

Edgewood



Explorer

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GRANT FUNDS FLOWING TO EDGEWOOD

By Peter Ingram

When the Friends incorporated in 1998, one of the goals established was to participate in bringing grant funds to the Preserve. Our first success occurred a year ago, when the State Parks and Recreation Foundation awarded a \$1,000 grant for a major Earth Day 2000 event at Edgewood. The focus of the event was to introduce a broad audience of Preserve users to the Friends / County / CNPS Edgewood Weed Management Program, and to kick off the 2000 weed removal season. Both the Earth Day event and the subsequent weed season were very successful and have served as the springboard for three current grant proposals for the Preserve:

- The San Mateo County Parks & Recreation Foundation, through the office of the County Parks & Recreation Director, has awarded a Special Volunteer Project grant of \$480 to the Preserve for the purpose of installing a weed program tool storage unit, replacing the visitor information inserts at the four information pedestals, and installing a fifth pedestal on the service road below the Sunset gate.
- The San Mateo County Weed Management Area (SMCWMA) is being formed this year by a collaboration of more than 20 agencies and organizations, with support and leadership by the County Agricultural Commissioner. The California Dept. of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) administers a statewide grant program that funds the control of noxious and invasive weeds. Based on the success of the Edgewood Weed Management Program in the past 4 years, especially in controlling Yellow star-thistle, the SMCWMA group selected Edgewood from a large list of countywide weed control programs as its first control project to submit for CDFA grant funds. At this time, a proposal is before the

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COUNTY FORMING WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

By Peter Ingram

Under the leadership of Gail Raabe, San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, a working group of government agencies, conservation organizations, landowners and other stakeholders began meeting in December 2000 for the purpose of creating a countywide weed management area (WMA) and seeking State funding for weed control projects. As readers may recall from previous editions of the *Explorer*, in January 2000 several members of the Friends Executive Committee, CNPS, and Parks staff hosted a meeting to promote formation of a partnership to implement the Edgewood Weed Management Program.

In attendance at that discussion were members of the County staff, including the Agricultural Commissioner, who pointed out that the Edgewood program could succeed only if cooperation from adjacent and up-wind property owners and managers could be ensured. The vehicle for such efforts in other areas of

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A CLOSER LOOK AT YELLOW MARIPOSA LILY

By Bob Young

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



Photo by Sonja Wilcomer

Yellow Mariposa Lily (scientific name *Calochortus luteus*), 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 was given in 1833.

The word *Calochortus* comes from the Greek meaning beautiful grass and the word *luteus* comes from the Latin for yellowish or mud-colored. The genus *Calochortus* is in the Lily family.

In the September 1999 *Edgewood Explorer* newsletter, an article described another *Calochortus* species, *Calochortus albus*, the Globe Lily or Fairy Lantern. While the Globe Lily has a nodding flower and is on shady banks, the Yellow Mariposa Lily petals are erectly pointing upward, and it grows in sunny grasslands. Another Mariposa Lily, the White Mariposa Lily, also grows in the grasslands on

Edgewood.

The Spanish name Mariposa, meaning butterfly, aptly describes the presence of the flower in grassy fields. In Margaret Armstrong's book *Western Wild Flowers*, she writes that the "brilliant hairy spots on the petals are wonderfully like the markings of a butterfly's wing and the airy blossoms seem to have but just alighted on the tips of their slender stalks." If you look closely into the flower, you will usually see a maroon spot near the center of each of the three wedge-shaped petals. Below the spot, a hairy, brownish, crescent-shaped gland can be found.

The Yellow Mariposa Lily grows from 8 to 20 inches (20 to 50 cm) tall in adobe, clay, or rocky soils. It blooms in late spring and goes dormant in the summer. It is found under 2100 feet elevation in the California Coast Range, the Sierra Nevada foothills, and down as far as the northern Channel Islands. Other names for the plant are Yellow Mariposa, Gold Nuggets, Butterfly Tulip, and Mariposa Tulip.

PREPARE FOR 2001 SEASON WALKS

By Dianne Hunt

Our walk schedule is complete and inserted in the Blazing Star. Look for AAA's VIA Magazine calendar section for our walks listed in their March/April issue. Our free Docent-led walks will be every Saturday and Sunday, leaving at 10:00 am and returning at 1:00 pm beginning March 3rd and ending June 17th (Father's Day). All March and June walks begin at the Old Stage Day Camp entrance and all April and May walks begin at the I-280/Edgewood Rd. Park & Ride. If your group is interested in a docent-led walk during the week, please call for reservations.

