



The Lookout

Muir Woods Park Community Association

www.mounttam.org

July—September 2008

415/381-3119

Muir Woods Future...

The next 50 years: Alternatives are being proposed for the future of GGNRA (and Muir Woods). The documents are meant to be dramatically different to help all of us sort out what we really think is important and what direction we wish the park to be managed. Copies of the documents are available on-line. If you prefer the full printed version, drop by the Visitor Center at Muir Woods (or call if you want us to mail a copy to you: 388-2596). Important to read, consider and share your thoughts and hopes, concerns and wishes.



Ladybugs: Summer starts at Muir Woods with the arrival of the ladybugs and this year, they came earlier than usual: by mid-May PLUS there are more than ever before! On warm days they fill the air and already we notice significant clusters on Bootjack and Fern Creek trails. Check them out!

Shuttle: Visitors, too, are coming in record numbers but thankfully many are taking advantage of the Muir Woods shuttle. We hope you notice a bit less congestion on the week end roads. The shuttle runs week ends and holidays through the end of September and also features a link to the Sausalito Ferry.

Muir Woods Centennial fun continues: AcousticVortex will have a special musical performance in honor of Muir Woods at the Pelican Inn on July 20 at 4:00 PM. INSITU: a dance performance by Cynthia Stevens will be a treat among the redwoods at 1:00 PM on September 19-21....called BIG TREES: small dance! Free if you hike in OR free after the \$5 entrance fee. PLUS, enter our "How Tall Are the Trees" contest....drop by the Visitor Center or email me your guestimate of just how tall you think the tallest one is plus the average height. We'll be measuring the trees this fall, so see how close you can come.

Wildlife sightings: otter continue to frolic in Redwood Creek, coyote are now seen and heard in Muir Woods, deer are abundant and this year's swainson's thrush, Wilson's warbler and winter wren populations are high...as more tanbark oak die we really see the changes in the character of the forest. What are you noticing?

Mia Monroe
Site Supervisor
Muir Woods National Monument
(www.nps.gov/muwo).

Survey for Children's Activities at the Clubhouse

Parents: Please take a moment to complete and return this survey so that we may continue to provide relevant activities for families in our community. Thank you for your input. If you have any questions, please contact Kit Harris at: 388-0829.

1. What are the ages of your children? _____
2. Are you interested in drop-in play at the Clubhouse? _____
3. What are the best times for drop-in play?
AM/PM _____ AM/PM _____
4. Would you support a play structure at the Clubhouse?

5. What events or activities would you like to see at the Clubhouse?

6. What events or activities would you like to organize (or help organize) at the Clubhouse?

Comments:

(Include your name, phone # and email for follow-up.)

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg hunt this spring was tons of fun. We enjoyed beautiful weather and lots of eager hunters. Many treasures were found. It was nice to see so many kids this year enjoying the fun. Thank you to all who brought beautiful eggs and fun treats for everyone! See you next year.



Safety First

This meaningful phrase is finally happening to our Association. Some facts....

THE SIREN: It's finally in place, working and owned by our Association. Thanks to the County and work mainly by Steve Kinsey and Dave Escobar.

AM RADIO STATION ALERT: In place at the Fire Station and working.

TENS PHONE SYSTEM: Also ready for communication to our area. Both systems are operable thanks to the efforts of Chris Gotley of OES within the County.

All three above systems will soon be tested within our community to establish coverage and clarity.

Further...

We've had meetings with the Red Cross and we will become an official shelter. Various emergency elements and needs for our households, as well as visitors will be supplied to us by them on an as needed basis (more data to come).

And...The container is now moved on our property to the back of our building. Various modifications are underway to make it more workable and decorative.

I think the above are significant safety improvements for us and thanks much to our entire Safety Committee.

More improvements and testing information are on the way.

If you have comments or suggestions call me at 608-1172 or email me at popsonsr@aol.com.

