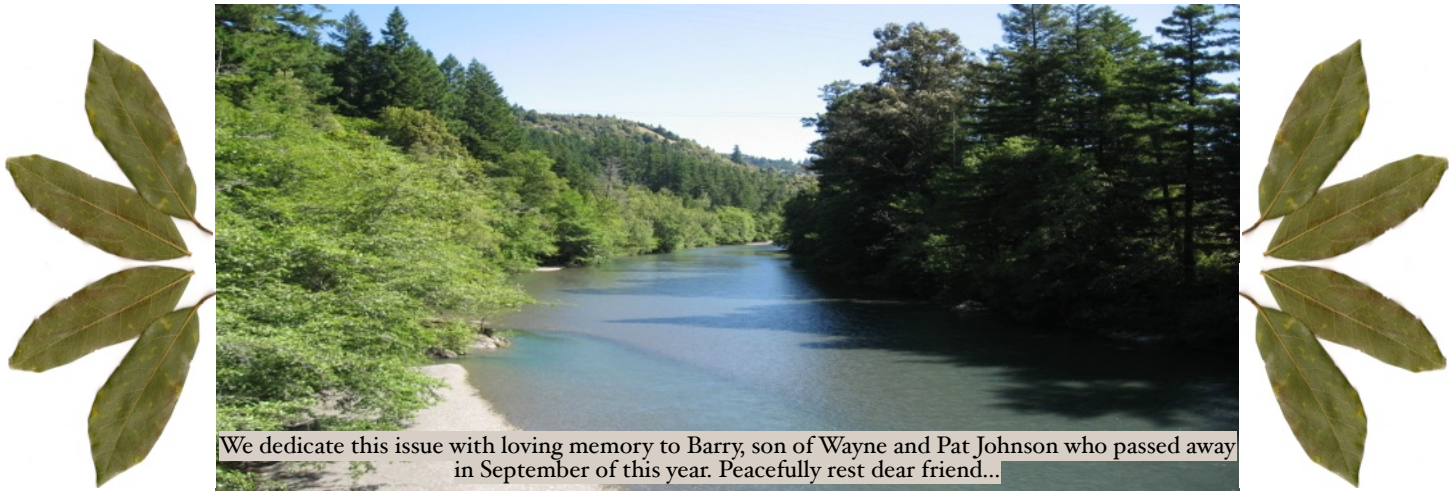


# Mattole Meanderings

News and inspirations from THE MATTOLE COUNCIL

Fall/Winter 2010/2011



We dedicate this issue with loving memory to Barry, son of Wayne and Pat Johnson who passed away in September of this year. Peacefully rest dear friend...

## FROM THE CHAIR

All of us have experienced dreaming of some kind. Whether asleep at night or awake in the middle of the day-day dreaming-we have all been the subjects of this characteristic part of who we are. I invite you to share with us council members some of the dreams that you may have for Mattole Camp and Retreat Center. As a council, we have had many ideas/dreams Since this governing body took charge of this facility over ten years ago, a number of these dreams have come true through your use of the camp, contributions and numerous dedicated volunteer hours.

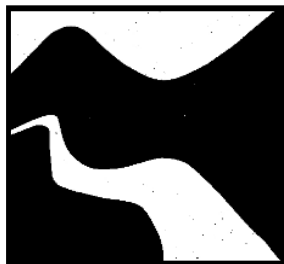
Some of your dreams maybe large and some small. Some may not require a lot of work or expense, others may take a large amount of planning, work and expense but if we don't share dreams, we may miss out on things that could inspire people to come back and visit the camp again and again. Simple things like drawers in the kitchen area can help out a lot making the area more efficient and enjoyable. Or something *big* such as an adequate and safe water supply is a *must* for our guests! Through and by our dreaming, *both* of these have come true!

We welcome your dreams, be they large or small, of how *you* envision the future of Mattole Camp and how we, the council can help to fulfill those dreams!

As we look toward the future, let us all continue dreaming of ideas and possibilities that will make Mattole Camp brighter still and more beautiful and the BEST the place for unforgettable experiences.

Thank you and have a blessed Holiday Season! David Goodman

Here's David, practicing the new Summer Olympic sport of "River-rock stacking"!



Did you know that our logo was designed by our former caretaker Steve Lovett back around the year 2000?

Camp volunteers Peter, Allan and David enjoy a relaxing evening on the deck after a hard day's work.







Thank you to ALL who helped with the rebuilding of the back steps of the main lodge. BIG thanks to Allan who rallied and guided us through the journey.

And to Peter, headed the the footing building of new shed, from Riley



who spear-pouring of and the steps for the with help and Yuji!!



***Dream... Dream dream dream... from the Outreach Secretary***

With all the “crisis” in the world these days, I think it wise to remind everyone of the importance of dreaming and what dreams can lead to! **WONDERFUL THINGS!** Last summer I had a dream that the volunteer friends would once again show up during our annual volunteer week and make wonderful things happen, **AND THEY DID!** We rebuilt the back steps, poured the footing and built steps to the new shed, landscaped around the lodge, repainted the sign at the main road, chiseled steps into the rock down to the river, cleared all pathways, cleared all the down wood around the “electric deck” **AND** had a great time to boot! A heartfelt **THANKYOU** goes out to David, Richard, Allan, Mimi, Suzanne, Peter, Riley, Yuji, Avalon, Emily for their help, creativity and continued commitment toward making the camp a better place! And I’m still dreaming...

