

Edgewood



Explorer

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GOOD NEWS FOR THE EDUCATION CENTER

by **Bill Korbholz**

Readers may remember my disheartening article in the last *Explorer* (September 2009) in which I reported that bids for the Edgewood Education Center had come in way over the budget of the Parks Foundation, and that “absent a miracle, I’m afraid we are not going to break ground this year, as we had hoped.”

Well, if you accept “any amazing or wonderful occurrence” as the definition of a miracle, then what has happened truly qualifies. The Education Center is fully funded, and the construction contract will be awarded in the coming weeks! The Bill and Jean Lane Education Center will open in 2010!

Now let me recount the incredible ending of this story that began way back in 1998 when the Parks Foundation was founded with a mandate to raise money for a Visitors’ Center at Edgewood.

After achieving interim goals of producing the Conceptual Plan and architectural drawings of the Center, the Foundation successfully raised funds for improvements to the outer parking lot, construction of the pedestrian bridge, and restoration of the adjacent Cordilleras Creek riparian habitat—work that was completed in 2005. Fundraising continued as the detailed design documents were developed for the building and the exhibits. Finally, a request for construction bids was made in June 2009.

Fifteen contractors submitted construction bids last July, which is when we realized we were in trouble. During the 90-day bid-acceptance period that ended October 28, the Foundation explored various ways to meet the acceptance criteria, including cost reductions, borrowing money, and of course, soliciting further donations. As Parks Foundation Executive Director Julia Bott remarked, “We turned over every serpentine boulder we could find.” On October 1 we began discussions with Parks Director Dave Holland to see if the County could help.

Dave had always been a strong supporter of this project, but until now, the County had had a fairly limited financial investment. That all changed on October 1, when Dave recognized that we had reached a critical point in this pro-

ject, and that failing to accept a bid would cause significant delays.

So Dave carved out money from his own Parks Department budget, reallocating funds that were being held for future projects and making them available for Edgewood’s Education Center. With funding secured, Public Works staff reopened discussions with the contractor.

If all goes as planned, the County Board of Supervisors will award the contract in January 2010, and a ceremonial groundbreaking will be scheduled shortly thereafter. Look for details at www.friendsofedgeswood.org.

I know the leadership of the Friends of Edgewood shares my excitement over the realization of this long-sought goal. By informing visitors of Edgewood’s natural resources, the Center will inspire stewardship that ultimately will benefit Edgewood’s ecosystem and support our efforts to keep it healthy. Although the Center won’t be available for the

spring 2010 docent walks, it will soon serve as an indispensable component of our interpretive programs.

Most of you reading this have contributed toward the funding of the Education Center, and once again, I wish to thank you for your generous support. I hope to see you at the groundbreaking ceremony, and look forward with great anticipation to the grand opening in 2010. 📷



Rendering of the proposed Education Center

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IT'S NOT JUST WHO'S SNARED, BUT HOW OTHERS GET SCARED

by Carolyn J. Strange

Who's afraid of the big bad wolf—or mountain lion—and how they react sometimes matters more to an ecosystem than how many prey get eaten.

People have long accepted that apex predators shape ecosystems and help keep them healthy, but in many cases more is involved than just lower prey numbers. What is less widely known is that the *indirect* effects predators have on prey behavior may be as important, if not more so, than the direct lethal effects of their predation, especially among larger mammals.

Several studies indicate that top carnivores preserve biodiversity in some places because they bring with them a previously ignored natural element: fear. By altering prey behavior, fear can trigger cascading effects throughout ecosystems.

The best-known example of what is called the “ecology of fear” comes from Yellowstone. Research showed that the extermination of wolves in the mid-1920s coincided with the beginning of a steady decline of streamside, or riparian, systems in Yellowstone. In healthy riparian areas, aspens, cottonwoods, willows and other vegetation in various stages of maturity stabilize stream banks and support wildlife, including beaver and a range of birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. With the wolf gone, increasing numbers of elk lingered longer by streams, munching young trees before they could get established, and eventually changing the ecosystem so much that beaver also disappeared in some places.

Ecosystem recovery in Yellowstone began when wolves were reintroduced 70 years later. Elk numbers dropped somewhat, but more importantly, the elk changed their behavior and use of space to avoid what were now high-risk riparian areas. They spent more time on hillsides and deeper in the forest—places where they could more easily see and flee wolves—and as a result aspens returned to places where they hadn't grown in decades. (Indeed, a separate study of wolf-elk kill sites suggests that landscape features often tip the balance in predator-prey outcomes.) Subsequent research elsewhere in the Rockies supported these findings.