- Richard Popson

Clubhouse News

The container has been moved to the side of the Clubhouse. The next step is to color of the building to minimize it's ugliness. Then on to shelving inside and organizing the stuff that's going into it. Huge thanks to Andy Lillestol, George Knechtle and Pat Teahan for supervising this.

Ruben Martin Recovering Slowly



Captain Ruben Martin is a personal friend and a valued member of our Muir Woods Community. As you remember, he was seriously injured on February 11th this spring while working at the Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station.

Ruben's long recovery period continues at home now. Our hearts go out to him and his family as he heals.

If you want to get more information on the above, let me know or contact the Fire Department at www.marincountyfire.org or call our fire station at: 388-5414.

Richard Popson
35 Ridge Lane
popsonsr@aol.com
608-1172



VIDEO NIGHT Stalls...

Until further notice, there will be no more video nights. If you are disappointed and would like to see it continue please contact **Cindy Norman and ask her 389-6847.**

Board Meeting Highlights

Note: Complete MWPCA Board minutes are now posted online at <http://www.mounttam.org>-password is: **musty**.

The Board met as scheduled on Thursday 14 June, noting, discussing, or deciding the following:

- The accounting approach and details for past and future fund-raising events has been approved
- The financial condition is good, with adequate cash to cover near-term operations
- We need to evaluate what contributes to our annual water use and reduce if possible
- The Red Cross has sent us a letter designating the Clubhouse as a shelter
- The Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station is planning to hold a chipper day this year
- Users of the MWPCA sign near four corners will be advised of the best approach to signage
- We have a bid to finish the patio (since accepted)
- The container will be moved up behind the Clubhouse soon (since accomplished)
- The Sewer Committee has arranged a meeting with Dietrich Stroeh (our consultant) and the City of Mill Valley
- A children's playground remains under consideration
- The date for the Jazz Festival is also under

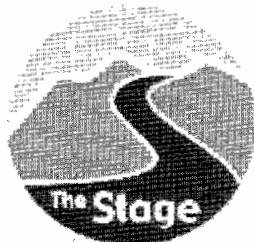
Sewer Committee Update

No news to report but activities continue. Lynn Hindley will keep us informed as new information emerges.

Bus Service in the Neighborhood

Marin Transit would like to remind riders of the availability of The Stage coming through our neighborhood. to the following website for schedule updates:

<http://www.marintransit.org/stage.html>



Peter Hindley rejoins the MWPCA Board as Recording Secretary

Thank you, Peter, for stepping up to fill a recent vacancy. Your competence and years of experience living and being part of MWPCA are invaluable. Welcome back!

Jim Lowe

My neighbor Jim passed away last week. Jim, an interesting resident of the mountain for over 40 years, was a complex, creative and loving person.

Jim's background in art began with the University of Colorado, and many activities developed, including: car racing, auto and product engineer, business developer with Midas Muffler. He was a parachutist in the Army and loved sailing, skiing and water activities including scuba sports.

Jim was an avid partner in many groups that specialized in miniature trains. The ETE (European Train Enthusiasts) and GGLS (Golden Gate Live Steamers) were staunch believers in his expertise, frequently relying on his creativity and interest in model trains.

Several years ago I visited Jim, and he showed me a project he had begun. He had bought a blueprint of a 1920-30's train steam engine and was in the process of reducing it to a miniature replica that he would control and ride in Berkeley. I asked him, "Jim, how can you possibly take these plans and convert them here on the mountain?" "It's a piece of cake," he answered. I saw the finished product, built in his garage on the mountain and was just in awe. How could someone do this??, I wondered.

I asked Donna, his wife, about memorable experiences she recalled. She named many, but one stood out... In early relations, Jim sent Donna a card that said..." I was lonely and a social outcast till I met you; now I'm not lonely anymore."

Bye Jim....We'll miss your laugh and seeing you in your limited edition BMW and your old-fashioned overalls, train hat and bandana.

