



## YOUTH PARTNERS IN PARKS

By Carol Hankermeyer

FOE's first effort at community outreach to schools culminated in a successful student-led field trip to Edgewood Park for a class of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders from the San Carlos Charter Learning Center. Youth Partners in Parks was an idea conceived by Friends of Edgewood in the summer of 1997 and supported by San Mateo County Parks and Recreation. As Community Outreach Coordinator, Carol Hankermeyer worked with Friends of Edgewood and Parks and

We were fortunate to team up with Inga Davis, Resource Choreographer for the Charter Learning Center, who expressed a strong interest in promoting school involvement with Edgewood. Of the various projects considered, the school elected to offer a training seminar for a group of 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders choosing to become student docents for the park.

Carol recruited several outstanding Edgewood docents to help her instruct students on the flora, fauna, geology, and ecology of the preserve, as well as interpretive techniques suitable for a school-age audience.

On four consecutive spring Wednesdays, 9 students visited Edgewood to learn about the serpentine grassland, chaparral, and mixed evergreen forest communities. Carol was fortunate to have John Allen, Joyce Nicholas, Toni Corelli and Cheryl Solomon accompany her on different occasions to share their expert knowledge and interpretive skills. We greatly appreciate their contribution. We were also very grateful to Patty Vitangeli, Doris Hume, Annette Caves, and other Charter School parents who generously donated their time to drive and supervise students during the training sessions.

On May 14, twenty-four 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders convened at the Day Camp to be led by their

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Carol giving last-minute encouragement to student docents

Rec. Volunteer Coordinator Lynne Fritz to develop a program of school service with the goal of fostering public interest in Edgewood Natural Preserve. Lynne was very helpful in providing resources, project ideas, and general support throughout the program development.

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## A CLOSER LOOK AT BUSH LUPINE

By Bob Young

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



Photograph by Sonja Wilcomer

Bush Lupine 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.

Botanists have named our Bush Lupine with descriptive names such as Silver Lupine, White-foliaged Lupine, or Bentham’s Bush Lupine. This last name gives reference to George Bentham who officially registered the plant in 1833. He gave the plant its scientific name *Lupinus albifrons*, (pronounced loo-PIE-nuhs AL-bih-frohns). The origin of the word *Lupinus* comes from the Latin word for wolf, *Lupus*. The wolf, being a predator and a robber of livestock, was chosen as the basis of the word lupine because it was thought at one time that lupines robbed the soil of nutrients. We know now that, on the contrary, lupines aid in restoring nitrogen to the soil. The second part of the scientific name means white foliage, from the Latin *albi* - white, and *frons* - leaf or foliage.

Bush Lupine is a shrubby, three to four foot tall, perennial plant in the Pea Family. It is found in

California west of the desert regions, and in southern Oregon and northwestern Baja California. It is abundant in the Coast Ranges and occasionally in the Sierra foothills on brush-covered slopes and on open ridges below 6000 feet.

On Edgewood Natural Preserve the plant blooms from March to May. Many pleasantly perfumed violet to lavender-colored individual flowers are on each flower stalk. The flower has a bottom keel, wings on the sides, and a banner on top.

The seeds, being in the Pea Family, are found in pods. However, unlike edible peas or beans, lupine seeds are poisonous. You will notice that deer eat neither the seeds nor the leaves.

Lupine leaves resemble the palm of your hand, but with seven to ten fingers, rather than five. In her book *Hardy Californians*, Lester Rowntree remarks that “...even when out of bloom their silvery or gray-green mounds are a conspicuous note in the landscape.”`

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## WILDFLOWER WALK WRAP-UP

By Dianne Hunt

Thanks to all docents for a wild and wonderful wildflower walk season. Over 1,300 people were led on 120 walks by 49 different docents. 15 of the hikes were reservation hikes, including two for students from the Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School. Thanks also to Toni Corelli for updating the *Common Name Plant List*.`



## FOE CORPORATE TRANSITION PLAN

By Bill Korbholz

### Purpose

The purpose of this Transition Plan is to provide an orderly mechanism for the Friends of Edgewood organization to enact its new corporate bylaws.

