

Copy

July 17, 1998

Ms. Nancy Schreiber
Kohler Foundation

Dear Ms. Schreiber:

The Art Beal Foundation was established in 1977 as a charitable and educational non-profit corporation. Its stated primary purpose is the restoration, preservation and protection of the landmark known as Nitt Witt Ridge, built over a period of approximately 40 years by Arthur H. Beal. The Foundation's commitment to Mr. Beal was to provide a safe and secure environment for the duration of his life. Mr. Beal died in 1992 at the age of 96, having lived at Nitt Witt Ridge into his 95th year.

The current Board of Directors is composed of members who spent time with Mr. Beal during his life and have committed personal resources to the goals stated in the articles of incorporation. Elizabeth Appel, board member for numerous years, was a friend and hands-on caregiver for Mr. Beal. Michael Rice is a Cambria resident also and board member for a number of years. Steve Rebuck, of San Luis Obispo, was a long time friend and has served continuously for over a decade. JoAnn Orr, also a friend to Mr. Beal for more than 15 years has served the Board for a number of years. Seymour Rosen is also a current board member.

During Mr. Beal's lifetime he was unwilling to allow restoration projects on the property. After his death fund raising activities were undertaken and some repairs were accomplished to stabilize the primary building. Taxes and restoration efforts fell behind due to numerous circumstances.

At this time the Board has been contacting various community, educational and governmental agencies to seek input, assistance and support to move forward in our efforts to find the best community-benefit use for the property. We have been in contact with Native American organizations, local gardening clubs, plant restoration/land use groups as well as the county of San Luis Obispo. However, none of these entities have funds available to accomplish a restoration project. In order to uphold our goals as stated in our by-laws, we are seeking an organization who has the means and experience to actualize a restoration of this historic property and provide the community and travelling public an opportunity to experience the creativity and genius of Mr. Beal's lifetime creation.

We invite you to Cambria to experience the wonder of Nitt Witt Ridge, a three dimensional canvas created by a unique and rare individual whose memory and works deserve to be preserved for generations to come.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Appel

- included articles of incorporation & by-laws
- sent express mail