



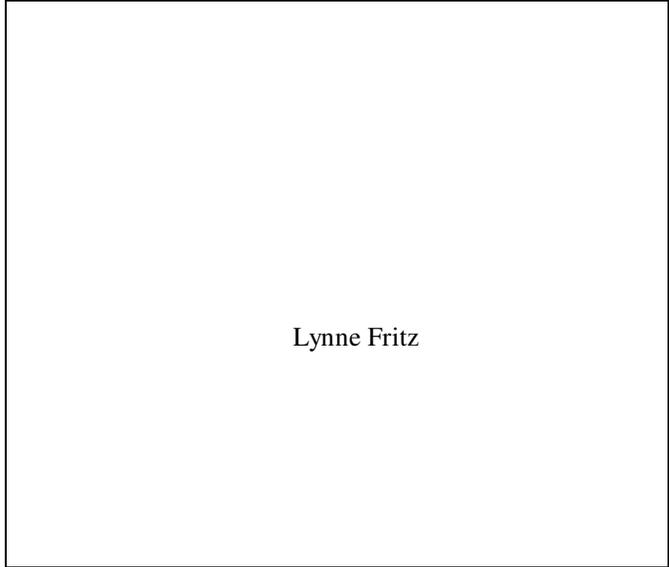
## NEW FACE AT EDGEWOOD

By Laverne Rabinowitz

Edgewood will soon have a new ranger permanently assigned to oversee its operation as a result of Director Patrick Sanchez's redistribution of resources within the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division. Effective April 1, the ranger in charge will be Lynne Fritz, a 16-year veteran of the Department. A second ranger, who has not yet been designated, will also be assigned full-time to Edgewood. Lynne has also been named as the department's liaison with the Friends of Edgewood.

She is delighted to have the Friends as partners in achieving the best for Edgewood, as she sees that some of her goals are also goals of the Friends. Her initial plans fall primarily in three areas: standards for operations, communication and education, and working with volunteers.

An immediate priority is to establish general standards by which the County will determine how the park is managed. Finalizing the Master Plan is crucial to developing these standards, but Lynne sees an immediate need to get a handle on the problems of vandalism and destruction by bicycles and dogs. The biggest challenge is how to deal with the problem of the south hill, where a path to the top persists despite fencing aimed at keeping people on the authorized trails. Her goal is to make contact with juveniles who enter the park at night, with bicyclists, dog owners, etc. and get them involved in the Master Plan process. She believes that if they are able to express their own viewpoint in such a venue they will feel that they have been heard and that the problems are being solved in a constructive way. She will also develop standards that establish the minimum level of conditions for the trails, so that trail maintenance can be consistent and ongoing.



Lynne Fritz

Ranger Lynne Fritz

Lynne will be working on ways of improving communication and educating visitors. Funds have been allocated for renovating the sign system and upgrading trail signs. She feels strongly that we must meet visitors' needs by providing information that is accurate and useful.

A third priority is coordinating volunteer help. In addition to working with the Friends, Lynne is

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## INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Korbholz

1996 should be an exciting and dynamic year for Edgewood Park. You may ask, "What could be exciting about a park which, as a natural preserve, is supposed to maintain the status quo?"

Well, changes are occurring in two broad areas: greater involvement by the County in short-term and long-term management of the park, and strengthening of the Friends organization and committee work.

First, let me talk about the County's involvement. Patrick Sanchez's Parks and Recreation Division has actively supported the work of the Master Plan Committee in drafting a proposal, and he is now moving forward with the approval process. We are hopeful of having an approved Master Plan in place this year. The value of having an up-to-date Master Plan which provides a framework for management of the park cannot be overstated.

Director Sanchez has also assigned two full-time rangers specifically to Edgewood Park as part of his division-wide reorganization. For the first time since the County acquired ownership of the park in 1980, we will have on-site rangers on duty every day. As ranger in charge, Lynne Fritz will provide just the right focus, guidance, and leadership to promote and implement the park's management objectives.

