

Connecting with Nature on Fiscalini Ranch Preserve: Sit a While



By KITTY CONNOLLY, Executive Director, Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve (fiscaliniranchpreserve.org)

Benches are among the most beloved features of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve. They are certainly among the most picturesque!

Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve has an agreement with Cambria Community Services District to install 17 benches on the West Ranch. So far, 16 have been put in. Each of the benches is hand made by local craftsman. Will Scroggins and Jay Burbank are among the artists whose work is showcased.

Each bench honors someone or is dedicated to someone's memory. Several benches honor donors who helped to save the Ranch 20 years ago. One bench is reserved for thanking those who devoted themselves to the Ranch, including our recently retired executive director, Jo Ellen Butler.



Many of the benches allow family and friends to memorialize loved ones in a place of deep meaning and peace.

Donations to Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve for bench dedications support long-term preservation of the Ranch. These donations are vital for supporting our work.

What may be less well known is that a stalwart group of volunteers, the Ranch Hands (center left), installs, repairs, and replaces the benches when needed. Given the coastal site and how much use the benches receive, this is a demanding job. Thank you, Ranch Hands!

Keep an eye out over the next few months for the seventeenth and final bench to be installed. It will have a great view of the ocean, Santa Lucia Mountains, and Piedras Blancas.