

June 2000

Volume 7 Number 2

THE GIFT

By Ellen Sawyer

This essay was contributed in Spring, 2000. The author is referring to Annabelle Zahl and her guide dog Halo, featured in the June 1999 issue of the Edgewood Explorer.—ed.

It had been several years since my friend, Nancy, and I had walked Edgewood Park to see the wildflowers. Last week, we set aside a day to enjoy an outing there. We knew the recent rains would have enhanced what we were going to see. What we never anticipated is how we would "see" the flowers on this particular day.

As we climbed the small hill at the southern entrance, there was a lady walking ahead with a dog. With a second look, we realized it was a guide dog and the lady was blind. She walked with assurance along the trail. It wasn't long before we caught up to where she had stopped as if to look and take it all in. She listened to our conversation identifying the flowers and then came over to ask about the owl's clover. She asked if I would take her hand and let her feel the clover. After that, the three of us walked along and she often asked us to help her feel various flowers. She told us that she had come to the Park many times before she had become blind and knew the flowers well. She always seemed to sense where we were on the trail. When we reached a point on the path unknown ahead to the dog, she left us to retrace her steps to the gate. She also left us with "new eyes" to appreciate all we were observing that day.

No doubt, she comes quite often to walk with her guide dog and perhaps others have experienced her feeling the flowers. For us, she confirmed that a preserve like Edgewood Park is partly about the flowers in the spring, but also so much more. Edgewood Park is a gift to the human spirit.`

EARTH DAY AT EDGEWOOD WRAPUP

By Bill Korbholz



Peter Ingram presides over opening ceremonies

By any measure, our Earth Day 2000 event at Edgewood was a great success. But how does one measure the success of an Earth Day event?

Benefit to the Earth

In our case, the *Earth* is Edgewood Natural Preserve. The most obvious measurable benefit was the removal of over 18,000 Italian thistle weeds by a crew of 58 volunteers. Those of you who are familiar with our weeding efforts at Edgewood know how challenging it can be at times to recruit volunteers. The fact that many of *(Continued on page 4)*

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A CLOSER LOOK AT HILLS IDE (OR HILL) MORNING GLORY

By Bob Young

This is the eleventh of a series of articles describing the flowers pictured in our wildflower brochure published jointly by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve. — ed.



Hillside Morning Glory, *Calystegia subacaulis*, a member of the Morning Glory Family, was given its scientific name in 1838. The genus name, *Calystegia*, is from two Greek words, caly and steg. Caly means cup, which refers to the shape of the caly x that appears just below the flower. Steg means to cover or conceal, referring to the bracts that are just below the caly x and are large enough to cover the caly x.

The specific epithet, *subacaulis*, means "almost stalkless." This refers to the very short stem of the flower. Usually, morning glory plants are thought of as vines, growing high up through shrubs. The Hillside Morning Glory plant, however, is found growing in grasslands and appears as a green clump about one foot in diameter and less than one foot tall. It's interesting to break down this scientific word into its four Latin parts: **<u>sub</u>** usually means "below," or "under," but can mean "almost" or "approaching." In botany sub can mean "less so than a similar plant." <u>a</u> means "not," "without," or "less." <u>caul</u> means stem of a plant. <u>is</u> is a Latinizing suffix. From the above we get "almost/without/a stem." (Most of this information was found on the internet at www.winternet.com/~chuckg/dictionary/html).

Hillside Morning Glory can be found under 1500 feet elevation in the south portion of the north Coast Ranges, in the San Francisco Bay area, and in the south Coast Ranges north of Ventura. It blooms from April to June. The flower color is cream to white, often purple-tinged along the midveins. It has the typical morning glory funnel shape; the flower petals are about two inches long; the mouth of the flower is about 2 ½ inches wide. `

RANGER RIC'S ROUNDUP

By Ricardo Trejo

This year's Earth Day at Edgewood Park and Preserve had several projects and aspects to choose from. The following activities were available: docent-led walks in the park which were lead by the Friends of Edgewood, restoration projects lead by California Native Plant Society, culvert rock headwalls installation and trail maintenance done by Woodside Horse Association, and interpretive display signs installation by FoE and Edgewood Park.

Because of last and this year's Earth Day, volunteers have signed up for other projects on different days to help Edgewood Park and Preserve's work. This type of dedication and enthusiastic attitude will help to achieve Edgewood goals. We want to thank all the above groups for their time and work and our volunteer coordinator Nick Ramirez for his continual efforts.

