

NORTH STAR HISTORIC CONSERVANCY

PMB #96 101 W. MCKNIGHT WAY, STE. B

GRASS VALLEY, CA 95949-9613

TEL: (530) 272-3939 WWW.NORTHSTARCONSERVANCY.ORG

ABOUT THE HOUSE

The North Star House is located on a portion of the former North Star mine, 1 mile from historic downtown Grass Valley on Old Auburn Road. By the early 2000's, The House was ready to succumb to the forces of neglect and nature. In 2003 the North Star House was donated to the Nevada County Land Trust for preservation, and since that time volunteers, work parties, civic and scouting groups have donated over 8,000 hours and significant resources to stabilize the house. In 2008 the non-profit North Star Historic Conservancy was formed to manage the rehabilitation and ongoing operations of The House. The Conservancy has its own 501c3 designation and it operates as an independent organization.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE & SUPPORT

The North Star Historic Conservancy is comprised of a volunteer Board of Directors with no salaried employees. In order to continue improvements to the site, we will expand our function as a public event site and look to continued generous donations from our supporters.

GOALS AND MEMBERSHIP

Inside you will find an outline of our goals for next year. All of these projects directly contribute to our mission making the North Star House property a valuable community asset. Completion of these projects will help us generate more income for continuing improvements to the North Star House.

You will also find inside an outline of our new Membership Program. Please consider becoming a member of the North Star Historic Conservancy and take advantage of the benefits we have obtained. We look forward to enriching the Membership Program in the coming years and giving you additional opportunities to enjoy "our House".

We owe tremendous thanks our many volunteers and community donors who are helping us bring the North Star House back to life. Thank you.

The Center for the Arts presents
9th Annual Benefit Concert for Nevada County Land Trust featuring

AARON NEVILLE

AND HIS QUINTET FEATURING CHARLES NEVILLE
WITH IVAN NEVILLE'S DUMPSTAPHUNK



Opening Friday, August 5 at The North Star House - 5pm Gala, 7pm Concert

General Admission seating on the lawn

Bring blankets or low-back chairs

\$48 Land Trust and Center members

\$58 non-member

\$20 Youth ticket ages 6 to 18, 5 and under free

Limit to 4 tickets per member at member price

\$140 - Special Gala Reception and Gourmet Cajun Dinner at the Historic Mansion includes: gourmet dinner featuring Jim E. Catering, open bar during dinner, live music by Beaucoup Chapeaux, limited terrace seating for concert, and onsite parking.

FOR TICKETS, GO TO WWW.CENTERFORTHEARTS.ORG OR CALL (530) 274-8384 x14

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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EXEC. DIRECTOR: PEGGY LEVINE

Our Mission...

The mission of the North Star Historic Conservancy is to rehabilitate the Julia Morgan-designed North Star House and its immediate grounds, reconnecting it to the greater Grass Valley area and to restoring its place as an active hub of the community.

FOLLOW THE STAR 

To join our mailing or email list, just send your contact info to rose@northstarconservancy.org

UPDATE: 2011 NORTH STAR HOUSE PROJECTS & GOALS

We've met several of our 2011 goals, but still have so much more to do!

Handicap parking spaces were added near the restrooms - a great boon on event days! - and a beautiful circle of trees was added to the south side of The House, adding much-needed shade for both The House and the Growers Market. The driveway circle on the east side of The House now has a beautiful green lawn, and the Gardener's Cottage has been updated for commercial rental.

Please consider supporting any of the projects outlined here or become a member of the Conservancy at any of the levels described at the bottom of the page.

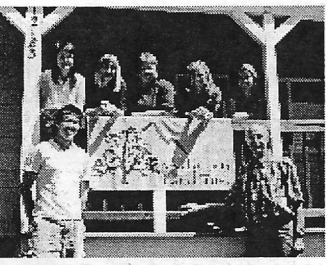
Your support is the life-blood of our mission!

PAVEMENT REPAIR PROJECT COST: \$10,000
We need to expand some of our paved areas, adding parking and a safer entrance/access road.

GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT COST: \$12,000
Restoring gardens and working on the orchards will improve the site for future events.

FILTERED WATER PROJECT COST: \$4,500
A water filter for our new well will allow the well to provide drinking water on the site and enable the Conservancy to eliminate the cost of city water use. Two water storage tanks currently adjacent to the well can be repaired so that they may serve as a source of water for fire protection.

