



A Community Foundation Strengthening our Coastal Communities

### SPRING 2017 UPDATE

**OUR COMMUNITY GATHERED** in meaningful and festive ways these past two months. It's heartening to see us connect locally, creating ways to serve and to celebrate. We're good at it.



photos by Carlos Porrata

We gathered in appreciation of all the support County Supervisor Steve Kinsey brought to West Marin over decades. Local purveyors of West Marin's finest foods and drinks set the table. Our own (ad hoc) group "The 501-c-3's" sang a stellar tribute, to laughter and appreciative ovations.



The 501-c-3's: "Take a load off Kinsey"

Supervisor Kinsey asked that the event be a fundraiser for our local non-profits and **we raised \$8000** in his name. This goes straight to the Spring Round of grants.

THANK YOU to Steve, to matching fund donors Kennedy-Alt and the Palace Market, and to the many people who contributed to the success of this evening.

**CONFAB #11:** The West Marin Fund's Spring 2017 ConFab addressed the **working partnership between county government and our non-profit efforts** with our new Supervisor Dennis Rodoni. A full house of local leaders discussed West Marin's unique needs like access to services in rural areas, affordable housing, immigrant protections, healthcare, stresses on local services by the 2.6 million visitors who help drive our economies, and neighborhoods frayed by vacation rentals. THANK YOU to Supervisor Rodoni, his staff, our volunteers, and all who participated. See the [article](#) on our website.



Skip Schwartz, Catherine Porter



Supervisor Dennis Rodoni

**1<sup>st</sup> DONOR ADVISED FUND:** DAFs are a part of many community foundations' philanthropy, helping local donors direct their giving. West Marin Fund is expanding its donor options: we opened our first donor advised fund - DAF this year, the Barinaga-Goodman DAF, which directed \$80K to West Marin grantees in January in its first round of giving.

#### SPRING 2017 GRANTS ROUND:

WMF makes 2 grant rounds annually. Proposals for this round are due March 14, with grants going out in early April. **Keeping Communities Strong** is the theme for our general-support small grants this time. We expect a large representation of our local non-profits to apply. For details: <http://westmarinfund.org/grant-application>.

*WMF support has made a huge difference keeping the arts alive here. Art is a powerful healing force in drawing together our diverse communities so we can learn from each other.*

**Toni Littlejohn, Gallery Route One**

## TRANSITIONS!

Our **Executive Director Catherine Porter** has served us with dedication and grace for five years, turning us from a good idea into a respected and responsive community foundation. Testament to our success under her leadership, we are poised to expand our reach and services to donors and grantees alike, and will be hiring a full-time Executive Director. View our [job description](#) on our website. We are grateful to Catherine for her gifts of leadership, her skill at community engagement, and for making us a force for good in West Marin.

**New Board Member: Mary Rocca** has joined our Board of Directors. Owner and President of the Palace Market in Point Reyes Station and Founder/President of Rocca Family Vineyards in Napa, we welcome Mary's deep knowledge of West Marin plus broad experience in business and philanthropy.

**New Advisory Council Members: Peter Martinelli** of Bolinas and **County Supervisor Dennis Rodoni** of Olema join the Council that is our "eyes and ears in the community". We are truly pleased to have the deep knowledge each of them brings.

## ISSUES & CONCERNS:

**IMMIGRATION:** Concerned about immigrant security? Support Abriendo Caminos, the West Marin Collaborative and West Marin Community Services, which tap every resource to support immigrant members of our community.

**EDUCATION CHALLENGES:** West Marin Fund's small grants promote educational opportunities for local youth from pre-schools to grade schools and college prep. Now we're joining conversations about how we get kids **through** college, not just **to** college. Stay tuned for novel funding opportunities.

**YOUTH: MATCHING GRANT STILL OPEN:** We still have a one-to-one \$50,000 matching challenge to support the Tomales Bay Youth Center, the wonderful place for young teens to learn and hang-out in Point Reyes Station. Generous donors are matching gifts to TBYC through June.



Youth Empowerment at Commonweal's Power of Hope

**COMMUNITY CENTERS** are vital to most of our communities but they need more resources. The **Point Reyes Station** Dance Palace will convene leaders from all West Marin's community centers: **Bolinas, Stinson**, the Town Hall in **Tomales, San Geronimo Valley** and other organizations who see "gathering community" as key to their mission. West Marin Fund will offer support to ensure this conversation continues: sharing resources, sharing ideas, sharing common cause and common calendars.

## MORE WAYS TO GIVE IN WEST MARIN

**Local Support:** It is rewarding to know we can make a significant difference right here in beautiful West Marin. **Please consider joining any local non-profit organization, as a member, donor, board member or a volunteer.** See a list of [grantees](#) and [non-profits](#) on our website.



Stinson-Bolinas lagoon and beaches, photo by Clint Graves

*With our sons launched, my husband Konrad and I have more bandwidth for West Marin. It's easy to see where we can make a difference. I urge fellow West Marinners to consider serving on a board – it's manageable, rewarding, and impactful.*

**Maureen Kennedy** of Inverness & Piedmont, serves the PRNSA board, the Inverness Garden Club Scholarship Committee, and West Marin Fund's Advisory Council.

**Among the many ways to support the communities we love**, contributing to the West Marin Fund is one of the best investments you can make here. All donations are tax-deductible. To donate online, go to <http://westmarinfund.org/donate>

To donate by check, our mailing address is:

**The West Marin Fund**  
P.O. Box 1496  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
415-663-9733

To discuss a non-cash gift or legacy gift, contact Catherine Porter, Executive Director: [catherine@westmarinfund.org](mailto:catherine@westmarinfund.org)

You can find more information about the work of the West Marin Fund and photos of our work, please visit our website:

<http://westmarinfund.org/>



Wendy Schwartz