext. 3 if you're an early bird and are interested in volunteering for our Stream Team Dawn Patrol.



Udi Goren/Brooks Institute

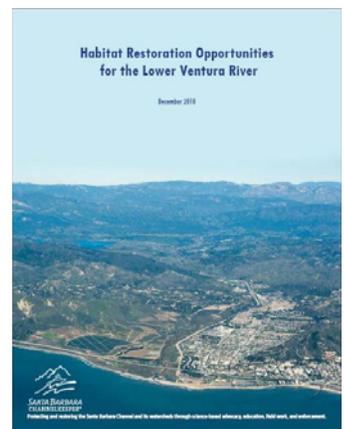


**STREAM TEAM TACKLES VENTURA RIVER TRASH EPIDEMIC**

On March 5th, Ventura River Stream Team volunteers conducted surveys of homeless dump sites in the lower Ventura River and Estuary. In just two hours, volunteers located and documented over 35 dump sites containing tons of human waste, garbage, chemicals, and active and abandoned campsites. This waste is a major source of pollution to the river, estuary and ocean. Channelkeeper compiled the results of our surveys into a photographic report that we distributed to City, County, and State officials as well as media outlets in Ventura and Ojai. In our report, Channelkeeper calls on local agencies to enforce illegal camping and littering laws as well as to invest in alternative housing infrastructure as a humane approach toward addressing the complicated social and environmental issues associated with homelessness in the Ventura River. Several local media outlets ran stories on our report, helping to raise awareness about this complex issue.

**CHANNELKEEPER RELEASES VENTURA RIVER REPORT**

In May, Channelkeeper released a report entitled *Habitat Restoration Opportunities for the Lower Ventura River*. The report describes the results of our multi-year project, funded by the Coastal Conservancy, to identify habitat impairments and restoration opportunities in the lower Ventura River watershed. Building on our years of Ventura River Stream Team monitoring data, Channelkeeper conducted field surveys, interviewed community members, analyzed aerial photographs, and reviewed historic records to investigate the primary issues contributing to habitat and water quality degradation in the lower watershed. In our report, we identify specific opportunities for habitat restoration and present a menu of potential restoration projects as well as recommendations for how to address the primary sources of water quality and habitat degradation in the lower Ventura River watershed. Channelkeeper is distributing and presenting our report to a wide variety of Ventura River stakeholders and working to facilitate further assessment and implementation of our proposed projects and recommendations. The report is already being used as a primary resource by the City of Ventura, which is incorporating elements from it into their development of a Westside Watershed Restoration Master Plan. The report is available on our website at [www.sbck.org](http://www.sbck.org).



## CHANNELKEEPER LAUNCHES MPA WATCH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

After considerable effort and plenty of patience, the marine ecosystems off the Southern California coast will finally get the protection they so desperately need and deserve. On October 1st, 2011, a network of 36 new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) stretching along the coast of Southern California (from Point Conception to the Mexico border) will finally enter into effect. These new MPAs were adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission in December 2010 after more than two years of stakeholder input and compromise as part of the State's phased effort to implement California's Marine Life Protection Act of 1999. Channelkeeper played a lead role in this policy-making process, advocating for the prioritization of conservation and sound science in the final MPA network. The new MPAs, five of which are located off the Santa Barbara County coast, will join existing MPAs such as those around the Channel Islands to form a network of ocean protection that covers roughly 16% of State waters (0-3 miles from shore) off the Southern California coast.



Everyone with a stake in ocean protection wants the MPA network to succeed in achieving its goal – to protect and restore California's marine life, ecosystems and natural heritage. As such, monitoring their effectiveness and impacts on marine and human populations is going to be critical. To this end, Channelkeeper is now focusing our efforts on educating the community about our local MPAs and on monitoring the biological and sociological changes resulting from their implementation. We will be lending our scientific expertise and the use of our boat, *The Channelkeeper*, to aid scientists at UCSB and elsewhere who will be conducting subtidal monitoring in and around MPAs in the Santa Barbara Channel to assess their effects on fish populations and marine habitats.