IRRIGATION PROJECT COST: \$1,000
Irrigation around The House enables us to restore some of the historic plants and provide green areas for seating during events.



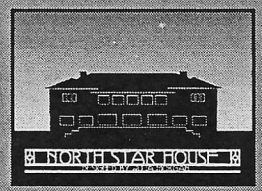
WELCOME, NEVADA COUNTY LAND TRUST!

We are pleased to announce that the Nevada County Land Trust has relocated from their offices on Joerschke Drive to our very own Gardener's Cottage on the North Star House site.

The Land Trust and the North Star Historic Conservancy have complimentary missions, and we are pleased to provide them with a site that reflects their dedication to the beautiful open spaces and heritage sites of Nevada County.

Their presence also contributes to the positive activity on-site, which benefits The House: *a real win all around!*

MEMBERS, PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EVENING UNDER THE STARS...



Date: Tuesday, October 6th
Time: 6pm - 8pm
Place: North Star House Terrace
RSVP: by Aug. 30th to (530) 263-1644 or
rose@northstarconservancy.org

THE NORTH STAR HISTORIC CONSERVANCY IS PLEASED TO INVITE ALL OF OUR MEMBERS TO A PRIVATE RECEPTION ON THE TERRACE. NOSH ON SEASONAL APPETIZERS AND WINES FROM SZABO VINEYARDS, ENJOY OUR INCREDIBLE SUNSET VISTA, AND TALK TO OUR BOARD ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE HOUSE.

-- SPECIAL GUEST INVITATIONS --
FOR THIS EVENT, OUR MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SHARE THIS EXCLUSIVE INVITATION WITH TWO ADDITIONAL GUESTS.

We look forward to seeing you! Not yet a Member? There is still time to join...

We Wish to Extend Special Thanks To...



Randall Frizzell, Arborist
Rebecca Kaufman, Landscape Architect



Join the Mission - Become a Conservancy Member.

Your donations have helped keep the lights on, plant a lawn, and stock our restrooms. This year they will help us make the house available for community events.

We need your support to keep the momentum building! Please consider becoming a member at any of the levels listed below, or consider giving the gift of membership and help someone deepen their roots in our community.

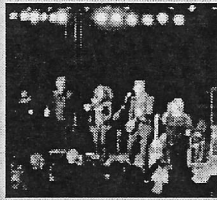
SUPPORTER	\$100 - \$500 annually
PRESERVATIONIST	\$500 - \$1,000 annually
BENEFACTOR	\$1,000 and above
CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP	Contact Us
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN	

A small contribution over time is a great way to support The House with minimal upfront cost. Min. donation: \$12/mo. x 12 mo. = \$120 annually

To become a North Star Conservancy member, simply fill out the attached envelope with your donation, or contact Rose Sponder at (530) 263-1644 or rose@northstarconservancy.org.

EVENTS at North Star House

CONCERTS
ARTS EVENTS
WEDDINGS • PARTIES
CORPORATE EVENTS
MEETINGS



The grounds of the North Star House are being readied for events!

One mile from historic downtown Grass Valley, this site boasts a classic California landscape with established trees, an orchard and wide-open spaces. Best of all, it features a Julia Morgan architectural backdrop - *truly* an area gem.

The Great Lawn: Hosts up to 2,000 guests with lawn seating.

The West Terrace: Perfect for cocktail parties or dining. Overlooks the Great Lawn and Sacramento Valley, often featuring incredible sunsets.

The East Courtyard: Ideal for performances, auctions, or casual dining.

North Star House: Stabilized but largely unimproved - small events only.

For more information, contact Peggy Levine:

(530) 272-1873, peggy@northstarconservancy.org

HOUSE NEWS

The North Star House is Now Listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places

In February, the North Star House was added to the National and State Registers of Historic Places. The State of California cited our exceptional qualifications under all three of their criteria for historic importance, a rare achievement.

The Registers recognize a building's 1) significant role in historic events or trends, 2) significant relationship with a historically important individuals, or 3) architectural importance. The North Star House was nominated under all three criteria, thanks to its role in the gold mining industry of the West, its relationship to engineer A.D. Foote and author and illustrator Mary Hallock Foote, and its famed architect, Julia Morgan.

Q: What are the "historic trees" on the North Star House site?
A: ...

Many of you have walked the grounds of the North Star Mine property. There are numerous trees and shrubs that date from the time of the Footes. Mr. AD Foote developed the landscaping on the North Star property in the early 1900s.