Mountain Lion (*Puma concolor*) Photo © Bruce Dale for National Geographic

An additional avenue of influence is that the presence of top carnivores also suppresses populations of meso-predators, such as coyotes, which is why pronghorns often fare better where wolves patrol. Pronghorn fawns are generally too small for wolves to bother with, but just right for coyotes. It has also been shown that other predators, such as human hunters, influence prey behavior too.

A similar story with characters more relevant to Edgewood played out in Zion National Park, where the loss of cougars and the subsequent increase in deer triggered a cascade of environmental degradation affecting a broad range of terrestrial and aquatic species. Zion Canyon has attracted tourists since the early 1900s, an increasing human influx that chased away cougars, but not deer, which voraciously denuded stream banks of vegetation that had once

provided shade and erosion protection. As a result, plant and animal species that depend on these floodplains have suffered. Researchers say that cottonwoods may disappear from areas of Zion accessible to deer unless something is done.

A watershed having similar ecology is not far from Zion, but it is roadless and remote enough to still have cougars, and thus fewer mule deer. There, stream banks have 50 times more young cottonwoods than Zion, as well as thriving populations of flowers,

lizards, butterflies, and several species of water-loving plants that help stabilize stream banks.

Closer to home, scientists report that displacement of cougars from Yosemite in the 1920s set the stage for the demise of black oak trees, which are key to the park's plant and wildlife ecology. Prescribed burning, intended to prevent conifer invasion and overtopping, doesn't work for the National Park Service the way it did for Native Americans, because abundant, loitering deer eat the oak seedlings, as well as other forest shrubs and understory.

How does all this relate to Edgewood? Scientists' growing understanding of the ecology of fear further reinforces the critical role of top predators within ecosystems, which is worth pondering, given the sporadic mountain lion sightings we have had in recent years. The pumas that apparently pass through the Preserve every so often may exert an ecosystem effect beyond venison dinners. Cruising cougars may also influence deer behavior with unknown, but possibly healthy, ecosystem effects. ☺

SAN MATEO COUNTRY TRAIL PATROL REPORT

by Carla Schoof, Volunteer Coordinator for San Mateo County Parks

You may wonder who makes the best Trail Patrol volunteer. There is no single talent or experience that makes for the ideal Trail Patrol volunteer. However, if you enjoy being on the trails and like the idea of volunteering while doing what you love, then Trail Patrol could be in your future. Trail Patrol volunteers are an important asset to the County Parks. They serve as an extra set of eyes, ears, and legs for park rangers, who simply can't be on all the trails all the time. Trail Patrol volunteers hike the trails looking for and reporting hazards to park staff. They are also wonderful resources for answering visitors' trail questions, while at the same time reminding visitors of the need to stay on trails and leave the family dog at home. Recently, two new volunteers joined the ranks of the Trail Patrol: Joe Romani, a student who enjoys being outdoors and who has hiked many area trails, and Chris Moore, a retiree, a photographer, and an avid hiker.



Becoming a Trail Patrol volunteer is not difficult, but there is an application and training process that not only allows applicants to fully understand what will be expected of them, but also allows Parks Department staff and those who are already volunteers to assess a prospective volunteer's background and ability. An applicant fills out a two-page application form before being interviewed by Parks Department staff and volunteers. Once a prospective volunteer has successfully completed the application and interview process, he or she is assigned to an experienced Trail Patrol volunteer and the fun begins. After completing this third phase of the training program, and conducting several supervised walks, the new Trail Patrol volunteer is ready to take to the trails on his or her own. For an application and more information, contact me at cschoof@co.sanmateo.ca.us.

If riding a horse is more your style than hiking, the Volunteer Horse Patrol provides a volunteer opportunity similar to that of Trail Patrol. Of course the prospective volunteer



needs to have a horse, and the screening process and training time are a little more extensive. Volunteer Horse Patrol is active at Edgewood, Huddart, Wunderlich, and Pescadero Creek County Parks.

To learn more, contact Rob Krensky at rob@krensky.com.



UPDATE ON THE THORNMINT PROJECT

by Christal Niederer

Did you know there's a plant found ONLY at Edgewood? In fact, when some people were planning to turn Edgewood into a golf course, the discovery of the San Mateo thormmint (*Acanthomintha duttonii*) was important proof that Edgewood contained rare species and was worth saving. Historical populations are known from the San Francisco Water District property and Emerald Hills, but these colonies have long since faded away. And sadly the last remaining population at Edgewood has been in decline for years. In 1998, 53,000 individuals were estimated; in 2008, a careful census yielded only 249. This diminutive annual mint is being overrun by invasive annual rye grass, and may be suffering from altered water flows uphill.