We look forward to working with all of you throughout the coming year and all of you will have a chance to work with another Park Aide. Shortly, Edgewood crew will be growing by one more Park Aide to assist in Park duties. As Park staff and volunteers continue to grow, we can look for a brighter outlook for Edgewood Park and Preserve. `

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KEN SEYDEL (AND FRIENDS OF EDGEWOOD) RECEIVE AWARD

By Kathy Korbholz



Supervisor and Board President Rich Gordon congratulates Ken

At the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors meeting on April 18th 2000, Ken Seydel and the Friends of Edgewood were recognized for their participation in the California Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway Program. Mary Burns, Director of the Parks and Recreation Division, introduced Walter Cox and Herman Ramirez of CalTrans who presented Ken and the Friends of Edgewood with one of three (out of more than 800 groups!) statewide *Volunteer of the Year* awards.

In part the award reads: "Presented in recognition of your group's civic pride and unselfish spirit. Although few people are aware of the hard work necessary to maintain a roadside, everyone appreciates an attractive highway. Therefore, on behalf of California's traveling public, the California Department of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway Program wishes to thank each member of your group for the countless hours donated to help beautify the great State of California."

Then, Ken and the Friends of Edgewood were honored with a resolution passed by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. The resolution, which outlined Ken's ten-year participation in the program read: WHEREAS, Mr. Ken Seydel and the Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve from the County of San Mateo are one of the three groups selected for their exemplary community service while participating in the CalTrans Adopt -A-Highway Program; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ken Seydel and the Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve were selected from over 800 active Adopt-A-Highway groups and organizations to receive one of three CalTrans District 4 Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer of the Year Awards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ken Seydel has participated in the CalTrans Adopt-A-Highway Program since 1990, and has over the years enlisted the support of the Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve in a litter removal project on a section of State Route 280 in San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ken Seydel and the Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve are doing a community service that directly affects the appearance of their county for those who live in and visit it, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ken Seydel and the Fiends of Edgewood Park and Preserve have set an exemplary example of what community effort can accomplish as they partner with CalTrans in the Adopt-Highway Program,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and recognize Mr. Ken Seydel and the Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve for their exemplary community service and their selection as recipients of the CalTrans District 4 Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer of the Year Award. Dated: March 14, 2000`

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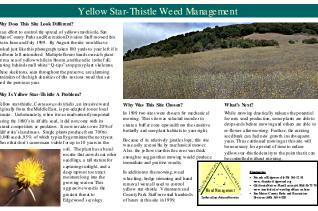


(Continued from page 1)

these volunteers were firsttimers at Edgewood makes this achievement all the more remarkable.

Another benefit to Edgewood was the installation of 4 very handsome interpretive signs by 17 volunteers. The sign hardware was hand-built

by Stew Simpson, and the text and graphics were designed and created by a team including Kathy Korbholz, Ken Himes, Toni Corelli, and me. The signs will help to inform visitors about our conservation efforts, with emphasis on weed removal and revegetation.



One of the four sign inserts

Finally, Edgewood will benefit from the linkage that has been created with all of our volunteer participants. As future opportunities present themselves for supporting Edgewood (e.g. weed removal, school outreach, trail patrol, docenting, trail maintenance, revegetation, and monitoring), perhaps some of our new friends will consider lending a hand again.

Benefit to Participants

Over 100 people attended Earth Day 2000 at Edgewood. I hope that they all gained a little more appreciation for the importance of protecting and preserving our natural resources, and satisfaction from their hands-on participation. And several of them were lucky winners of our raffle prizes, including an afternoon of canoe/kay ak paddling in Sausalito, several merchandise gift certificates, and free meals at local eateries.