In addition, Channelkeeper recently launched *MPA Watch*, a new volunteer-based program that engages citizen volunteers to help record and track human activities in and adjacent to Santa Barbara's new MPAs. The data collected by *MPA Watch* volunteers will be critical in providing context for and facilitating interpretation of biological monitoring data, while also identifying any social and economic benefits that result from MPAs (i.e. from increased recreation and tourism). The program will also aid compliance and enforcement efforts to ensure that MPA regulations are followed. We are initially launching *MPA Watch* in a pilot phase, but the program will ultimately focus on all five new coastal MPAs in Santa Barbara County - Point Conception State Marine Reserve, Kashtayit State

Marine Conservation Area, Naples State Marine Conservation Area, Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area, and Goleta Slough State Marine Conservation Area.

Anyone can become an *MPA Watch* volunteer – it's easy and fun. It involves walking designated sections of our coast and recording any human activities observed onshore and offshore through standardized surveys. Monitoring surveys are designed to take less than 1.5 hours, and volunteers can choose the days and times most convenient for their schedules. Volunteers are simply asked to conduct at least three surveys a month and to follow our designated monitoring protocols. Channelkeeper provides volunteer training, data sheets and necessary equipment. Please contact our Marine Programs Director, Michael Sheehy, at [michael@sbck.org](mailto:michael@sbck.org) or (805) 563-3377 ext. 2 if you are interested in learning more or becoming an *MPA Watch* volunteer.

## HALACO SUPERFUND CLEAN-UP INCHING FORWARD

The US EPA is slowly but surely moving forward with its effort to clean up the toxic legacy left behind by Halaco Engineering Co. on the Ormond Beach wetland in Oxnard. Halaco operated a metal smelting factory on its ocean-front property from 1965 to 2004 and generated enormous quantities of noxious waste, which it dumped into unlined settling ponds and amassed into a 40-foot high mountain of toxic slag that grew to cover 15 acres. This waste polluted the air, water, soil and groundwater with heavy metals, ammonia, radioactive thorium and other contaminants, and is what led Channelkeeper and the Environmental Defense Center to sue the company 10 years ago. Despite Halaco's agreement to comply with our demands and clean up their operations, they were caught violating that agreement and so were finally forced to cease operating in 2004.



*Halaco's slag heap polluted the Oxnard Industrial Drain, surrounding wetlands, soil and groundwater*

The waste left behind by Halaco poses a threat to public health and the environment, so EPA declared the property a Superfund site in 2007. Since then, EPA has undertaken various measures to remove some of the most hazardous waste, stabilize the slag heap to reduce stormwater runoff and erosion, and determine the nature and extent of the contamination through extensive sampling. Over the past six months, EPA has released a series of three reports describing the results of soil, sediment, and water testing done in 2009-2010. Their reports show high concentrations of metals and other contaminants in sediments in the Ormond Beach lagoon, surrounding the slag heap, in the neighboring Nature Conservancy property, and in the Oxnard Industrial Drain where it passes through the Halaco property. The reports conclude that contaminated sediments may pose a risk to wildlife that ingest contaminated sediment and prey, but do not pose a significant health risk to occasional users of these areas. EPA conducted some additional follow-up sampling this summer and will be releasing two additional reports in the near future, one on the results of sampling conducted in the smelter area and slag heap, and another on the results of groundwater sampling in and adjacent to the property. Thereafter, EPA will develop and release for public comment a proposal for the clean-up of the site, likely in late 2011 or early 2012.

In our ongoing efforts to secure a timely and thorough clean-up of the Halaco site, Channelkeeper is working to ensure that the local community understands and participates in the complex and highly technical Superfund clean-up process. Channelkeeper has hired Geosyntec to help us review, analyze and translate into layperson's terms the technical documents generated by EPA as part of the Superfund process, and we will leverage Geosyntec's technical assistance to help local citizens understand EPA's findings and clean-up proposal. We're forming a coalition of local groups to help us reach, educate and engage as wide a swath of the community as possible so that their concerns and desires regarding the clean-up and future uses of the site are considered by EPA when making decisions about the final remedy for the mess Halaco left behind.