Secondly, the Friends organization is growing, and with it, our opportunities for achievement. In 1996 the Friends will incorporate as a not-for-profit business, enabling us to reduce operational expenses and pursue other sources of funding to help in the management of the park.

We are also stepping up our activities in weed eradication and trail patrol, and will be instituting new programs for Publicity, Exhibits, Sight-Impaired Visits, and Community Outreach.

All of these activities will ultimately enhance the well-being of the park and its habitats, ensuring its safekeeping as a place we can all respect and enjoy.

## FRIENDS OF EDGEWOOD RECEIVE PRAISE FROM COUNTY OFFICIAL

*The Friends received the following letter from Richard L. Silver, Chief Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of San Mateo*

December 21, 1995

Dear Fellow Friends of Edgewood Park:

As the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors I sat through ALL of the meetings dealing with Edgewood Park. Over the years I have become a little bit jaded having heard so many groups promising that given a chance they would round up the money and volunteers to save a particular piece of open space if only the Board would do what they want. All too often once the Board has deferred to the group's wishes they disappear and the County is left holding the bag.

When the Friends of Edgewood made that same pledge I thought, here we go again. Obviously I was wrong. Not only have you followed through with your commitment, you've gone beyond it. The Friends of Edgewood have provided a service both to the community and to nature.

Please count on my continued, if belated, support.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Silver, Chief Clerk  
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

### WHO AM I?

I have no fur, feathers, or scales. I have more teeth than a shark. I can walk on broken glass without cutting my foot. My blood is green. I can smell with my body. Even though I am limited to one good foot, I can run the hundred yard dash in 9 hours and fifteen minutes - if I don't stop for a snack. Who am I?

*Answer on page: 3*

## NEW EDGEWOOD DOCENTS

By Jan Simpson

If you have been hiking the hills of Edgewood Park, you may have noticed the deep red Indian Warrior, the blue flowering Hound's Tongue, and the white fragrant Slim Solomon's Seal. If you are curious about the ever changing spring wildflowers at Edgewood, the opportunity to have a guided tour presents itself now. Take note of the enclosed wildflower walk schedule and join us!

Edgewood now has a total of 43 docents. Included in this number are nine new diligent docents who completed the California Native Plant Society 95-96 training session. Yvonne Bergero, Marjory Fletcher, Norma Jean Galihier, Paul Heiple, Dianne Hunt, Mansurali Nurmuhammed, Laverne Rabinowitz, Louisa Squires, and Jim Trumbull, are all eager to share their knowledge with you.

## JOIN THE EDGEWOOD PARK VOLUNTEER TRAIL PATROL !

By Nancy Mangini

When you're out enjoying the beauty of Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, does it bother you to see:

- Joggers sprinting up the face of newly restored hillsides?
- Dogs crashing through the underbrush chasing the native wildlife?
- Hikers ranging off trail to pick wildflowers?
- Picnickers leaving a trail of trash behind them?

**Don't get mad - get active!** Help us educate the nature-loving public about appropriate ways to visit and enjoy Edgewood by joining forces with the Edgewood Park Volunteer Trail Patrol.

The Volunteer Trail Patrol is a community-based group of people who help the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Department protect Edgewood Park by conducting regular weekend patrols to observe and report on park conditions and visitor activities. At the same time, Patrol members interact with the public by providing information

about Edgewood's unique features and special preservation requirements.

Right now, the Volunteer Trail Patrol is accepting new members for the upcoming 1996 Spring and Summer season. To qualify for membership in the patrol, volunteers need to:

- Be a member of the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve
- Attend two, county-sponsored 2-hour training sessions to be held on Tuesday, March 12th and Tuesday, March 19th from 7 - 9 PM
- Agree to conduct at least one self-scheduled foot patrol of Edgewood Park every six weeks throughout the Spring and Summer months.

Patrol training covers instruction in park rules, observation and reporting techniques, legal and jurisdictional issues, on-trail communication methods, and conflict resolution skills.

