

Edgewood



Explorer

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POETRY IN THE PARK

By Carol Hankermeyer



Poetry in the Park was the theme for the fall Edgewood program at the San Carlos Charter Learning Center (SCCLC). It was a four-week seminar chosen by nine 2nd and 3rd graders interested in both writing and nature. I first conducted a class at the school on poetry writing techniques, reading examples of nature poems to the children. The second week we explored the Sylvan Trail, using all our senses to learn about the plants and animals of Edgewood Preserve.

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5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By Kathy Korbholz

Approximately 40 Friends of Edgewood



members and guests gathered for a potluck and general meeting at the Day Camp on Sunday

Lynne Fritz, Ricardo Trejo, Mary Burns, Rick Munds

October 18 at 3 p.m. After we enjoyed the delicious food that people brought, Bill Korbholz called the meeting to order.

The following special guests attended the meeting:

- Jerry Hill, San Mateo County Supervisor-elect
- Mary Burns, new Director of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation
- Lynne Fritz, San Mateo County Parks Superintendent
- Nick Ramirez, new Volunteer Coordinator for San Mateo County Parks
- Jean Struthers, President, Santa Clara Valley Chapter, CNPS
- Ricardo Trejo and Rick Munds, Edgewood



Bill Korbholz, Carol Belew, Jerry Hill

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A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CALIFORNIA POPPY

By Bob Young

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



Photograph by Kathy Korbholz

California Poppy is shown in the brochure "Common Native Wildflowers of Edgewood," published jointly by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve.

The scientific name for the California Poppy is *Eschscholzia californica* (pronounced eh-SHOLTZ-ee-uh cal-ih-FOR-nih-cuh). Naturalist Adelbert von Chamisso gave this name in 1820 in honor of Dr. Johann Friedrich Eschscholtz. Both Chamisso and Eschscholtz were on an expedition by ship to the Pacific coast in 1817 sponsored by the Russian Count Nikolai Romanzoff. Eschscholtz was the ship's doctor. (Note that the poppy genus does not have a "t" in its name; whereas, Dr. Eschscholtz's name is spelled with the "t.") Chamisso and Eschscholtz made the original collection of the California Poppy near the Presidio in San Francisco. Chamisso also named another genus, *Romanzoffia*, in honor of Romanzoff. In San Mateo County we have the plant *Romanzoffia californica*, Mist Maidens.

On another voyage, in 1826, Eschscholtz discovered a lupine on California beaches and named it in honor of his friend Chamisso. The lupine is *Lupinus chamissonis*.

In 1903 the California Poppy was named our state flower. It is quite often an annual; however, if the associated heavy taproot develops fully, it can become a perennial. As its four yellow to orange (sometimes white) satiny petals are developing, two sepals wrap around and cover them like a tall cap. These sepals are shed as the petals expand. After the flower is pollinated, the petals are shed and a long seedpod develops. Our poppy does not like competition from other plants, especially grasses. A sunny, dry, gravelly open area is preferred.

The California Poppy blooms with large spring flowers and again in summer with smaller, lighter-colored flowers. In the evening or during cloudy weather the four fan-shaped petals fold up. Waking up late in the morning earned our poppy the Spanish name of "dormidera," (the drowsy one). Other Spanish names are "amapola" (poppy), and "copa de oro" (cup or wineglass of gold).

PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL

By Bill Korbholz



This month marks the end of my third year as President.

It's been my distinct privilege and pleasure to have worked with so many quality people and to have done my bit to advance the cause of preserving

Edgewood for the plant, animal, and human generations to come.

Generally at this time I recap the year's accomplishments and look ahead to the coming year. But as my tenure as President ends, I'd like

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Rangers

After introducing FoE officers and committee chairs, Bill presented his president's report. He cited the three major challenges facing FoE this past year:

1. Transitioning to operation as a corporate entity.
2. Supporting Parks & Rec in implementing Edgewood's Master Plan.
3. Redefining and strengthening relationships with County Staff and other volunteer groups.