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## SUCCESS! SAN JOSE CREEK GETS FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENTS

On June 30th, the Goleta City Council discussed whether to move forward with construction of the San Jose Creek Flood Control and Fish Passage Improvement Project. This multi-beneficial project would eliminate 100-year flooding hazards from Old Town Goleta and provide in-stream features that allow for the upstream migration of endangered steelhead trout. Channelkeeper wrote several comment letters and testified at numerous City Council meetings during the environmental review process in 2007 when the City was considering moving forward with a flood control project that did not include fish passage elements. Thankfully, Supervisor Wolf convinced the County Board of Supervisors to make County Flood Control funding contingent upon the incorporation of fish passage improvements into the project. Since that time, the City has moved forward with developing a series of designs for the project, and Channelkeeper provided input on design features and wrote several letters of support for City grant applications to fund fish passage features as part of the project. Channelkeeper testified at the June 30th hearing, supporting this project as a boon for both fish and the Old Town residential and business communities. City Council voted unanimously to get construction underway. The project will be the one of the first and largest fish passage enhancement of its kind, a major victory for San Jose Creek and for steelhead!

# ELEVENTH ANNUAL BLUE WATER MAKES A BIG SPLASH

A great time was had by all at Channelkeeper's eleventh annual Blue Water Ball on Saturday, March 19th at the Santa Barbara Woman's Club (Rockwood). The event was our most successful yet, raising nearly \$75,000 for our important programs and providing an opportunity for us to share and celebrate the many victories for clean water we've achieved over the past year.

We were thrilled to honor Lynne Cox, world-renowned open-water swimmer and author, with Channelkeeper's 2011 Ocean Ambassador Award for her commitment to inspiring awareness for healthy oceans. Lynne delivered an inspiring keynote speech and shared some awe-inspiring video clips of her extreme long-distance swims in the frigid waters of Antarctica and the Bering Strait. Our 170 guests enjoyed fine local wines and a delicious meal made from local organic ingredients while shopping at our extensive silent auction and swaying to the rhythms of local band Mezcal Martini.

Our deepest thanks to Lynne Cox, our masterful Master of Ceremonies Geoff Green, our dedicated volunteers, event sponsors, auction donors and all who attended and helped make this our best event yet! We look forward to seeing you at next year's Blue Water Ball on March 17th, 2012 at Rockwood!



Holly Sherwin and Kira Redmond present Lynne Cox with Channelkeeper's Ocean Ambassador Award.



Master of Ceremonies Geoff Green



SB Mayor Helene Schneider and SBCK Board President Sherry Madsen



Guests peruse the silent auction

## THANK YOU TO OUR AUCTION DONORS

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Aldo's Restaurant	Camille Day Spa	Gallup & Stribling Orchids	Laurel Moser Brady Landscape Gallery	Jenny Schatzle
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Aquarium of the Pacific	Cynthia Cendreda	Haskells Designs	Music Academy of the West	Segway Tours of Santa Barbara
Aquasports	Chaucer's Books	Robert Heeley	Natural Café	Holly & Lanny Sherwin
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Paul & Eileen Arsenault	Chocolate Gallery	Island Packers	Ojai Valley Inn and Spa	Simpson House Inn
Backyard Bowls	Chuck's Steak House	Justin Vineyards & Winery	Olio e Limone Ristorante	Sojourner Café
Beachside Bar Café	Coffee Cat	Kahuna Grill	Opal Restaurant & Bar	Solar Energy Company
Beckmen Vineyards	Cold Spring Tavern	Kanaloa Seafood	Our Daily Bread	Claus Stapelmann
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BlueLine Paddlesurf	Crimson Day Spa	Lash Day Spa	Patagonia - Great Pacific Ironworks	State & A Bar & Grill
Blush Restaurant & Lounge	East West Gallery	Local Harvest Delivery	Peet's Coffee	Stonehouse Restaurant
Brander Vineyard	El Capitan Canyon	Lobero Theatre Foundation	PrAna	Sunstone Winery
Bridlewood Estate Winery	Elocquinn Design	Lotusland	Chris Potter	Steve Trainoff
Brophy Brothers Restaurant	Dan & Rae Emmett	Lucky's Steak House	Quantum Tango	Vino Divino
Brothers Restaurant at Mattei's Tavern	Ensemble Theatre Company	Mad Dreams Designs	Rancho Santa Barbara	Wetsand Surf Shop
California Pizza Kitchen	Enterprise Fish Company	Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort	Real Cheap Sports	Wheel Fun Rentals
California Wine Festival	Fletcher Chouinard Designs	Massage Envy	Tim Robinson	Whole Foods
Calla Gold Jewelry	Four Seasons Resort - The Biltmore	Victoria McHone	Santa Barbara Yoga Center	Wilson Environmental Landscape Design
		Metropolitan Theatres		Keith Zandona Home Improvements