Most of you are familiar with his orchard. But did you know that the huge chestnut tree near the Gardener's cottage is a Colossal Chestnut? It is one of the largest varieties of chestnuts. It most likely predated Mr. Foote's arrival to the Mine as the cottage was built in the 1880s. Next to the chestnut is a California black walnut tree. Mr. Felix Gillet, a well-known Nevada City nurseryman, developed the Colossal Chestnut and the black walnut tree for commercial use in the 1890s.

In the orchard developed by Mr. Foote there are several Mission fig trees and an olive tree that still bear fruit each year. Mr. Foote had previously worked at the New Almaden Mine in Los Gatos, and so was familiar with the Mission fig at that location. Also in Mr. Foote's orchard you notice a Bartlett pear tree with a dead top. The top died in the 1930s in the Chicago Park pear tree blight that infected many local pear trees. This particular tree still bears small pears every year, even though it is not watered or fertilized. Many of the other trees in the orchard are Nevada County native wild cherry plum trees, also known as the "Miner's Cherry". These trees are the result of bird droppings. Their large pitted fruits are great for jam.



Bartlett Pear in the orchard

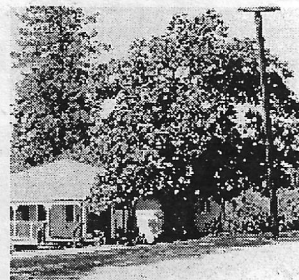
As you walk on the path from the orchard to the terrace of the house, you will see to your left a young tulip tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, planted in 2008. Two heritage roses, *Barrone Prevost*, are planted in the same area. These roses are from cuttings of a rose found in Mr. Foote's original rose garden.

When standing on the terrace of the house, the columnar variety of Southern Magnolia can be seen on the right side of the lawn area. Its height was measured and it was found to be the tallest of this variety in Nevada County. Several can be seen in the town of Grass Valley.

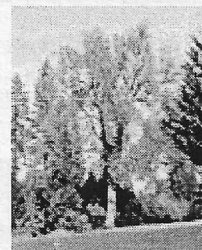
One is at the end of School Street, just opposite the brick wall of St. Joseph's Cultural Center.

Walking down the north steps of the terrace, one can see the tall tulip tree planted in the 1900s. *Liriodendron tulipifera* is a native North American tree prevalent in the Appalachian forest and also in the northeast area where the Footes spent their childhoods. The tree is named for its small flowers that resemble tulips.

Beyond the tulip tree several small fruit trees can be found. Each is marked with an ID tag. On the right, there are two persimmon trees and a hazelnut bush. On the left side there is a small pomegranate tree and a quince tree.



Colossal chestnut at the Gardener's Cottage

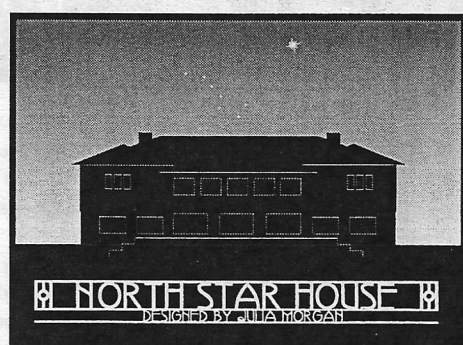


100-year-old tulip tree

- Carole Miller

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A Message from the North Star House...

2011 has already been a fantastic year for the North Star House!

In February we were honored to receive our listing on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Then in May the Nevada County Land Trust announced the headliner for their benefit concert to be held at the North Star House: the incomparable Aaron Neville! Read more about our latest news inside.

Despite the rainy June, we held our first annual North Star House Festival and had tremendous turnout from all over Northern California and enthusiastic support from our own community members and businesses. We look forward to holding this event again next year. - hopefully with some sunny weather!

October will see our first member-appreciation event. This is a great excuse to become a member: join us for food and wine at The House, under the stars, this fall. *Read inside about the many levels and options for membership inside!*

The Growers Market is in full swing now, and seemed to begin in full swing this year. We have more produce and meat vendors, face-painting, treats for your pets, and a wood-fired pizza oven - which drew a bit of a crowd on those cold days in May! The Growers Market has expanded their hours, from 8am to 1pm, and will run through October. As always, docents have The House open and are happy to answer your questions.

Welcome to The House!