### Background

On July 17, 1997, those attending a special membership meeting voted unanimously to approve our draft corporate bylaws for submission to State and Federal agencies as part of FOE's incorporation papers, with the understanding that formal membership approval of the final bylaws would be sought at a later date.

The Federal Government and the State of California granted FOE tax-exempt status as a California nonprofit public benefit corporation on October 1, 1997, accepting the bylaws submitted without change. At that time, the Executive Board decided to operate through 1998 under the existing interim bylaws, which have been in place since our inception, but to take the necessary steps to allow us to operate under the new corporate bylaws starting January 1, 1999.

The new bylaws call for the election of 6 directors for 2-year terms, but staggered so that every year 3 directors are elected. At the first meeting of each new year, those 6 directors elect from their own ranks the 4 corporate officers (president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary) to serve 1-year terms. The directors also appoint a Director Emeritus (a past officer chosen based on a succession formula described in the bylaws), and establish the Executive Committee, which conducts the day-to-day business of the corporation for that year.

In order to "get the ball rolling" in 1999, a special election will be held at the annual general membership meeting in October, 1998 to elect 3 directors for 1-year terms and 3 for 2-year terms, all 6 terms to start 1/1/99. Conducting such a special election requires amending the interim bylaws. Once the directors have been elected, the

new corporate bylaws need to be accepted by the general membership.

Per the interim bylaws, both the amendment of the interim bylaws and the acceptance of the new corporate bylaws (essentially a wholesale amendment) require approval of two-thirds of the members present.

### Steps Required at 1998 Annual Meeting

To summarize, we need to take the following steps at the annual meeting:

- General membership amends the interim bylaws calling for special election.
- Special election is conducted.
- General membership accepts new corporate bylaws to be effective 1/1/99.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Korbholz

As spring comes to an end, we look back on a season of beautiful wildflowers, thanks in part to El Niño, which also accounted for a few wet walkers. I must congratulate Dianne Hunt in her first year as docent coordinator for her hard work in organizing and publicizing these walks.

### Developments at Parks & Recreation

Last April Patrick Sanchez resigned after almost five years as P&R Director. Patrick attended the inaugural FOE general meeting in 1993 and supported the Friends, and we will miss him. Paul Koenig, who is acting for Patrick, has said that it will take several months to replace him.

Lynne Fritz has been promoted to Parks Superintendent, with responsibility for the northern sector. Kendall Simmons remains Superintendent of the southern sector, including Edgewood.

Both Judy Grimsby and Tom Baker are leaving Edgewood. Tom is swapping places with

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## ROCKY'S CORNER

By Judy Grimsby

Spring has come and boy has it been a beautiful one. I have never seen the hills so colorful. I call it California Gold. See my last display in the Day Camp information board. Yes my last. I am taking a 6 month leave without pay to care for my two young children Danielle 5 and Nikolaus 2. I have been very lucky for 5 years to have a wonderful mother who cared for my kids while I was at work. Now it is time I stay home with them. I hope you all will understand. It is difficult to do two demanding jobs well all the time.

I have worked in this field for 19 years beginning with the U.S. Forest Service in Recreation, Fire Fighter/Engine operator, Prevention, Asst. Air Service Manager & Dispatcher. Then I came to the Parks Department and have been here for 10 years. I will miss many parts of the job especially the kids as I give a little Ranger talk about the parks and forests. Tom has taken a transfer to San Bruno Mountain effective this June. In his place will be Ricardo Trejo. Ricardo has worked here in the past, so help him out if he needs it.