The Preserve is already in bloom with Shooting Stars, Indian Warriors, Trillium, Solomon Seal, Saxifrage, Buttercups and Redmaids! Check out our website, www.friendsofedgeswood.org, for more information and updates on what's blooming and what's happening at Edgewood! See you all on the trails!!!`

FRIENDS DONATE \$6,765 TOWARD INTERPRETIVE CENTER

By Bill Korbholz

As of press time, 33 Friends of Edgewood families donated \$4,265 to the San Mateo County Parks Foundation to help fund the first phase of the project to build an interpretive center at Edgewood Park. The Friends of Edgewood organization donated \$2,500 in matching funds, for a total of \$6,765.

This money will go toward contracting a consulting firm to identify the needs and constraints of the interpretive center through a community-involvement process. It is hoped that this first phase will be completed during 2001. It will take several more years (and money) to finally construct the interpretive center.

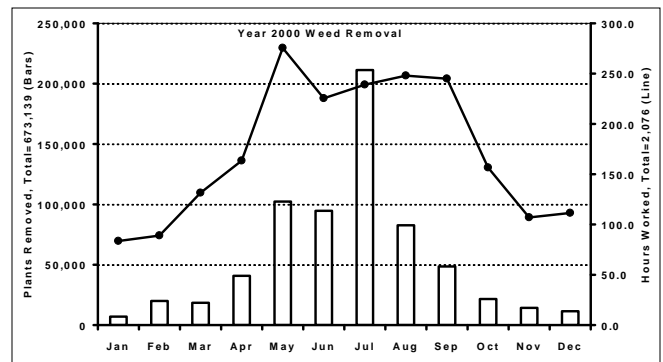
The San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation, through Executive Director Julia Bott, expresses its sincere thanks to all who have supported this project. So far the Parks Foundation has received contributions of nearly \$15,000 for the Interpretive Center. A great start, it still falls \$50,000 short of the amount needed to fund the phase 1 study. If you have not contributed and would still like to, please contact Julia at the Parks Foundation, 215 Bay Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, or call / email her at (650) 321-5812 / julia@supportparks.org.

Again, thanks to all the people for their generous support. (Many supporters contributed through the California Native Plant Society or the Emerald Lake Homeowners Association, and they will be recognized separately.)

John & Kathryn Allen, Peter Alley & Carolyn Strange, Bob Archibald, Chris Bohl, Marco & Jan Casazza, Gail & Douglas Cheeseman (Jr.), Lorie Coon, Sandra Cooperman, Mary Dean, Curt Engelhard, Barbara Erny, Les & Kay Filler, Herbert and Alice Fischgrund, Jean Fiske, Joyce and Les Friedman, Joan Fuetsch, Norma Galihier, Katherine Greene, Carol Hankemeyer, Ken Himes, Dianne Hunt, Peter Ingram & Ann Yvette Pirie, Bill and Kathy Korbholz, Jane Kos, Kelli Ogden, Timothy & Patricia Oren, Lennie Roberts, Susan Russell, Janet Simpson, Susan Steade, Joyce Tutalo, Sonja Wilcomer, Bob and Dorothy Young.

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California is a Weed Management Area – usually an entire County. The outcome of the meeting was a commitment from Gail to pursue formation of a WMA, and a commitment from Mary Burns, the county Parks & Recreation Director, to support the proposed 3-way partnership. Thus began the Friends’ intensified efforts to control Yellow star-thistle – the “Y2KYST” phenomenon.



In the months ahead, the San Mateo County Weed Management Area will be formally created and a long-term strategy crafted to address the serious problem of non-native invasive plants throughout the County. Here is the “top ten” list of county weeds identified by the working group:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Broom | 6 Spartina |
| 2 Pampas or Jubata grass | 7 Eucalyptus |
| 3 Yellow star-thistle | 8 Italian thistle |
| 4 Fennel | 9 Arundo |
| 5 Cape Ivy | 10 Gorse |

TRAIL PATROL GETS UNDERWAY

Sponsored by the County of San Mateo Parks & Recreation Division, with support from the Friends of Edgewood, the Volunteer Trail Patrol is a great way to support Edgewood and provide a positive impact on how visitors view and enjoy the Preserve.