The year is 2015. The economic crisis is settled down. Through the camps fundraising efforts, we have received enough money to rebuild the caretakers residence complete with a lovely deck overlooking the river and a large, deer-proofed raised garden beds. All the cabins are rebuilt, including new roofs! The Seldom Inn is spruced up, and the whole camp is running on solar/wind power! And, at the far end of the camp is a beautiful Labyrinth, dedicated to Wayne’s son Barry. The stream runs nearby, offering it’s trickling delight and there is a sweet bridge that spans the stream where one can stand and meditate on the beauty that is Mattole Camp, giving thanks to all who’s offered a hand in making it what it is. And the dream continues, where the council has put together a staff of educated, motivated, inspired, creative, fun-loving folks who act as Mattole Camp Counsellors and parents within our very own community and from afar entrust their children to us for week long summer camps where they learn about the environment, themselves, how to greet challenges and overcome them. They sing, they dance they act they learn respect for others and themselves. They work hard, and play harder. They leave feeling settled and renewed and enlightened and motivated and enriched with a sense of wholeness and faith... That’s my dream...

Soon, you will be receiving our annual solicitation letter and upon reading it, feel an overwhelming generosity in the spirit of...

“if you dream, it can come true!” Thank you kindly!

Jennifer Callen







### Even the Caretaker has dreams!

John Lennon said it best...  
"Some people say I'm a dreamer..."

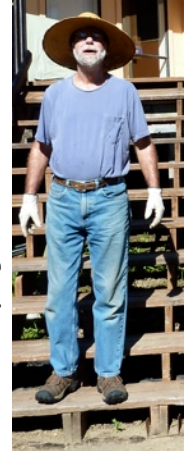
But I'm not the only one"

This is a hard one for me, as I live here and see *so many* nneeeeds. So dreaming is seeing an almost non-existent PG&E bill. Solar panels here-n-there, smiles everywhere. The day is coming so Stay Tuned, better yet, know about solar?? I need your help.

Solar 101 is where we begin.  
Richard Gillespie



Allan Dodd stands on the old back steps of the main lodge, taking a deep breath before destroying them!!



**Kathy Goodman shares her dream!** If dreams were free I would love to see Mattole have full solar electricity and water heating as well as on demand hot water. It would make lighting and heating and water heating so much less expensive. It would be a true green move which leads me to my following dream. I would love to have a monthly meeting with a person on the campus at Mattole to teach environmental education, as well as our regular folks who are so supportive and faithful to Mattole. My thought is that the environmental ed. classes could be connected with the schools in the area. It would be an outdoor school. Maybe we could have a student from HSU willing to come down and teach the class for credit. The school would pay for the use of the camp and the equipment we have. Maybe there could be a camp out here at the end of the school year. There could be a high school course on a weekend to help with maintenance and learn about different environmental energy saving items such as wind power, solar power, drip water systems for the gardens, water saving items. The high schoolers could get service credit for working around the camp. If dreams were free.



Volunteers make such a difference at Mattole Camp! This year, the Harmony Makers once again showed up and worked HARD on projects specifically assigned to each and every one! Here are a few examples of the completed tasks.

Suzanne utilized her green thumbs for landscaping, cleaning out around the trees for good looks and to ease "mowability"...



Emily and Avalon picked up all the down-wood from around the power deck & dumped it near the caretakers house to be used as kindling.



Mimi repainted the entrance sign to the camp, while Kiddo and Rusty did what all good dogs do... Absolutely NUTHIN!





The Mattole Camp Council created this newsletter to inform the community of current events, projects and future plans for Mattole Camp. The Mattole Meanderings is published semi-annually and is available free of charge.

If you have questions,

contributions or comments

Mattole Camp and Retreat Center is a non-profit organization owned by the Presbytery of the Redwoods, Presbyterian Church and managed by the Mattole Council in Bayside, CA



feel free to call us

**707 629-3308**

or write to:

P.O. Box 675

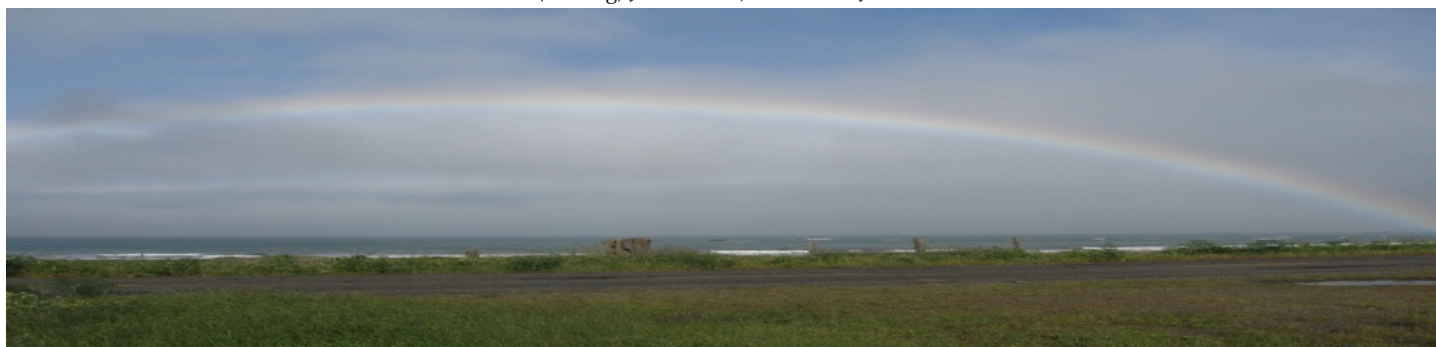
Bayside, CA 95524

or send e-mail to:

[mattolecamp@asis.com](mailto:mattolecamp@asis.com)

The Mattole Camp Council

(back row) Jennifer Callen, Kathy Goodman, (Richard Gillespie / caretaker), Lee Dedini, (front row) Pat Johnson, David Goodman, Wayne Johnson (missing) J. Kesterson, Montanna Jones



MATTOLE CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER  
36841 MATTOLE ROAD, PETROLIA, CA