Before Tom's and my departure the Edgewood crew has been improving the Serpentine trail, removing the ankle-twisting rocks and repairing El Niño damage. You may have noticed the trails are being trimmed back One foot on the down hill side and up to two feet on the up hill slope. If we wait till summer the grass will be 5 feet tall. The Clarkia and Edgewood trails have received their initial cut . We hope to improve the parking lot area by controlling weeds through the use of chips and trail rock. The Native Garden has received many compliments and even a few pictures. If you would like to read about its development contact Lynne Fritz at 363-4020. It has been a great learning experience to develop this garden and I hope it will endure the test of time. Good Luck & Good Bye for now Edgewood Friends & Followers maybe our paths will cross again. `

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fellow students on a fascinating tour of the park. The 9 student docents were: Matthew Batema, Sarah Caves, Megan Drace, Shea Finnegan, Janet Frishberg, Jeffrey Hamilton, Ruth Graham, Kasi Krauss, and Shannon Zuvella. They had worked hard to design a varied and interesting program of interpretation, hiking, games, and activities to engage their younger schoolmates. The tours, led in three groups of eight to different park locations, lasted about 1½ hours, and all reported having a wonderful time.

On June 2 Charter Learning Center student docents conducted their second field trip to Edgewood Natural Preserve, hosting a 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade class from Seacrest School in Half Moon Bay. Toni Corelli, who is actively involved with the school, was co-coordinator for this field trip. The class of 18 students took a tour of the serpentine grassland and chaparral, ably guided by the 9 student docents from San Carlos. We were all pleased with the results, and the docents commented how attentive their audience was.

When asked to evaluate their training



Front l. to r.: Janet, Carol, Shannon, Megan, Sarah  
Back l. to r.: Matthew, Kasi, Jeffrey, Shea, Ruth

experience, students commented that they appreciated:

- visiting and learning about different habitats.
- the beauty and silence of the natural environment.
- delightful sensory experiences.

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- learning interesting games and activities to demonstrate concepts.

Their only complaint was lack of time to absorb information and prepare sufficiently. These young docents deserve a great deal of credit for learning so much and creating such interesting tours in a very short period of time.

Lynne Fritz commented how well prepared,



knowledgeable, and enthusiastic they were. In recognition of their accomplishment, the docents received nametags and attractive certificates designed by Kathy and Bill Korbholz.

The outcome of this pilot program was so successful that Inga Davis and Elise Darwish, Charter Learning Center Administrator, are planning to expand next year's student docent training and field trip program to involve more of the community and even include a fund-raiser for Edgewood! Elise and Inga envision a long-term partnership with Friends of Edgewood and see the Charter Learning Center as becoming a model school for youth stewardship and service to parks and natural preserves.

### CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE

The four-digit code on your mailing label indicates when your current membership in Friends of Edgewood expires. For example, if the number is "9807" your membership runs through July 1998, and your renewal will be welcomed at that time. If you believe your membership period ends on another date, please call Jessie Schilling.



### 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 *Friday through Sunday, August 14 - 23, SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR.* Look for the Parks and Recreation booth, featuring all County parks, staffed by Rangers and volunteers.

**KATHIE WEATHERBY INJURED**

While helping with weeding one Friday morning this past May, Kathie lost her balance and took a little tumble, breaking both bones in her lower leg. Despite the frantic efforts of her fellow volunteers, it was about two hours before a helicopter finally reached her and airlifted her to Stanford Hospital. She is recovering at home now, and is anxious to get back on her feet and resume her volunteering. You can reach her. `

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Ricardo Trejo from San Bruno Mountain, and we are looking forward to getting to know Ricardo. Unfortunately, Edgewood remains understaffed.

**Looking Ahead**

Key issues for the rest of the year:

- working with Parks and Recreation to implement the policies of the Master Plan and other resource protection plans
- collaborating with the new Parks Foundation to identify special projects at Edgewood that may be candidates for outside funding
- continuing our transition to operating under our corporate bylaws
- developing our relationships with other volunteer organizations.

Have a great summer; see you at Edgewood! `

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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