Thormmint Photo © Christal Niederer

With time apparently running out for this endangered species, biologists from Creekside Center for Earth Observation secured a Preventing Extinction grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The project includes nursery propagation and habitat restoration work, as well as potential for reintroductions on suitable habitat owned by the San Francisco Water District.

Plants were grown at the UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley, using seed collected years ago from Edgewood. Although still small, nursery-grown plants grow larger and produce more seeds than their wild counterparts, especially in dry years. In early November, 12,500 thormmint seeds from those propagated plants were planted near existing thormmint in Edgewood. Planted areas were treated with scraping or hand weeding, and a biologist and volunteers have been diligently hand watering the seeds. By late November, tiny seedlings had begun emerging.



Thormmint site preparation Photo © Christal Niederer

The plan is to continue habitat improvement and seeding at Edgewood next year. Biologists may also treat and seed additional sites near Edgewood that contain the uncommon serpentine clay that hosts the thormmint.

While we'd love to share our project up close, we ask that you respect the sensitivity of this last remaining population and stay on the trails to prevent trampling this tiny annual mint. ☺

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

by Anne Koletzke

Dear Readers,

I cannot tell you how astonished m.m., the meadow mouse, and I were when he received not one but four pieces of fan mail from the human readers of this newsletter. Indeed, m.m. was so flustered by all the attention, he had to go stay with relatives in Pulgas Ridge Open Space Preserve for a few weeks to recuperate and put things into proper perspective.

In the meantime, while Edgewood's humans were writing m.m., Edgewood's animals were writing me—not fan letters, mind you, but letters about themselves and what it's like living in Edgewood. Apparently these creatures have been wanting to communicate with Edgewood's humans for some time, but haven't known how. Now, thanks to m.m., they do—and judging from the pile of letters overflowing my inbox, they are making up for lost time.

"Whatever am I going to do with so many letters?" I asked m.m. while sitting with him beside the opening of his burrow.

"Print them," he said.

"All of them?" I asked incredulously. "There are so many!"

"Well not all at once, of course," he replied. "Just one or two every issue."

"But if I do that, there won't be any room left for me to write anything!"

The silence was deafening, while m.m. suddenly became intensely focused on grooming his whiskers.

"I see. That's what you want—you want me to stop writing and dedicate this column full time to letters from Edgewood's animals."

More silence.

Finally, after clearing his throat numerous times and obviously taking great pains to choose his words carefully, m.m. spoke. "Although it seems immodest for me to say so, the fact remains that I have received four pieces of fan mail, *human* fan mail—which, no matter how you count it, is four more than you. It would seem to me this might indicate that your readers prefer hearing from an animal rather than hearing from you. This is no reflection on you at all, as the simple truth is, no matter how much research you do, you are never going to know as much about an animal as that animal is going to know about itself"

"You're good," I replied with a laugh. "You're really, really good. You should have gone into politics. OK, I'm game. Let's give it a try and see what happens. But I'm afraid I'm going to need your help sorting through all these

letters and, if necessary, contacting the writers if I have any questions."

"Of course!" m.m. said. "Edgewood's first Field Reporter and Liaison to the Editor at your service!" And then, because he was so delighted with how things had worked out, he did a little hopping dance.

"Where shall we begin?" he asked.

"Well," I said, "I was thinking we could just start with the first letter that came in—particularly since it also has the advantage of being quite short."

"Who's it from?" m.m. asked in excited anticipation.

"You tell me, I replied."

Hullo,

Please read this from *The Wind in the Willows*, Chapter 4, page 70, paragraph 5, line 5 to the end of the paragraph., and guess who I am—

"Once well underground. . . you know exactly where you are. Nothing can happen to you, and nothing can get at you. You're entirely your own master, and you don't have to consult anybody or mind what they say. Things go on all the same overhead, and you let 'em, and don't bother about 'em. When you want to, up you go, and there the things are, waiting for you."

Give up? See photo for hint.**More later, M.**

"Oh dear," m.m. gasped, suddenly remembering all the unflattering and unkind things he had said about this crea-



ture. "It's the mole!"