For more information on how you can get involved in this rewarding and enjoyable activity, contact Friends of Edgewood Trail Patrol Coordinator Frank Figoni, or San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Volunteer Coordinator Nick Ramirez.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY UPDATE

By Ken Seydel

February 3rd was a glorious day: temperature in the 60's and no wind. Nine of our intrepid freeway volunteers: Bob Archibald, Carolyn Dorsch, Billy James, Frank Figoni, Katherine Greene, Dianne Hunt, Roger Myers, Susan Russell, and Ken Seydel gathered at the Edgewood Park & Ride and worked the western boundary of Edgewood Park. While enjoying the first flowers of spring, we picked up 15 bags of trash. There seemed to be less trash this time and most of the crew were done by 10:30 or 11:00; except for Katherine, who stayed for another hour to clean the Cañada Road underpass.

Since the Friends of Edgewood became involved with the Freeway Adoption in February of 1999, this project now amounts to 327.5 people-hours of volunteerism and a total of 258 bags of trash removed from the boundary of Edgewood Park!

People are always interested in what kinds of things we find. We always seem to find hubcaps and money (only \$11.06 this time), but sadly we also come across the detritus of accidents. Today's plastic cars break into hundreds of pieces of fiberglass, glass and trim when they wander off the road. The tow-trucks remove the larger pieces, but we clean up the rest. We also found a severed arm this time. I still have it. Maybe we will find the rest of the doll next time.

After the clean-up most of us gathered at the Canyon Inn for lunch, and to say goodbye to Dianne Hunt. She has found that she is "over volunteered" and needs to give up the freeway. We will miss her!

Our group continues our efforts to make our corner of the world a nicer, cleaner place to live on the first Saturday of the even months. The next regularly scheduled cleanup will be on April 7th. If you have an interest in joining our great group please contact me. We will see that you are safety trained and equipped with your very own Picker, hard hat, goggles, gloves, and bright orange vest.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Board Members (2-year Terms Expire 12/2002)**
 - Carol Belew
 - Toni Corelli
 - Peter Ingram
- **Board Members (2-year Terms Expire 12/2001)**
 - John Allen
 - Kathy Korbholz
 - Lennie Roberts
- **Director Emeritus for 2001**
 - Bob Young

2001 OFFICERS

- Peter Ingram, President
- Kathy Korbholz, Vice President
- Carol Belew, Secretary
- John Allen, Treasurer

2001 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Peter Ingram, Committee Chair / Interpretive Center Project Coordinator
- Kathy Korbholz, Vice Chair / Publications Coordinator
- Carol Belew, Recording Secretary
- John Allen, Treasurer
- Toni Corelli, Plants / Habitat Advisor & Liaison to CNPS
- Bob Young, Membership Coordinator
- Bill Korbholz, Weed Management Program Coordinator / Information Technology
- Ken Himes, Weed Management Field Marshal
- Frank Figoni, Volunteer Trail Patrol Coordinator
- Dianne Hunt, Docent Program Coordinator
- Katherine Greene, Docent Program Publicity / Media Coordinator
- Carol Hankermeyer, Schools Outreach / Walks Request Coordinator
- [open], Revegetation Coordinator
- [open], Member at Large

Special Assignments / Roles Outside of Executive Committee

- Director Lennie Roberts - Strategy, Planning and Advocacy
- Bill Korbholz - Member, Board of Directors, San Mateo County Parks Foundation
- Ken Seydel - Adopt-A-Highway Liaison to Cal-Trans
- Pat Oren & Bob Young - Day Camp Demonstration Garden Stewards

WILDFLOWER WALKS 2001

The carpets of wildflowers covering the serpentine grassland at Edgewood Natural Preserve are renowned throughout California and beyond. Over 50 different species of blooming wildflowers can be seen on a single walk. Many of these flowers occur elsewhere in the Bay Area, but are not seen in such brilliant displays. You may also see some rare or unique plants and possibly a Bay Checkerspot Butterfly!