Benefit to our Sponsors

To our many generous sponsors, we offer our sincere gratitude. The benefit to them of promoting an event such as Earth Day 2000 is in the recognition they gain from contributing to and being associated

with great environmental causes such as these. We send our heartfelt thanks to each of them and encourage your patronage (alphabetically):

- APS Photo (camera gift basket)
- BFI (recycling container and other goodies)
- California Canoe and Kayak (afternoon of paddling for 2)
- California Native Plant Society, Santa Clara Valley Chapter (mailing expenses)
- California State Parks Foundation (\$1000 grant)
- County of San Mateo Parks and Recreation Division (close collaboration in planning and executing the event, plus repro expenses, sweatshirt and water bottle)
- Eddie Bauer (\$50 gift certificate)
- Emerald Lakes Homeowners Association (mailing expenses)
- Enron (primary provider of grant funding)
- Intel (provider of grant funding)
- Ken Himes (several potted plants)
- Little India Restaurant (dinner for 2)
- Max's Opera Café (dinner for 2)
- Noah's Bagels (4 dozen bagels)

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- Redwood City Trading Post (\$25 gift certificate)
- REI (Whitney Day Pack)
- Stacks Restaurant (breakfast for 2)
- Toni Corelli (many copies of her *The Rare* and Endangered Plants of San Mateo and Santa Clara County)
- Una Más Restaurant (lunch for 2)
- Wolf Camera (photo accessories)



The lucky raffle prize winners

Final Note of Thanks

Staging Earth Day 2000 at Edgewood required a phenomenal amount of coordinated effort. To the many Friends of Edgewood, Ranger Ricardo Trejo and his staff, and our other supporters, all of whom collectively spent over 400 hours planning and executing this event, I say thanks for a job well done! `



Volunteer staff with bags of Italian thistle

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY UPDATE

By Ken Seydel

The first Saturday in April was a beautiful sunny spring day - almost 80° (no foolin'). Four new Freeway Warriors: Kate Conners, Katherine Greene, Susan Russell, and Roger Myers joined "old timers" Bob Archibald, Billy James, Frank Figoni, Dianne Hunt, Bill & Kathy Korbholz and Ken Seydel to make one of our largest crews. It was fortunate that we had so much help as our section of the freeway was more than ready to be clean ed. We had been rained out in February and 29 bags of trash were waiting to be collected.

Vacations and otherwise busy schedules of our volunteers impacted the June 3rd cleanup. We only had seven workers: Frank Figoni, Dianne Hunt, Bill & Kathy Korbholz, Janice Mcomber, Roger Myers and Ken Seydel. However this is an experienced and hard-working group and we managed to finish cleaning our entire adopted section. Among items picked up this time were \$15.45 and two Taurus hubcaps.



As we were finishing, both the local manager of the Farm Hill CalTrans Station and the Director of Adopt-A-Highway for the entire Bay Area happened to drive by. They recognized and appreciated that the Friends of Edgewood were doing a superior job!

Additional volunteers are always welcome to join the fun on the first Saturday of the even months. If you have an interest please contact Ken Seydel. We will see that you are safety trained and equipped with your very own Picker, hardhat, goggles, gloves, and bright orange vest. The year 2000 affords all of our great volunteers lots of opportunities to come out to Edgewood and help with weeding. This season we will offer weeding activities at the following times:

- Tue/Wed afternoons: 5:30 p.m. to dark
- Fri mornings: 8:30 a.m. to noon
- Sat mornings: 9:00 a.m. to noon.

In addition to our returning veterans, we hope many of the folks who volunteered for Earth Day 2000 will join us again to help us fight the neverending problem of invading non-native plants.

Special Incentive for Newcomers

This season we are staging weeding events every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to noon. Everyone who is not a member of the Friends of Edgewood who comes to one of these Saturday events will be given a free 1-year membership.

What to Bring

Water and gloves are essential, and sunscreen is recommended. You should wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants.

Where to Meet

The meeting locations are indicated on the calendar to the right.

- WK—West kiosk (junction of Edgewood and Serpentine Loop Trails, near I-280 overpass)
- ER-Edgewood Rd. west of I-280 overpass
- DC—Day Camp parking lot
- CT—Clarkia Trail head at Cañada Road.
- PR—Park & Ride lot at I-280 and Edgewood Rd.

If you arrive at the meeting location late, you may be able to find the weeding party by checking the map at either the meeting location or the closest entrance to Edgewood.