After we heard reports from committee chairs, Vice President Peter Ingram summarized the special process to be followed this year to elect Directors and amend and adopt the corporate bylaws. By unanimous consent, the new corporate bylaws were adopted and the following

new Directors were elected:

- Carol Belew
- Toni Corelli
- Peter Ingram
- Kathy Korbholz
- Lennie Roberts
- Bob Young



Jean Struthers

Bill then turned to the presentation of awards for the year. In a new award category, **Jean Struthers**, President of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of CNPS, accepted a certificate of appreciation given to

CNPS for recognizing the special nature of Edgewood and for having the vision to fight for its preservation.

This year two Best Friends awards were presented. **Dianne Hunt** was honored as a Best Friend for her enthusiastic leadership, creativity, and tireless efforts coordinating the docent-led wildflower walks and training new docents



Dianne Hunt, Carol Hankermeyer

during the 1997-1998 season.

Carol Hankermeyer was honored as a Best Friend for her innovation, perseverance, and patience in conceiving, developing, and conducting the first Friends of Edgewood community outreach program for local school

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to take a slightly broader perspective of what we've accomplished and what we're about.

During these past three years, we've witnessed many significant achievements: the adoption of Edgewood's Master Plan (many of us still wear the battle scars of that little episode), our own organization's incorporation, the creation of a new Community Outreach program, and the strengthening of existing programs such as Weeding, Trail Patrol, Exhibits, and of course the Docents.

We've also experienced some transitions: Ron Weaver->Lynne Fritz->Tom Baker->Ricardo Trejo; Patrick Sanchez->Mary Burns. I believe that we've all learned and grown a little from going through these changes and I sincerely hope that our ongoing relationship with County Staff will continue to be a healthy and mutually beneficial one.

As much as I've enjoyed serving as your President, it is right to step aside and allow others to lead. I believe our incoming Board of Directors will be the strongest and most talented yet, and I know that our organization is in good hands. The years ahead will bring some very

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FRIENDS TO ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

By Kathy Korbholz



Help place the Friends of Edgewood name here!

The Friends of Edgewood are working with local resident, Ken Seydel to adopt the portion of Highway 280 that borders Edgewood Natural Preserve. Ken has been taking care of the 2-mile stretch for the last 10 years; he describes his experience as enjoyable and rewarding. He spends 16-20 hours every other month and has found everything from 100 yards of Styrofoam "peanuts" to \$150.00. Now that he has retired he has *less* time and wants some help.

Ken has offered to allow the Friends of Edgewood to take over responsibility. At the November meeting the Board of Directors voted to pursue Ken's generous offer. In exchange for the Friends commitment, CalTrans will post an Adopt-A-Highway sponsorship sign advertising the Friends of Edgewood. In the future Friends of Edgewood may extend the effort to include removal of invasive weeds threatening Edgewood and planting of preserve-safe wildflowers.

Interested in participating? The Friends of Edgewood is looking for 8-10 volunteers to make a one-year commitment for 1999 to work one Saturday morning, every other month. Those selected will receive a hardhat, an orange safety vest, a picker (to grab trash without bending over) and training by CalTrans. The training will be arranged in January; the first cleanup day will

be February 6th. Only a few openings remain. Interested people should call Bill Korbholz at the Friends of Edgewood office no later than 12/31/99. **Don't wait until after the holidays - call today.** `

RANGER RIC'S ROUNDUP

By Ricardo Trejo

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. Rangers Ricardo Trejo and Ric Munds are assigned to Edgewood Park. Ricardo, a twenty-two year employee of San Mateo County Park system transferred from San Bruno Mountain Park. Ric was transferred from Junipero Sierra Park. Rangers Tom and Judy have moved on to other assignments.



We have had an opportunity of meeting several members of the Friends of Edgewood on the trails, at the yearly

meeting, and when the members have been on patrol. We are looking forward to meeting you all, and continuing a healthy friendship rapport.

Since we have been assigned to Edgewood Park and Preserve, we have been concentrating on trail restoration and have assisted Ken Himes with exotic plant removal. We have received several positive comments from many park visitors in these areas.