<u>Month</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>
March	Saturday / Sunday	Starts: 10:00 Ends: 1:00	Old Stage Day Camp
3 rd	Stephen Buckhout, Susan Peterson		
4 th	Ken Himes, Alex Maksymowicz (Coordinator: Mary Anne Leary)		
10 th	Dick Gehrler, Donna Maytham		
11 th	Paul Heiple, Linda Franklyn (Coordinator: Mary Anne Leary)		
17 th	Stephen Buckhout, Don Mayall		
18 th	John Allen (Coordinator: Mary Anne Leary)		
24 th	Carol Hankermeyer, Kate Connors		
25 th	Bob Buell, Elly Hess, Herb Fischgrund		
31 st	Maxine Olson, Kathryn Strachota, Herb Fischgrund		
April	Saturday / Sunday	Starts: 10:00 Ends: 1:00	Park and Ride
1 st	Paul Heiple, Kate Connors, Bill Korbholz, Kathy Korbholz		
7 th	Carol Hankermeyer, Norma Jean Galiher		
8 th	Bob Buell, John King, Linda Franklyn		
14 th	Jan Simpson, Norma Jean Galiher		
15 th	Harry Cornbleet, Katherine Greene (Coordinator: Rebecca Peters)		
21 st	Donna Maytham, Ed Morgan, Robert Strode		
22 nd	Tony Allison, Tom Cochrane, Barbara Erny		
28 th	Jan Simpson, Dick Gehrler, Tony Allison		
29 th	Bill Korbholz, Kathy Korbholz, Katherine Greene (Coordinator: Rebecca Peters)		
May	Saturday / Sunday	Starts: 10:00 Ends: 1:00	Park and Ride
5 th	Carol Hankermeyer, Denise Montlack (Coordinator: Julie Foster)		
6 th	Bill Korbholz, Kathy Korbholz (Coordinator: Malini Kaushik)		
12 th	Katherine Greene, Herb Fischgrund (Coordinator: Victoria Nilson)		
13 th	Donna Maytham, John King, Barbara Erny		
19 th	Victoria Nilson, Robert Strode		
20 th	Susan Peterson, Harry Cornbleet		
26 th	John Allen, Malini Kaushik (Coordinator: Julie Foster)		
27 th	Tim Oren, Pat Oren		
June:	Saturday / Sunday	Starts: 10:00 Ends: 1:00	Old Stage Day Camp
2 nd	Ed Morgan (Coordinator: Julie Foster)		
3 rd	John Allen, Tom Cochrane		
9 th	Victoria Nilson, Carol Belew		
10 th	Ken Himes, Chris Wilson		
16 th	Bob Young, Carol Belew		
17 th	Paul Heiple, Barbara Erny		

All walks begin at 10:00 am, end at 1:00 pm, and start at one of the two parking areas, as noted on the list. We will not stop for lunch, so bring a snack and water and a hat. No reservations are needed. Restrooms are available only at the Old Stage Coach Day Camp entrance. For more information, or to schedule a guided tour for your group, call Dianne Hunt, Docent Coordinator,

NEW RANGER POSITION COMING

The Parks & Recreation Director has reassigned a ranger position to Edgewood, which increases staffing from two to three full-time professional rangers. The position is currently open for transfer requests of existing County rangers, with emphasis on resource and habitat management knowledge and abilities. If no transfer occurs, then the County will recruit and hire the best-qualified person to fill the position. Once this process is complete and there are three rangers fully dedicated to Edgewood (staff diversions to Bicycle Sunday have ended), a significant and longstanding goal of the Friends will have been achieved. For many years we have been advocating that a higher level of staff presence in the Preserve is critical to ensure that all visitors have a positive experience while obeying the rules that protect fragile habitat and endangered species of plants and insects. We look forward to welcoming the new ranger into Ricardo and Ric's team! `

UPDATE ON THE SYLVAN WAY TRAIL

In July 2000, a joint letter from the Friends and the Emerald Lake Homeowners Association (ELHA) was sent to Mary Burns, County Parks & Recreation Director, asking her to facilitate an agreement for reopening the Sylvan trail access from Sylvan Way to the preserve. The trail had existed for years, but crossed private property at 280 Sylvan Way without a formal easement. The new property owner at 280 Sylvan Way had previously notified the County that users would be considered trespassers, so the County had no choice but to close the trail. ELHA offered to contribute funds towards improvements at the Sylvan Way entrance, to improve access and prevent erosion in the creek bed, and both groups have offered to work constructively with the County and the property owner to restore this longstanding access to Edgewood.

