

# Edgewood



# Explorer

December 1997

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## NONPROFIT STATUS GRANTED

By Peter Ingram

As the new calendar year opens, we are now officially “A California Public Benefit Corporation”! On Nov. 20, 1997, the Friends of Edgewood received final approval of our application to become a tax-exempt organization from the State of California Franchise Tax Board.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) had granted their determination of approval on October 1, 1997, finding the Friends exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code.

As previously reported, this goal has been pursued in order that the Friends’ good name may be recognized in the county and region as a substantial and well-founded volunteer organization that has earned the legal status of a nonprofit corporation.

Additionally, should the Friends ever choose to apply for grants to contribute to the preservation and protection of Edgewood, our ability to compete is greatly enhanced by this new status.

In the coming months the Executive Board will be busy establishing the record-keeping systems and reports that will be needed to successfully sustain our exempt status over time.

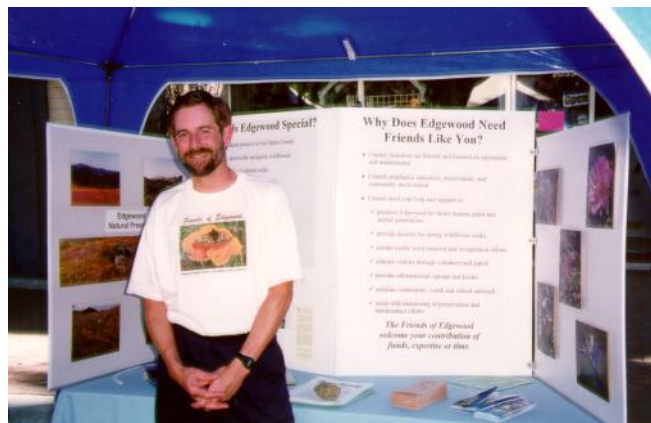
Also, you can expect to hear more about changes to the organization’s bylaws, especially in the way officers and board members are elected.

We will also be reporting back in a future issue of the Explorer on how you can properly deduct membership dues and donations from your 1998 tax returns.

## FOE AT CLIMATE BEST FEST

By Kathy Korbholz

The Friends of Edgewood participated in Redwood City’s annual Climate Best Fest on September 20 and 21. Our two goals were to solicit new members and to tell the Edgewood story, sparking public interest in the Preserve.



Our booth on Broadway was ably staffed by Frank Figoni, Laverne Rabinowitz, Bob and Elly Hess, Jan Simpson, Sandy Cooperman, Carolyn Curtis and Don Mayall, Peter Ingram, and Bill and me. Peter also helped haul material to and from the site on both days.

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## ROCKY'S CORNER

By Judy Grimsby

This is the replacement name for the former title "Ranger Roundup," and my first of many entries in the Friends of Edgewood publication. I will do my best to give you a rundown of what the park staff is doing at Edgewood.

During the latter part of August and the month of September the staff and crew have been working on winterizing the Clarkia trail. This is a very laborious job as larger drain rock and finer trail rock must be shoveled and raked manually. The results look great and we have received many fine compliments.

We are making a special effort to educate bike violators not to ride in our park. We have a pamphlet on where bikers can ride. If they are caught riding in our park, there is a substantial fine for such a simple offense. With all the effort from staff and volunteers, hopefully the offenders will get the message.

We are also clearing and constructing drainage ditches and repairing the tread on the Edgewood trail. Depending on time and people power, we will be addressing other problem areas as well. With so much attention on trail maintenance and construction, all your volunteer trail patrols are invaluable and essential to us.

The end of September has brought the cooler weather and my favorite time of the year. I enjoy seeing the change of seasons. With the change comes the leaves and soon rain.

On September 26<sup>th</sup> our park was viciously attacked again at night. This time 273 feet and \$2,000 of habitat barriers were destroyed. Replacement of the habitat barrier will begin shortly as people power and supplies come in. On October 15<sup>th</sup> our rollover scraper box to the Kubota tractor was stolen from the Clarkia trail near Cañada Road. We have since replaced it, but have lost that time for trail work.

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

By Bill Korbholz

With the culmination of 1997 and the anticipation of the new year, our organization finds itself at a pivotal point in its development.

1997 marked the fulfillment of two critical and long-term goals for the Friends. The **first** was the adoption in May by the County Board of Supervisors of a high-quality preservation-oriented Master Plan for Edgewood. Those of you who read the Explorer will know that many Friends and supporters worked hard for over two years toward this accomplishment. The **second** important goal which we met this year was the completion of our efforts to incorporate as a nonprofit public benefit corporation (see article on page 1).