Any questions, concerns, and/or comments, please write to us using the Park Administration office address, attention Edgewood Park. Or call us at the Ranger shop. We are here to serve every aspect of the park.

Until we see you all in the park, we are the Ranger Ric's of Edgewood Park. `

WEED, SEED, AND FEED

By Dianne Hunt

On November 15, 1998, Susan Sommers and Ken Himes lead our first "Seed & Feed," planting Purple Needle Grass seedlings. Ken Himes did a wonderful presentation on Oaks in Edgewood Preserve on the way back.



Participants included: John Allen, John King, Alex Maksymowicz, Mary Anne Leary, Kathryn Strachota, Dianne Hunt and Susan Peterson. We ended with a scrumptious potluck in the Day Camp.

On November 21, 1998, Ken Himes lead a "Weed & Feed." Participants included: Kate Connors, Connie Shimizu, Alex Maksymowicz, Chris Wilson, Kathryn Strachota, Rob Parker and daughter, Mary Anne Leary, John Allen, Kathy & Bill Korbholz, Carol Hankermeyer and Paul Heiple. We ended with another delicious potluck including hot soup from Kathy Korbholz and pumpkin pies by Connie Shimizu.

Thanks to all for participating. We will be



skipping December and January for the Winter. Our next "Weed & Feed" date will be Sunday,

February 28, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. at the Day Camp.

Please mark your calendar and come out and support this very worthwhile, fun and delicious event!!!`

DOCENT TRAINING UPDATE

By Dianne Hunt

Docent training is well underway. We've already completed our first two evening sessions and field trips. Thanks to Susan Sommers, John Allen, Paul Heiple and Ken Himes for their excellent training.

We have fifteen new docent trainees for the 1999 season:

- Tony Allison
- Harry Cornbleet
- Marcia Donovan
- Mark Ellis
- Charlene Jolly
- Anne Koletzke
- Ines Linzmeyer
- Alex Maksymowicz
- Denise Montlack
- Toni Sousa
- Judy Spitler
- Kathryn Strachota
- Mark Taube
- Mary Thompson
- Chris Wilson

Our next docent training session will take place on Wednesday, January 13, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. with a presentation by Ken Himes. Our follow-up hike will be on the following Saturday, January 16. Anyone interested in joining us, please contact Dianne Hunt, Docent Coordinator. We are also in need of Mentors for the new trainees if anyone is interested.

I would also like to thank my Assistant, Katherine Greene, for all the help she is giving me.`

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Students took notes on plant and animal names and described how they looked, smelled, sounded, and felt. At the next class meeting I showed students serpentine rock samples and pictures of the Edgewood grassland in the spring. Then they used their field notes to write poems about their experience in the Park.

The finale was another grand hike on the Edgewood Trail, followed by lunch and student poetry reading in the picnic area. After you've read their work, I think you will agree that these very young students did a fine job with their poems. Elise Bowie, who provided transportation and attended every session, was a great asset to the seminar. We also thank Sheri Esguerra, Kelly Christensen and Lin Lipinski for their assistance in making this seminar possible. It was a rewarding experience for all.

Inga Davis, Resource Choreographer for SCCLC, will continue to keep the school actively involved with Edgewood. She hopes SCCLC will provide a model of stewardship for other Bay Area schools.

I see a squirrel squirreling around
Gathering his nuts before winter comes
The bark smells like cinnamon
It smells very good
Rainbows fly in the sky
We found a path way
We also found some deer at the end of the path
We found a waterfall
I felt something soft and green

—Katie

A beautiful tree with a fly so cold he can't move
A beautiful bird singing at the waterfall at Edgewood park
Pitter-patter went the water
My hair blows in the wind
Deers prance in the park
Oh what a Beautiful Park for you
Relax in the sun shine
having a wonderful time
In the wide open world of big blue shine
Edgewood Trees are as beautiful as you
Tree gum drips from bark
Rainbows fly through the sky
Just like dancing prairies