As of this writing, this issue is in the hands of the San Mateo County Real Property office, which has been asked by staff from County Planning and Parks & Recreation to negotiate a

contract for a permanent easement or a sale of a small portion of the parcel for the trail. We will keep you advised as this effort continues. `

HOMESCHOOLERS' OUTING

By Carol Hankermeyer

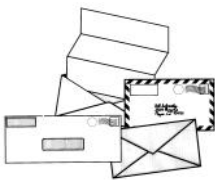
On December 8th Schools Outreach welcomed a group of homeschoolers to the FOE field trip program at Edgewood. Sherri Osaka coordinated the California Nature Study Group, making arrangements for 25 students accompanied by parents and siblings to meet at the Day Camp. The homeschoolers' Nature Study Group is systematically studying California natural communities and requested that we focus on the oak woodland at this time. Therefore, we chose the Sylvan Loop as the designated area of study, contrasting features of the woodland with those of the chaparral and grassland communities.



Paul Heiple began our program with a fascinating discussion and demonstration of Edgewood geology. He, Alex Maksymowicz and I then led three subgroups on the 2.5 mile Sylvan Loop trail. The wide age range of students resulted in varying levels of interest, but everybody got something out of the trip—especially the parents! We were very pleased with the outcome, and the group has decided to shedule a second visit in spring at the height of the wildflower season.

Many thanks to Alex Maksymowicz and Paul Heiple for assisting me with this field trip. Parents expressed great appreciation for their high level of knowledge. `

WE GET LETTERS



Friends of Edgewood
12/3/2000

This donation is a small way of thanking Rick and Ricardo for their guidance and patience in helping our son Nathan grow his leadership skills while doing his Boy Scout Eagle Project last month. We appreciate what they did for him as much as what he and his Scout crew did for Edgewood Park.

His project involved carrying a lot of building materials up to 3 different trail sites and building significant trail improvements over 2 weekends. The boys expended 100 hours planning and executing the work.

Nathan also got Chevy's in Redwood City to donate a lunch for the crew.

Sincerely,
David and Jane Moss
Palo Alto

(Continued from page 1)

CDFA for \$15,000 to fund expanded mechanical controls in Edgewood (\$6,000), develop educational materials (\$4,000) and initiate a countywide weed mapping system and database. Once the SMCWMA is formally established, potential annual funding from CDFA will increase to \$30,000 or more.

- The San Mateo County Parks & Recreation Department has submitted a grant proposal focused on the specific habitat and population of the endangered Checkerspot Butterfly. Funding, if approved, would come from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (\$70,000), the California Coastal Conservancy (\$17,000), and the County's Off-Road Vehicle Mitigation Fund (\$50,000). Additionally, the California Conservation Corps will provide \$23,000 in labor for invasive weed removal. With in-kind hours from County staff and volunteers like us, the value of this important grant project is estimated at \$209,000. The County is waiting for formal approvals, with the hope that work can commence this summer.

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 four-digit code to the right of their name on their mailing label. For example, if the code is 06/2001, membership runs through June 2001.

Questions, call Bob Young.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Home Telephone Work Telephone

- o \$15 Basic Membership (includes newsletter)
- o \$25 Family Membership (newsletter)
- o \$7 Student/Retired Membership (newsletter)
- o \$50 Supporting Membership (newsletter, *Edgewood Checklist of Plants*, and Edgewood photo greeting cards (boxed set))
- o \$100 Benefactor Membership (newsletter, *Checklist*, greeting cards, and 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*)
- 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 Trail patrol
- o Publications
- o Weed management
- o School outreach
- o Habitat restoration



UPCOMING EVENTS

- o *March—June*, **DOCENT-LED WILDFLOWER WALKS**. Docents will be leading these popular walks on Saturday and Sunday mornings this spring.

- o *Saturday April 7th*, **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP DAY**. Meet at the Park & Ride at 8:30 a.m. Call Ken Seydel for more information or to arrange for safety training.

- o *Sunday, April 22*, **EARTH DAY AT EDGEWOOD**. County sponsored event to remove non-native plants. Contact Nick Ramirez for more information.

TREASURER’S REPORT FOR 2000

By John Allen

During the year 2000 the Friends of Edgewood had income from membership dues, donations and the sale of wildflower brochures.

The group's principal expenses included publishing and mailing the *Edgewood Explorer*, conducting the docent-led wildflower walks, maintaining our web site, and hosting the annual meeting and picnic. The Earth Day event conducted by the Friends of Edgewood was paid for by an Enron grant received to cover this activity. Our net income for the year was just over \$700.

Thanks for your continuing support. For more information, contact me.

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 and Bill 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.friendsofedgeswood.org, mail us at PO Box 3422, Redwood City, CA 94064-3422, call or fax, or email info@friendsofedgeswood.org.

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