So come out to make new friends and help protect the beauty that is Edgewood. Sign up for the Volunteer Trail Patrol today by calling Ranger Lynne Fritz.

See you on the trails !

## WHO AM I ? - A BANANA SLUG



*Ariolimax californicus*

In addition to eating fungi, lichens, and green plants, I am responsible for breaking down decaying plant matter, dispersing seeds and spores, and quite possibly keeping populations of small pests in check. My predators include: small mammals, snakes, amphibians, and some birds. The whole forest benefits from my existence.

I am protected by a slime that helps prevent dehydration, allows me to drop safely from branches, provides a surface on which to glide, and

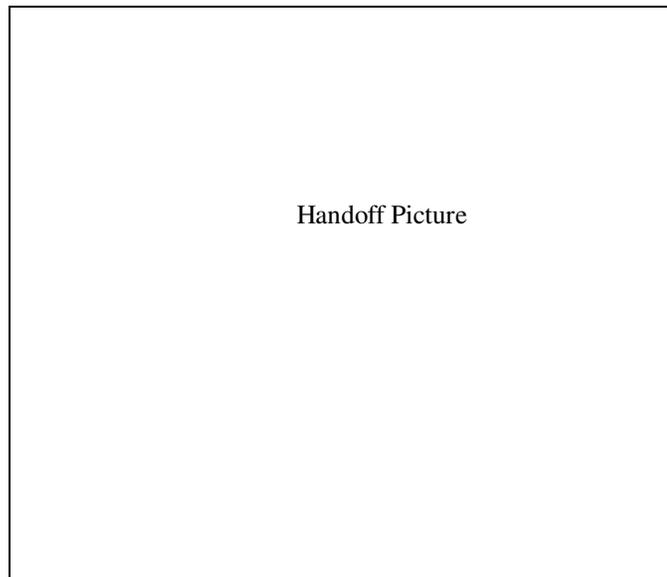
acts as an odor trail to help me find a mate or my way home.

Scientists classify me as:

Kingdom:	<i>Animalia</i>
Phylum	<i>Mollusca</i>
Class	<i>Gastropoda</i>
Subclass	<i>Pulmonata</i>
Order	<i>Stylommatophora</i>
Suborder	<i>Sigmurethra</i>
Family	<i>Arionidae</i>
Genus	<i>Ariolimax</i>
Species	<i>Californicus</i>

**EDGEWOOD MASTER PLAN DRAFT COMPLETED**

**By Kathy Korbholz**



Handoff Picture

Patrick Sanchez receives Master Plan draft from Bill Korbholz

On January 22, 1996, members of the Master Plan Committee formally transferred the Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve Master Plan draft to San Mateo county. Accepting the draft was Director of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division, Patrick Sanchez. This master plan update was necessary because the existing plan, prepared by CHNMB Associates in 1982, outlined the development of a nine-hole golf course - not the preservation of this pristine, fragile resource.

The 180-page draft was the culmination of 15 months effort by seven Friends of Edgewood. The committee, comprised of Carolyn Curtis, Bob Emert, Bob Hartzell, Bill Korbholz, Kathy Korbholz, Susan Sommers, and Nita Spangler, spent approximately 1500 hours researching, organizing, writing, and reviewing material for the draft.

In his transfer letter, chairman Bill Korbholz stated, "In transmitting this final draft to you, the committee expresses its belief that this draft is essentially complete and ready for the County's review and approval process. With this transmittal, the committee expects that the Parks and Recreation Department will embrace this document and take responsibility for finalizing it, and that you will apply appropriate resources and priority toward that end. The committee is anxious to see a final new Master Plan approved and in place by this Fall.

"While this transition marks the dissolution of the Master Plan Committee, the individuals from that committee intend to remain involved in the finalization of the Master Plan as it moves through its review and approval cycles. Indeed, all members pledge to support the County's efforts in that regard."