Photograph of the mole ©Michael David Hill
Grahame, Kenneth. Illustrated by Ernest H. Shepard. *The Wind in the Willows*. Charles Scribner's Sons, 1983 edition

THE HEALING PLANTS OF EDGEWOOD

The Embodiment of the Manzanita

by Mary Anne Leary

I thought it would be fitting to talk about the manzanita for our winter article as we are blessed soon after the winter solstice with its beautiful white to pale pink urn-shaped blooms. Manzanita is a Spanish word that means “little apple,” referencing the plant’s fruit. In Edgewood Preserve we enjoy two species of manzanita: the Kings Mountain Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos regismontana*), a rare and endangered plant in California, and also the Hairy Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos tomentosa*), as reported in Toni Corelli’s book, *Flowering Plants of Edgewood Natural Preserve*.

We will be speaking in a generic sense about the healing qualities of the manzanita species.



Hairy Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos tomentosa*)
Photo © Alf Fengler

The manzanita belongs to the very large Heath/Heather Family (Ericaceae), which includes, among others, the genera *Arctostaphylos* (manzanita), *Arbutus* (madrone), *Rhododendron* (azalea), *Vac-*

cinium (which includes blueberry, cranberry, huckleberry and others), and the huge *Erica* genus (heathers and heaths). There are about 66 species (62 in the flora) of manzanita in the *Arctostaphylos* genus. Manzanitas can grow as a shrub, small tree, or prostrate plant cover.

Manzanitas are evergreen shrubs that sometimes grow in coniferous forests and often in chaparral areas (an ecosystem characterized by hot, dry summers and cool, moist winters, and dominated by a dense growth of mostly small-leaved evergreen shrubs); they are found throughout western North America from southern British Columbia to California and New Mexico, and also throughout much of northern and central Mexico. Manzanitas are characterized by smooth, orange or red bark and stiff, twisting branches that bear blooms from winter to early spring and berries in spring and summer.

The berries and flowers of the manzanita are edible and have been used in the past for a variety of reasons. As mentioned in Toni Corelli’s book, the ripe berries were used for tea, cider or jelly. They were also cooked or ground into a meal, which was then made into a cereal-like porridge.

Native Americans used infusions of the manzanita leaves

and bark to treat cuts and burns, and it is thought that they also used the leaves as toothbrushes. Manzanita bark can be used as a tea for nausea and upset stomach, and the younger leaves are sometimes plucked and chewed by hikers to deter thirst.

And humans are not the only beneficiaries of the manzanita’s gifts; bear, deer, a number of small mammals, and a wide array of birds rely on its fruits as a food source.

Manzanitas are propagated by insect pollination (often by bees), fruits that are ingested and eliminated by animals, or the activity of fire, which helps to break down the hard coat of the seed. Indeed, because manzanita habitats have relatively frequent fires, it is not surprising to learn that

one-third of the manzanita species have a burl at the base of their main stem—a swollen woody mass that contains dormant buds from which plants can sprout. Most manzanita species have a symbiotic relationship with mycorrhizal fungi, as manzanita habitats generally have nutrient-poor, acidic soils, and the mycorrhizal fungi provide nutrients for the soil.



Kings Mountain Manzanita
(*Arctostaphylos regismontana*). Photo ©
Alf Fengler

So, what are the healing gifts that the manzanita can offer to us in our daily lives? The manzanita flower essence helps us to be fully embodied, allowing us to integrate our spiritual Self with that of the physical world and our bodies. It is particularly helpful for those who suffer from an aversion, disgust or revulsion toward their physical body. The manzanita flower essence is most helpful for people who were taught to dislike their bodies due to strict religious beliefs or who have endured physical abuse. One may respond to such situations by having a tendency toward eating disorders that result in physical illnesses. Manzanita encourages us to be actively involved in the physical world and in the care of our physical bodies, as it “imparts the teaching that matter is dead or inferior only to the degree that it remains unembraced by the soul’s consciousness.”¹

A Happy Winter Solstice to all! ☺

¹Kaminski, Patricia & Richard Katz. *Flower Essence Repertory*
<http://www.gardenguides.com/taxonomy/hairy-manzanita-arctostaphylos-columbiana/>
<http://www.jstor.org/pss/3792696>
http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=102495

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

by **Bill Korbholz**

This year's Friends of Edgewood Annual General Membership Meeting and Picnic was perhaps one of the best we've had in our 16 years. Over 60 members and guests



Drew Shell receiving Best Friend for 2009 award from Bill Korbholz. Photo © Kathy Korbholz

Celebrating Volunteers, and the program included an informative talk by Parks Volunteer Programs Coordinator Carla Schoof, followed by personal stories from volunteers representing Edgewood's Interpretive, Weeding, Adopt-A-Highway, and Trail-Patrol programs.