—Carly

TREES

Trees, trees, trees
you are so beautiful
because you give us soothing air that we breathe

Trees, trees, trees
you feel so splendid and soft
Your bark is so hard and bumpy
I love to hug you

—James

EDGEWOOD PARK

Edgewood Park is peaceful
Edgewood is the best
I love Edgewood Park
It has animals and trees and plants
I love the animals too
The most best park is Edgewood Park

—James

The wind in my face
The waterfalls suddenly turned into
The shadows of the Redwood Trees
Then they turned into beautiful rainbows
I jump on one
I fly in the light blue sky
I slip through the white clear clouds
and I stop in the green soft grass
I pick a flower

—Jenny

The free sharing trees
The jumping squirrels
Tree to Tree
Bark of the Willow Tree is talking to me

—Natalie

HIKE

I see a squirrel
as beautiful as a leaf
I see Oak that come from Edgewood Park trees
The spaghetti trees smell like sauce
I can see sticks
that I can toss
I see everything
and I see me
The dirt so soft
as soft as moss
I see a rock
I might see a hawk
And the world will
open his arms to me

—LaVondra

THE EDGEWOOD PARK

The Edgewood Park bark is bumpy and brown
Rocks are gray and sharp
Leaves are green and yellow
The flowers are yellow and pink and purple white
Edgewood Park is beautiful and green
Rocks and yellow flowers

—Heather

REINFORCEMENTS WAITING TO HAPPEN

By Carolyn Curtis

Does your company (employer) have a community service volunteer program? Many corporations do, especially large ones. You can publicize our weeding schedule through the volunteer program and get more people involved in our escaped exotics removal efforts. Unlike many volunteer opportunities on community service bulletin boards, this one's outdoors.

If you think your company might have a community service/volunteer program, investigate it (usually ask Human Resources) and then get in touch with me about what to post. Call or email.

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exciting and challenging opportunities for us in fulfilling our mission.

Thanks to all of you for your support, particularly those of you who have been active on the Executive Board, in committees, and in the field (er, Preserve). And special thanks to Kathy for her constant patience and encouragement, her creative ideas, and of course her gracious hospitality at many Friends events.

In closing, I encourage everyone to stay involved: there's a lot more work to do and we absolutely depend on volunteers such as yourselves to keep Edgewood healthy.

IS YOUR NEWSLETTER LATE?

Our nonprofit status entitles us to use bulk mail rates for mailings. This halves our mailing costs, but causes some delays in deliveries, especially to those living outside of Redwood City. So if your friends receive their newsletter before you do, be patient—yours should arrive soon.

MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

New or continuing members of the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve are asked to pay **tax-deductible** 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*.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Home Telephone Work Telephone

- \$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



UPCOMING EVENTS

o *Saturday, February 6, **FIRST ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP DAY.*** To sign up for the January training, call Bill Korbholz at the Friends of Edgewood office, no later than 12/31/99.

o *Sunday, February 28, 9 a.m., **WEED-N-FEED.*** Meet at the Day Camp entrance. Bring work gloves and a potluck dish to share.

o *Weekends from March 6 through June 27, **EDGEWOOD WILDFLOWER WALKS.*** Watch for a flyer in the next issue of the Explorer describing meeting places and docent leaders.

FRIENDS GETS WIRED

Check out the new Friends of Edgewood web site at www.friendsofedgeswood.org. It's chock full of interesting information about Edgewood and its Friends. You'll find:

- detailed and up-to-date information about all FoE activities,
- general information about Edgewood, including location, trail, and resource maps,
- a complete archive of all Edgewood Explorer issues, past and current.

You can search the FoE web to find information on your favorite Edgewood topic.

FoE can also be reached by email at info@friendsofedgeswood.org or by phone or fax. `

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 Bill and Kathy Korbholz with assistance from Laverne Rabinowitz and contributions from many Friends. To contact the Friends of Edgewood, call or fax (650) 361-1218 or email info@friendsofedgeswood.org.

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