Clearly, these are tremendous milestones for us, and I'm extremely proud of what we've done and grateful to all who have helped. Considering these accomplishments together with the very healthy state of our ongoing volunteer activities such as weeding, trail patrol, and of course the docent program, you can't help but wonder, "Where do we go from here?" And that's precisely why I consider this a pivotal point for us.

I believe 1998 will be our most challenging year ever, because we will be breaking so much new ground. 1998 will be our first year of operation as a corporate entity, and we will be exploring and understanding the implications of corporate citizenry. Further, 1998 will be Edgewood's first full year of operation under its new Master Plan, and we will take great interest in the County's implementation of this Plan. Finally, in 1998 we will begin the process of re-evaluating and refining our roles, responsibilities, and relationships with County organizations and staff and other volunteer groups.

In 1998 the Friends will enter the next stage of our organization's development process, and I couldn't be more excited about it.

## A CLOSER LOOK AT THE FLOWER BLUE DICKS

By Bob Young

*This is the first of a series of articles describing the flowers pictured in our wildflower brochure. — ed.*

The flower Blue Dicks appears in the brochure "Common Native Wildflowers of Edgewood Preserve," published jointly by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve.



You will see it blooming on Edgewood grasslands and in open woodlands from March to May. Its two or three grasslike leaves sprout in the springtime from a fibrous bulb (a corm). A flower stalk soon grows upward, reaching sometimes two feet tall. At the top of the stalk there is a tight cluster of violet-blue flowers, varying sometimes from deep violet to white.

It is in the lily family of plants. Some botanists have split this family into many sub-families, including the Amaryllis family. In some books, therefore, you may find Blue Dicks classified as a member of the Amaryllis family.

The scientific name of Blue Dicks is *Dichelostemma capitatum* (pronounced dye-kuh-

LAW-stem-muh kap-ih-TAY-tum).

*Dichelostemma* comes from the Greek and means two-part clawlike structures which forms a crown shape. This crown is generally hidden in the throat of the flower tube.

On the Pacific Coast Blue Dicks is found generally from the sea coast to about 7000 feet elevation, from southern Oregon to northern Mexico, and east to Utah, Arizona and New Mexico.

The first designation as *Dichelostemma capitatum* was made in 1868. Prior to that time, in 1857, it was named *Brodiaea capitata*. In some books you will find Blue Dicks is given the scientific name *Brodiaea pulchella*. It is now generally accepted that the *Brodiaea* group of plants is split into three genera: *Dichelostemma*, *Triteleia*, and *Brodiaea*. All of these genera occur at Edgewood.

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## DOCENT DOINGS

Docent training is about half completed, and we're pleased to welcome the following new prospective docents for 1998:

- Bob Archibald
- Anne Curran
- Herb Fischgrund
- Katherine Greene
- Peter Ingram
- Roger Myers
- Susan Peterson
- Mary Anne Leary
- Jean Struthers

Dianne Hunt is our new docent coordinator, and we're excited about the enthusiasm and energy that she'll bring with her to that position.

Wildflower walks will begin again in March. A flyer with the complete schedule will be included in the next issue of the Explorer.

For the latest information, check out the wildflower hotline later this spring.

## FOOD, FUN, ELECTIONS, AND AWARDS HIGHLIGHT GENERAL MEETING

By Bill Korbholz

We had our best attendance yet at this year's annual general meeting and potluck which took place October 5. Joining the 40 or so Friends were special guests Supervisor Mary Griffin, Parks & Rec. Commissioner Linda Dyson, Park Supervisor Kendall Simmons, Volunteer Coordinator Lynne Fritz., Ranger Tom Baker, and Former Commissioner Nita Spangler.

After we all enjoyed the delicious foods and beverages, Bill Korbholz called the meeting to order and presented the annual President's Report, providing status on the priorities set last January. The three main categories of emphasis were preserve operations, FOE organization, and program development. In the first two categories, much progress has been made. We still have lots of opportunities for continued program development. See Bill's article "The Year in Review" on page 1.

We then heard reports from John Allen (weed eradication), Peter Ingram (incorporation status), Kathy Korbholz (Climate Best Fest), Nancy Mangini (trail patrol), Jan Simpson (docents), Tom Baker (preserve operations), Kathy (newsletter), and Frank Figoni (exhibits).

Bill then gave special thanks to Laverne Rabinowitz, the Friends first and only recording secretary beginning in 1994, who is stepping down from that role. He also extended special thanks to Jan Simpson for her hard work over the past 3 years as docent coordinator. Jan is retiring, and will be replaced by Dianne Hunt.

Next, we turned to electing officers for 1998. By voice vote, the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee was elected. They are Bill Korbholz (President), Peter Ingram (Vice President), Al David (Secretary), and Bob Young (Treasurer).