Folks & Food at the Annual Meeting. Photo © Kathy Korbholz

We also elected Peter Alley, Herb Fischgrund, and Mary Wilson as Directors to serve in 2010-2011. They join current Directors Paul Heiple, Bill Korbholz, and Christal Niederer.

Subsequent to the Annual Meeting, the Friends of Edgewood Electing Committee appointed Kathy Korbholz to serve as Director Emeritus in 2010, and elected four officers for 2010: Mary Wilson, President; Herb Fischgrund, Vice President; Peter Alley, Treasurer; and Bill Korbholz, Secretary. 🌲

enjoyed a beautiful afternoon, a lovely lunch provided most generously by Arguello Catering, and a very entertaining and inspiring program. Our theme this year was

DOCENT TRAINING 2010

by **Mary Wilson**

On Jan. 20, 2010, the Friends of Edgewood will begin training new docents to lead its spring Wildflower Walks.

For prospective docents, our training is a great opportunity to learn more about Edgewood and its native plants. Leading hikes is also amazingly rewarding because of the interest and gratitude of our public.

Our training provides Wednesday evening presentations by very knowledgeable speakers, Saturday hikes through Edgewood led by these same speakers, and a binder full of facts about the Preserve. The training materials cost \$25.

The Wednesday training classes will meet at the Veterans' Memorial Senior Center in Redwood City. The Saturday morning hikes are at Edgewood County Park & Nature Preserve.

Please pass this information along . . . or consider becoming a docent yourself!

The schedule is below. To register or for more information, please email Mary Wilson at

docent-trainer@friendsofedgeswood.org or leave a phone message at 1(866) GO EDGEWOOD.

2009 Docent Training Schedule

Veterans' Memorial Senior Center
Redwood City

Wednesday 7-9:15 PM	Saturday 9:30 AM-1 PM	Topics
Jan. 20	Jan. 23	Introduction & History
Feb. 03	Feb. 06	Geology of Edgewood
Feb. 17	Feb. 20	Chaparral
Mar. 03	Mar. 06	Oak Woodlands
Mar. 17	Mar. 20	Serpentine Grasslands
Apr. 07	Apr. 10	Leading Hikes



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY — A BIT OF HISTORY

by **Ken Seydel**

In the 1980's, when San Mateo County acquired Edgewood for a proposed 18-hole golf course, a runner who often trained on Edgewood's trails became involved with the Friends of Edgewood and its effort to prevent this and any other development. He felt the uniqueness of this special place should be protected.

In 1989 the State of California implemented the Adopt-A-Highway program. This presented the opportunity for someone to care for the many acres of land between the park and the freeway, and in March 1990, the aforementioned runner volunteered for the job, making the adoption

(Continued on page 7)

Adopt-A-Highway (Continued from page 6)

of this section of Highway 280 one of the first in the area.

In 1990 the original area adopted was one mile adjacent to Edgewood (mileposts 5.7 - 6.7) along both sides of the freeway, and the adopter, our runner, was expected to clean this area at least 4 times a year.

Two years later, the program was so popular the state re-distributed the adopted areas, reducing Edgewood's area to only the northbound side of the highway, from mileposts 5.7 - 7.1—a decrease from 2 miles to 1.4 miles (despite an increase in the milepost numbers, 1.4 miles on *one* side of the highway is shorter than one mile on *both* sides).

By 1997 the traffic (and the resulting litter) on the highway had increased to the point that Caltrans requested the adopted area to be cleaned 6 times a year instead of 4.

By 1999 the traffic (and the resulting litter) had increased to the point that the adopter, still our intrepid runner, approached the Friends of Edgewood for help, and the rest, as they say, is history, for it was then that this section of the freeway easement became the FoE's official adopted area.

By 2003 the traffic (and the resulting litter) had increased to the point that Caltrans requested that we double our efforts and clean alongside the freeway *monthly*, which we

did and have been doing ever since.

This has been a very worthwhile program for our organization. To date, our volunteers have invested 1,777 person hours and have collected 1,199 large bags of trash, the interesting contents of which I will share with you next time.