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The Tent Merchant  
Whitcraft Winery

**THREE CHEERS FOR OUR  
BWB VOLUNTEERS!**

Lynne Cox  
*Keynote Speaker & Honoree*

Geoff Green  
*Master of Ceremonies*

Jonathan Aimonetti

Kathleen Barnato

Stephen Criley

Marilyn Dannehower

Breanna Duplisea

Carlos Guerrero

Shaina Groves

Bryn Pitterle

Luis Rico

Joe Walsh

Gavin Williams

**AND AN EXTRA CHEER  
FOR OUR EVENT  
COMMITTEE**

Lee Appleton

Tisha Ford

Sherry Madsen

Julie Ringler

Kalia Rork

Holly Sherwin



*Steve Gaines and Lisa Stratton*



*JC and Susan Henry*



*Cristina Sandoval and Kevin Lafferty*



*Mark and Sally Hamilton and Mary Romo*



*Jeremy Tittle, Chris Henson and Jeremy Lindaman*



*Darryl Yin, Katie Baxindale, Jeff and Mandy Phillips, Tim Robinson and Tisha Ford*



*Lindsay Pena, Teresa and Junior Sat, and Sean Foy*



*Guests grooving to the tunes of Mezcal Martini*

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**



*Peter Shao with Channelkeeper's Ben Pitterle*

Channelkeeper couldn't do all we do to protect our local waterways without the help of our dedicated volunteers. Each year at our Blue Water Ball, we acknowledge one volunteer who has gone above and beyond with our Volunteer of the Year Award. This year we honored Peter Shao as Channelkeeper's Volunteer of the Year. Peter just graduated from Dos Pueblos High School and has been a dedicated Goleta Stream Team volunteer since March 2008, attending 29 Stream Team sampling events. Peter's interests and extracurricular activities extend far beyond water quality monitoring and include playing the violin, serving as captain of his tennis team, and participating in student robotics competitions. We will greatly miss Peter at Stream Team events when he heads off to college, but we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. THANK YOU, Peter, for your dedication and service to Channelkeeper and the environment!

## EIGHTH ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW CELEBRATES OUR OCEANS

For the eighth year in a row, Channelkeeper hosted our ocean-themed juried student art show, "What the Channel Means to Me." The show featured 92 incredible works of art created by local high school students that celebrate our ocean and coast. Assemblymember Das Williams presented the winning artists with Channelkeeper's awards and prize money to a full house at the opening exhibit reception on March 6th at the Kim Kieler Gallery, where the show remained on display for two weeks. The winning pieces were then transported to Rockwood for a final exhibition at our Blue Water Ball. This year's show was judged by local artist Pamela Larsson-Toscher and Judy Larson, Director of the Westmont Museum of Art, who selected the pieces to be featured in the show, and the winners, from



Art Show winner Jean-Dwight Ledbetter

### ART SHOW WINNERS

<b>1st Place:</b>	Jean-Dwight Ledbetter, <i>Dos Pueblos High School</i>
<b>2nd Place:</b>	Lucas Budgett, <i>San Marcos High School</i>
<b>3rd Place:</b>	Emma Patterson, <i>Dos Pueblos High School</i>
<b>Jurors' Choice:</b>	Loren McFarlane, <i>San Marcos High School</i> & Kelsey Flegal, <i>Santa Barbara High School</i>
<b>Honorable Mention:</b>	Clayton Brand, <i>San Marcos High School</i> & Diego Melgoza, <i>Santa Barbara High School</i>
<b>Environmental Ethic:</b>	Emma Aquilon, <i>Santa Barbara High School</i>

250 entries. Many thanks to this year's art show sponsors: Trillium Enterprises, the Kim Kieler Gallery and McConnell's Ice Cream. Thanks to their generous support, we once again were able to reward and encourage young local artists to develop their talents while inspiring others in our community to care for the ocean through the students' art.

## EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS



Education is a key part of Channelkeeper's work to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds. We educate local citizens about practices that contribute to the degradation of water quality and aquatic habitats and about how we all can and must be part of the solution to water pollution. Channelkeeper also has a long-standing youth education program, our Clean Water Environmental Stewardship Training (CWEST) Project, which provides interactive educational programs that teach young people about the aquatic sciences and aim to foster environmental stewardship among local youth. Through our Marine Science Education Curriculum, we provide a series of hands-on lessons and experiments throughout the year in several local schools, teaching kids about ecology, oceanogra-

phy, watersheds and marine habitats in the Santa Barbara Channel. We have also been partnering with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History since 2006 on an interactive watershed awareness curriculum for local youth. Additionally, for the past three years Channelkeeper has partnered with the University of California Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension Programs to provide water quality training for teachers and students through the Research and Education for Students and Teachers supporting the Ormond Beach Restoration (RESTOR) Program.

Channelkeeper launched some new youth education programs this past year. We began providing training to Ventura elementary school students participating in an after-school watershed education program sponsored by the City of Ventura's Environmental Services Division, and we also piloted a summer watershed education program for 4th and 5th graders in partnership with the Carpinteria Unified School District. Channelkeeper educated more than 2,000 young people through our CWEST programs this past school year, bringing the cumulative number of students we've reached to nearly 17,000!

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## SEPTEMBER 17TH IS COASTAL CLEANUP DAY!

Calling all volunteers! The 27th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day is Saturday, September 17th, and we need your help to clean up our beaches and creeks. Please join Channelkeeper as we clean up West Beach and Goleta creeks from 9am to noon, or choose from other beaches or creek sites being cleaned up throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. We will provide clean-up supplies and beverages, but volunteers are encouraged to bring their own bucket and gloves in an effort to generate less waste. Please be prepared to work outdoors and to get your feet wet! Contact us at penny@sbck.org or (805) 563-3377 ext. 0 to volunteer or learn more.

## NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT CHANNELKEEPER

WinWin Living is an online Santa Barbara lifestyle guide and daily deal website that offers exceptional deals in Santa Barbara, and they are donating 10% of deal proceeds to Channelkeeper every time someone buys a deal on their website and selects "SB Channelkeeper" as their chosen beneficiary. Sign up with WinWin Living today at [www.winwinliving.com](http://www.winwinliving.com) to start receiving email alerts for great local deals while supporting Channelkeeper at the same time!

Cars 4 Causes works to turn your vehicle donation into cash for Channelkeeper and a tax deduction for you. Cars 4 Causes will handle every detail of your vehicle donation, including towing and all paperwork. To find out how to donate your car, motorcycle, boat, trailer, or RV and designate Channelkeeper as your chosen beneficiary, call Cars 4 Causes at 888-444-2392 or visit [www.cars4causes.net](http://www.cars4causes.net).

## BECOME AN SBCK MEMBER

Become a member of Channelkeeper today and invest in clean water and healthy communities along the Santa Barbara Channel.

Please return the enclosed envelope with your tax deductible donation today and enjoy:

- ◆ A subscription to our newsletter
- ◆ Monthly e-news updates
- ◆ Invitations to members-only events and fun volunteer opportunities
- ◆ A Channelkeeper sticker
- ◆ At the \$50+ level, a Channelkeeper t-shirt
- ◆ At the \$250+ level, quarterly issues of *Waterkeeper* magazine
- ◆ A stake in our claim for clean water and healthy aquatic habits!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