In accepting the draft, Director Sanchez praised the committee's work, stating "Your committee is to be congratulated. The seven private citizens who undertook this effort, in their commitment to protect, preserve, and restore Edgewood Park for patrons of San Mateo County should not go unnoticed. It was an exemplary effort!"

Director Sanchez will publicly accept the draft in a ceremony at the upcoming Parks and Recreation Commissioners meeting on March 7. The next step, in April, will be to get capital project funding to complete the approval and adoption process.

**NEW FACE (continued from page 2)**

hoping to involve Scout troops and other youth groups in work that will support the park. One Redwood City Boy Scout troop is planning to "adopt" the park as the location for their Eagle

Scout projects. Other individuals and groups who have agendas to support the use and preservation of the open space also need to be approached. She's pleased to become the facilitator when necessary for the Friends' work on managing the natural resources, whether through removal of exotics or through revegetation projects.

When you ask Lynne if she has a soft spot about Edgewood, she'll reply without hesitating that it's "the wildflowers." Wildflowers are one of her special interests, and while this is just her second season here, she was involved with making up the first wildflower lists for most of the other County parks in the early 80's.

Lynne has been with the County for 16 years, serving in every park except Wunderlich to date. She has a degree in park and recreation management from Chico State, with emphasis on parks. Upon completing her internship with San Mateo County, she was hired by Bob Emert, the Superintendent of

Parks. She has worked with Bob ever since and calls him a "wonderful" influence and mentor. Bob says Lynne was the first female ranger in the County and, moreover, hiring her was "one of the smarter things I did for the department," adding that she will do a great job for Edgewood.

Lynne was a docent early in her tenure with the County and appreciates the importance of communicating information about park resources to the public. She believes firmly that all the County's rangers should be required to take docent training, and since she hasn't yet been able to arrange her schedule to go through the docent training for Edgewood, she will be planning for that this fall for both herself and the second ranger.

We will definitely benefit by having Lynne Fritz as a constant presence in the Park, one who is willing to take a positive and assertive approach toward solving problems and educating users. Look for her on the trails and say "Hi!

..... ✂ clip here ✂ .....

**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**. With your membership or contribution, you will receive four more issues of the Edgewood Explorer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

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

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

- \$15 Basic membership
- \$25 Family Membership
- \$7 Student/Retired Membership
- \$50 Supporting Membership (includes *The Flora of Edgewood Park*, and the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*)
- \$100 Benefactor Membership (includes *The Flora of Edgewood Park*, the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*, and a 16x20 poster-photo)
- In addition to my dues, 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 Flora of Edgewood Park* at \$3 each.

Particular interests:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Docent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Exotics control         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter   | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail patrol            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public relations        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal        | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail/fence maintenance |



## UPCOMING EVENTS

☐ *Saturday, March 16.* An introduction to **MOSSES, LIVERWORTS AND LICHENS** at Edgewood Park with Ruth van Seventer. These non-vascular plants (plants without plumbing) are often overlooked, but are a fascinating and beautiful part of our native flora. Meet at the Day Camp entrance at 10 AM.

☐ *Tuesdays, March 12 and 19*  
**TRAIL PATROL TRAINING, 7-9 PM**

☐ *Weekend days, March through June*  
**WILDFLOWER WALKS BY CNPS DOCENTS**  
See insert for dates and meeting places or check out the new wildflower hot line.

## NEW WILDFLOWER HOTLINE

The Friends of Edgewood, in conjunction with the local chapter of the California Native Plant Society, now has a number to call for details of the Edgewood wildflower docent walks and CNPS walks:

Sandy Cooperman, the Friends of Edgewood's able publicity chair, has recorded our first outgoing message. The number accepts no incoming messages, but gives additional numbers for further information where needed.

Please use and publicize this number for up-to-date information on all Friends of Edgewood events and CNPS hikes.

The Edgewood Explorer is published four times yearly by the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve, a not-for-profit 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.

Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve  
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