As the highlight of the meeting, Bill presented

the 1997 Best Friend of Edgewood award to Carolyn Curtis for her passionate leadership and many achievements in six years of hard work and dedication to the Friends and to the Preserve.



Carolyn Curtis accepts Best Friend award from Bill Korbholz

## FRIENDS OF EDGEWOOD T-SHIRTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

By popular demand, we now have Friends of Edgewood T-shirts available. The shirts are high-quality Hanes BEEFY-T's, made of 100% preshrunk cotton. They are off-white in color, and display a beautiful color image of a Bay Checkerspot butterfly resting on a cluster of California poppies. The photo was taken on the serpentine grassland near the Sunset entrance. (Could it get more "Edgewood?")

The shirts provide a great way to show your appreciation of Edgewood and support for the Friends. They sell for \$20 and come in large and extra large sizes.

Many docents have already purchased these shirts for themselves, and they will be offering them to visitors this spring.

To get yours before they run out, call Kathy Korbholz.

We made FOE T-shirts for those staffing the booth to help draw interest. They were so popular that we made additional shirts which are now available for sale to the general public. See related article on page 4.

Although the festival in general was not heavily attended, we had a fairly good showing at our booth as we signed up several new members, sold many wildflower brochures, made some good contacts, and distributed information about Edgewood. This was an important community outreach event for the Friends.

The native plant garden is coming along nicely—come take a look. During the winter time the staff doesn't drive through the park due to road damage so if you are out for a walk and see anything good or bad please let us know.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all

the wonderful volunteers who share their valuable time here at Edgewood! I'm pleased to know you also believe Edgewood is a wonderful place to work and play. If anyone is interested in winter ditch patrolling please give us a call and we will show you what it is all about.

Patrolling in Edgewood, I love to see families with their children enjoying the many diverse resources such as picnicking and hiking. When you really think about Edgewood, and other parks as well, we are really conserving and preserving natural places for our children and the next generations! Thanks to all our work, we have a precious, natural place to love.

**APOLOGIA**

This issue of the Explorer is a little late and a little shorter than usual. Kathy contracted a very serious case of pneumonia at the end of the year and is still recovering. — ed.'s husband

**MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER**

New or continuing members of the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve are asked to pay membership dues annually to offset the expenses associated with preserving Edgewood. If you would like to join the Friends, continue your membership, or simply make a contribution, please clip and complete this section. Mail it to the return address on the back of this panel with your check payable to **Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve**. In return, you will receive four more issues of the Edgewood Explorer and the full-color brochure *Common Native Wildflowers of Edgewood*.

- \$15 Basic Membership (includes newsletter)
- \$25 Family Membership (newsletter)
- \$7 Student/Retired Membership (newsletter)
- \$50 Supporting Membership (newsletter, *Edgewood Checklist of Plants*, and Edgewood photo greeting cards (boxed set))
- \$100 Benefactor Membership (newsletter, *Checklist*, greeting cards, and 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*)
- \$250 Patron Membership (newsletter, *Edgewood Checklist of Plants*, greeting cards, video, and 16x20 photo-poster)
- I am enclosing a gift of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park* at \$15 each.
- Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the *Edgewood Checklist of Plants* at \$3 each.

- Particular interests:*
- Public relations
  - Docent
  - Exotics control
  - Newsletter
  - Trail patrol
  - Revegetation
  - Community outreach

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone Work Telephone





## UPCOMING EVENTS

o *Weekends beginning March*, **EDGEWOOD WILDFLOWER WALKS**. Watch for a flyer in the next issue of the Explorer with the dates, times, and meeting places.

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Friends of Edgewood are pleased to report that the long-vacant Community Outreach chair has been filled by Carol Hankermeyer. As chairperson of the Friends' budding outreach program, Carol has begun contacting local schools to establish areas of mutual interest.

If you know of opportunities for education or community service at Edgewood or would like to help, please contact Carol.

## VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED

On September 27, San Mateo County Parks hosted a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon and BBQ to honor all County Parks volunteers.

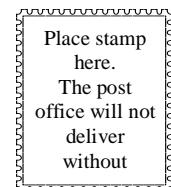
Friends Choice Awards for significant contributions through a volunteer support group were presented to our own Frank Figoni, Elly Hess, Jan Simpson, and Ken Himes.

A Volunteer Citation Award, for volunteers who have given outstanding support, dedication, and contributions to the parks, was presented to Carolyn Curtis.

And the Friends of Edgewood organization was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.

The Edgewood Explorer is published four times yearly by the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve, a nonprofit organization dedicated to keeping Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve a place for all to enjoy the natural beauty and habitat. The newsletter is produced by Kathy Korbholz with assistance from Laverne Rabinowitz and contributions from many Friends.

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## FIRST CLASS