



Columbia Land Trust

CONSERVING THE NATURE YOU LOVE

RENEWING BOARD MEMBERS



LISA AMATO currently serves on both the Conservation Committee and the Executive Committee. Lisa's family history is rooted in various regions of Oregon and values the Pacific Northwest's ecological and demographic diversity. The substantial environmental burdens from increased human population weigh very deeply on her and she feels an obligation to help restore and preserve parts of our ecosystem. Lisa is a lawyer who practices mediation and dispute resolution. After practicing law in litigation for 25 years, she now works with parties to reach a resolution that they create rather than a resolution imposed on them by a court or agency. Lisa has been fortunate to expand her knowledge of land trusts through the pro bono legal work she's done for Columbia Land Trust and the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts.



KERRY BARNETT has been on the Board since 2014 and serves on the Board Development Committee. Kerry has been SAIF's president and chief executive officer since May 2015. Prior to that, he served as executive vice president for corporate services and chief legal officer for Cambia Health Solutions. Kerry enjoys supporting the Land Trust as a board member and is honored to continue his role at the Land Trust for the next three years. He feels that Columbia Land Trust's work is creating a substantial and long-lasting, positive impact on the most sensitive and valuable land around us. He appreciates the Land Trust action-oriented approach to conservation.



WENDY GERLACH has been on the Board since 2014 and currently serves as the Board President, a member of the Investment Committee, and a member of the Executive Committee. Wendy is a lawyer with experience ranging from corporate mergers and acquisitions to advising nonprofits. She now works as a Senior Conservation Project Manager with Pacific Forest Trust. She has lived and worked in many environments and has seen how people working together can maintain landscape, habitat, and quality of life for local communities. Wendy joined the land trust board as a way to help make the outdoors of the Columbia region a healthy ecosystem, accessible to as many families as possible.



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JUDGE BARBARA JOHNSON was raised in Walla Walla, Washington. Judge Johnson began her legal career as a deputy prosecuting attorney for King County. Her fellow prosecuting attorneys included former governor Gary Locke, and US District Court Judges Marsha Pechman, Robert Lasnik and Richard Jones. Four years later, she moved to Vancouver, WA and entered private practice. Six years later, she received encouragement from her peers to pursue an open seat on the bench and was appointed by Governor Booth Gardner in 1987. She was the first female judge in the history of Clark County Superior Court. Judge Johnson is a member of the Vancouver Rotary and has served on many volunteer boards and commissions. She serves on the Land Trust's Executive Committee and as the Land Trust's Secretary.



LAURA PLANCK served for years on the Emerging Leaders Council (ELC). Laura grew up in Portland, and has a deep appreciation of the natural beauty of both Oregon and Washington. After graduating from Oregon State University with a degree in Environmental Science, she spent 4 years working for restoration groups, conducting vegetation surveys for forest research projects, and working for nature centers. She then went to Michigan State University to pursue a Master's in Plant Biology. Laura started volunteering with the Land Trust in 2012 and became one of the founding members of ELC. During her time on the ELC, she has helped lead that group and organize volunteer events in or near Portland as well as successful Habitat events around Portland. Laura is currently working as a Technical Specialist for Quantum Spatial, a geospatial company located in downtown Portland.