If you would like more information about weed management efforts at Edgewood, call Ken Himes. `

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 DC	3
	4	5	6 WK	7 WK	8	9 ER	10
June	11	12	13 WK	14 WK	15	16 DC	17 PR
	18	19	20 DC	21 DC	22	23 ER	24 PR
	25	26	27 DC	28 DC	29	30 DC	1 PR
	2	3	4	5	6	7 ER	8 PR
	9	10	11 WK	12 WK	13	14 DC	15 PR
July	16	17	18 WK	19 WK	20	21 ER	22 PR
	23	24	25 WK	26 WK	27	28 ER	29 PR
	30	31	1 WK	2 WK	3	4 ER	5 PR
	6	7	8 WK	9 WK	10	11 DC	12 PR
ust	13	14	15 CT	16 CT	17	18 ER	19 PR
August	20	21	22 WK	23 WK	24	25 ER	26 PR
	27	28	29 WK	30 WK	31	1 ER	2 PR
	3	4	5 WK	6 WK	7	8 TBD	9 PR
mber	10	11	12	13	14	15 TBD	16 PR
September	17	18	19	20	21	22 TBD	23 PR
	24	25	26	27	28	29 TBD	30 PR

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OUTREACH TO SCHOOLS

By Carol Hankermeyer

Once again, San Carlos Charter Learning Center visited Edgewood Park, this time to revel in the spring wildflower displays of the serpentine grassland. On May 5th Eve Ryser and Lale Beller brought their 2nd/3rd grade classes to the preserve as a follow-up to their fall hike in the Sylvan Loop woodland and chaparral communities. The adventure began with a picnic at the Day Camp, followed by a hike on the Edgewood Trail and Serpentine Loop.

The classes broke into four groups led by John Allen, Sam and Delpha Berry, and me. Sam's energetic group actually reached the view point of the central ridge! From there Sam showed students the San Andreas Fault line and described earthquakes and serpentine formation. They also got a good look at the chamise chap arral.`

MEMBERS HIP DUES

New or renewing members may clip and complete this section to pay **tax-deductible** annual membership dues. Please send your check pay able 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 four -digit code to the right of their name on their mailing label. For example, if the code is 0006, membership runs through June 2000.

Questions, call Bob Young. `

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Work Telephone

KIDS' KORNER QUIZ

Which of these State of California symbols can you find at Edgewood? (Answers on Page 8.)

		Animal	California grizzly	
			bear	
		Bird	Quail	
		Fish	Golden trout	
		Flower	California poppy	
		Fossil	Sabre-tooth cat	
		Gemstone	Benitoite	
		Grass	Purple	
			needlegrass (proposed)	
		Insect	California dogface	
			butterfly	
		Mineral	Gold	
		Reptile	Desert tortoise	
		Rock	Serpentine	
		Tree	Redwood	
• • •	• • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
	0	\$15 Basic Membe	ership (includes newsletter)	
	0	\$25 Family Mem	bership (newsletter)	
	0	\$7 Student/Retired Membership (newsletter)		
	0	\$50 Supporting Membership (newsletter,		
		Edgewood Checklist of Plants, and		
		Edgewood photo greeting cards (boxed set))		
	0	\$100 Benefactor Membership (newsletter,		
	Checklist, greeting cards, and 28-minute			
	video Saving Edgewood Park)			
		4450 D	1 11 / 1	

- o \$250 Patron Membership (newsletter, *Edgewood Checklist of Plants*, greeting cards, video, and 16x20 photo-poster)
- O I am enclosing a gift of _____
- O Please send _____ copies of the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park* at \$15 each.
- O Please send _____ copies of the *Edgewood Checklist of Plants* at \$3 each.

I would like to participate in the following:

- o Docent program o Weed management
- o Trail patrol o School outreach
- o Publications o Habitat restoration



O Saturdays and Sundays through June 25th, WILDFLOWER WALKS. Docent-led walks begin at 10:00 a.m., end by 1:00 p.m., and start at the Day Camp entrance.

o *Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays through the summer,* **WEED REMOVAL AT EDGEWOOD**. Bring water, gloves, sunscreen, and your enthusiasm. See page 6 for meeting times and places.

Saturday August 5th, ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP DAY. Meet at the Park & Ride at 8:30 a.m. Call Ken Sey del for more information or to arrange for safety training.

o Saturday, August 6th, **TOUR DE PEN INS ULA.** Sponsored by the S.F. Chronicle with proceeds benefiting the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation, this 33-mile

bicycle ride passes by Edgewood along Cañada Road. Call Julia Bott for more information regarding riding in or staffing the event.

ANSWERS TO STATE SYMBOLS QUIZ

The following State of California symbols are found at Edgewood.

Redwood Serpentine Redwood	V Rock Tree
Purple	A Class
California poppy	V Flower
lisuQ	₽ird

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. 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, or email info@friendsofedgewood.org.

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