All of our volunteers are safety trained and equipped with picker, vest, gloves, and hardhat. We would love to have you join our crew!! If interested, contact Ken Seydel or Bill Korbholz. 📧

EDGEWOOD WEED WARRIORS

Want to become an Edgewood Weed Warrior? Go here to learn more: <http://edgewood.thinkersrus.net/> 🌱

GRANT FOR EDGEWOOD JUNIOR EXPLORERS

by Carol Hankermeyer

We are pleased to announce that Friends of Edgewood has received a \$1,050 grant from San Mateo County for the Junior Explorers Program as a result of a proposal submitted by Herb Fischgrund. The funds will be used to enhance nature education for children by offering one evening docent-training class and two half-day field trips with Diane West-Bourke. Diane is an outstanding naturalist and edu-

(Continued on page 8)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

New or renewing members may clip and complete this section to pay **tax-deductible** annual membership dues. Please send your check, payable to **Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve**, to the return address on the back of this panel. Renewing members can determine their membership expiration date by checking the six-digit code to the right of their name on the mailing label. For example, if the code is 06/2006, membership runs through June 2006.

Questions? Call (866) GO-EDGEWOOD or contact membership-coordinator@friendsofedgewood.org.

\$10 Student/Retired (includes quarterly newsletter)

- \$25 Friend** (newsletter)
- \$50 Advocate** (newsletter, set of 6 Edgewood photo greeting cards)
- \$75 Supporter** (newsletter plus choose one):
 - Set of 6 Edgewood photo greeting cards and 1-year subscription to BAY NATURE magazine
 - Toni Corelli's *Flowering Plants of Edgewood*
- \$100 Steward** or **\$250 Guardian** (newsletter, set of 6 Edgewood photo greeting cards, plus choose one):
 - 1-year subscription to BAY NATURE magazine
 - Toni Corelli's *Flowering Plants of Edgewood*

Please do not send any premiums.

I am enclosing a gift of _____.

Please send ___ copies of *Common Native Wildflowers of Edgewood* (\$2.50), ___ copies of the *Edgewood Vascular Plant List* (\$3.00), ___ copies of the Apr-Jun 2004 BAY NATURE magazine (\$6.00), ___ copies of Flowering Plants of Edgewood Natural Preserve (\$25.00). Includes tax, S&H. All items subject to availability.

I would like to participate in the following:

- Docent program
- GIS/GPS mapping
- Newsletter/web
- Public relations
- Weed management
- Schools outreach
- Habitat restoration
- Adopt-A-Highway

Name

Address

City State Zip

Day Telephone Eve Telephone

Email

Grant for Junior Explorers (Continued from page 7)
 cator who currently conducts docent-training classes for both Filoli and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.

The evening class is tentatively scheduled for March, and the two field trips for March and May 2010. Emphasis will be primarily on strategies of nature interpretation for those leading children's groups. Because the focus of docent training for those leading adult groups is mainly botanical and factual, we believe the class and field trips with Di-
 anne will help docents feel more comfortable in learning how to engage children, which requires quite a different approach.

While the field trips will give first priority to Junior Explorer docents and then to others interested in leading children's walks, the evening class will be open also to San Mateo County staff and docents from other county parks. These events offer an exciting prospect for enriching and expanding youth outreach. The grant will certainly give Junior Explorers a boost, and we hope for a vigorous and productive program in 2010.

Those interested in attending any of these events should send a message to outreach@friendsofedgewood.org to give us an idea of how many to plan for. We also are interested in hearing from scout groups, schools, and other youth group leaders who would like to have an educational program for children at Edgewood. ♥

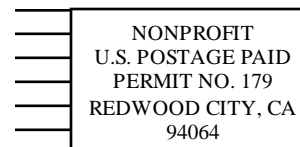


UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❑ **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY.** The next sessions will take place on 1/10, 2/6, & 3/7. To volunteer or get more information, contact Ken Seydel.
- ❑ **DOCENT TRAINING 2010.** Beginning January 20, 2010. For details see article on page 6.

The Edgewood Explorer is published quarterly by the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Edgewood for the human, plant, and animal generations to come. The newsletter is produced by Anne Koletzke with contributions from many Friends. For more information about the Friends of Edgewood, visit our web site at www.friendsofedgewood.org, mail us at PO Box 3422, Redwood City, CA 94064-3422, call or fax toll-free at (866) GO-EDGEWOOD (866-463-3439), or email info@friendsofedgewood.org.

Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve
 PO Box 3422
 Redwood City, CA 94064-3422



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



O, wind,
 If winter comes,
 can spring be far behind?
 ~Percy Bysshe Shelley

Mission Statement of The Friends of Edgewood
To protect and celebrate Edgewood as a unique treasure by promoting exemplary stewardship, and by reaching out with informative public programs
www.friendsofedgewood.org