- R. Popson

Peter's Place

In this world of business size and depth, I'm always blown away when I see direct opposites. That's the case with a one-man operation that sells fruits and snacks on the mountain.

You know Peter's Place (my name). It's the Ford pick-up truck parked on Panoramic Hwy with an American Flag, macadamias and cherries signs displayed with his vast array of foods.

Peter Bournazos has been serving our mountain folk and its guests for 20 years. He is an extremely "happy-go-lucky" guy that lives in Novato with his wife Olga. He has three children and three grandchildren. He is extremely proud of his Greek ancestry. When I asked him when he got to the U.S. he, with arms crossed across his chest, said "three days before Columbus."

Peter's humor and true caring of people and children is obvious in his work. He sets up his "operation" most days, sometimes using people that he helps and is caring for. He's served everyone: the rich and famous like Governor Jerry Brown to people and families from India and Germany. He says he mostly likes old customers because they're "nicer" and "they spend more time with me." I watched him serve people going to Stinson Beach, giving kids free treats and watching him salute and say, "Have a nice life." The kids saluted him back with big smiles.

Mike, a friend and person that Peter's helping, told me that Peter's the George Carlin of the mountain. Mr. Carlin recently passed away but I found a comment he made that fits. He said, "Some natural parks have long waiting lists for camping reservations. I think when you have to wait a year to sleep next to a tree, something is wrong." Peter would add, "At least they should have a lot of my apples or fruits as they pass the time."

This proud and happy guy loves the mountain and is a real asset for our community. Visit Peter.
- R. Popson

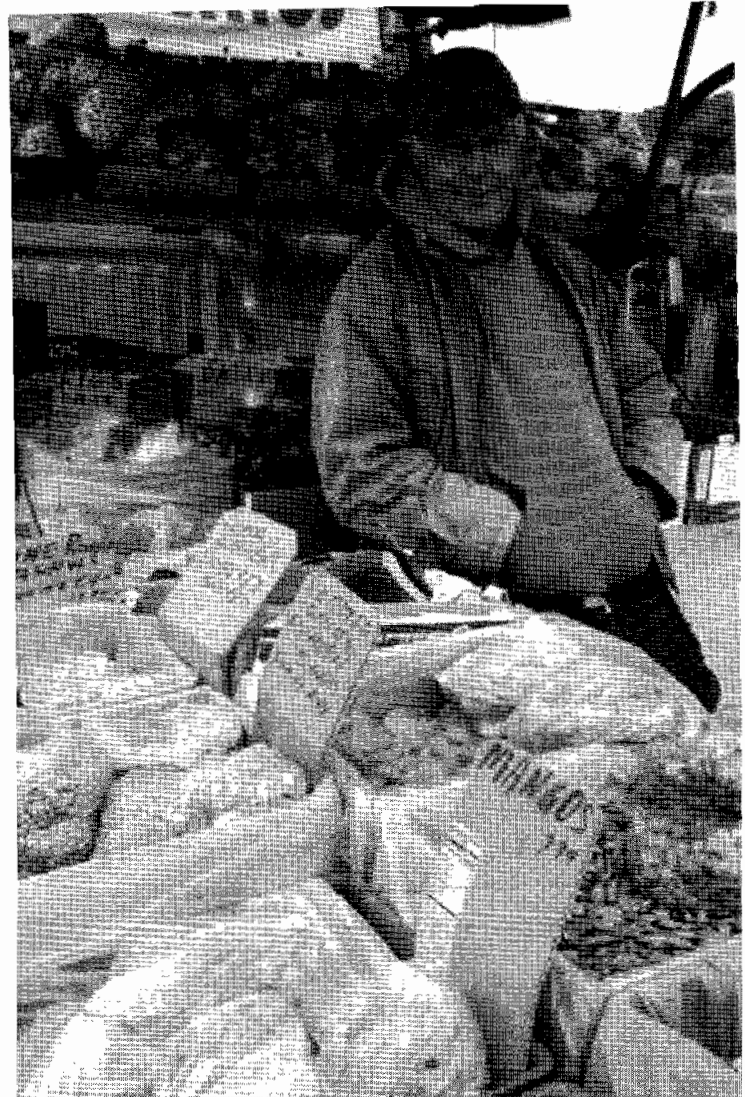


Photo: John Lovell

Request for Volunteers

It's such a pleasure to be involved in the community. I hope you'll consider joining the fun. Here are a few ways to be involved:

- Write feature articles about members of the community for the Lookout
- Get Lookouts labeled and mailed once they are printed
- Understudy our Master Chef Lynn Hindley to prepare our feasts
- Kitchen team for prep/clean-up

Just let me know what you'd like to do.....either from the list above or something else. Thank you!

- Lila Daniels, Lookout Editor



Come Join Us!

Breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 am – 11 am

Lunch Wednesday – Sunday 11:30 am – 3 pm

Dinner Wednesday – Sunday 5:30 pm– 9/9:30 pm

Small Plates served Saturday and Sunday after lunch

Phone 415-381-9000

www.mtnhomeinn.com



**Yoga continues
on the
Mountain**
\$12 per person

Drop-ins are
welcome!

Tuesday: 6:00 PM
Thursday 6:00PM

Schedule alerts: (2nd Thursday of the month, the MWPCA Board meets promptly at 7:00 PM.....and occasional 1st Tuesdays when elections are held since the Clubhouse is our local polling place)

Meighan Leibert instructs a yoga class at the Clubhouse. Mats and equipment are provided.

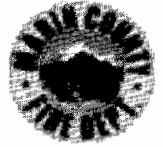
If is raining or cold, we have a fire; come and join the wonderful neighborhood feeling. Many of you could walk to the class. Beginners or experienced, everyone is welcome; bring friends!

2008 MWPCA dues are due!

Just complete the enclosed form
and return it at your earliest
convenience.

Free Chipper Day July 23rd

Pile your debris by the road adjacent to your property. The chipper will come to you. Call for an appointment: 388-5414 by July 16th!



What qualifies: brush or tree cuttings less than 5" in diameter stacked with ends in same direction. NO: grass, nails, poison oak, or man-made material! Chips will be spread on your property or a dump fee will be incurred.

This is made possible by a grant from FireSafe Marin in cooperation with the Marin County Fire Department,



Mt. Tam View home.
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Call Matthew for a showing!

Matthew Pouliot
415-265-7020



Active Listings – All Realtors

| | | |
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| 240 Panoramic | 3BD/3BA | 1,025,000 |
| 119 Bayview | 4BD/2BA | 1,395,000 |
| 166 Bayview | 5BD/3BA | 1,149,000 |
| 7 Mountain View | 3BD/2BA | 850,000 |
| 98 Wash. Park | 2BD/3BA | 2,300,000 |
| Pending | | |
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MWPCA MEMBERSHIP & DONATIONS

\$45 Household _____ \$15 Senior _____ (both include newsletter)

General Donation \$ _____ \$10 Lookout subscription for non-residents _____

Specific Donation: \$ _____ Facility Sewer Disaster Children's (circle)

Name: _____ Email: _____

Mail: MWPCA, 40 Ridge Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

THE LOOKOUT

Muir Woods Park Community Association
 40 Ridge Avenue
 Mill Valley, CA 94941

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. PostagePaid
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 Permit # 149

Return Service Requested

2008 MWPCA Board Officers

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| President | (vacant) | |
| Vice President | Lynn Hindley | 388-7252 |
| Treas/CorresSec | Karen Buckter | 381-1801 |
| Recording Sec. | Peter Hindley | 388-7252 |
| Director | Lila Daniels | 383-8422 |
| Director | Pat Teahan | 388-1122 |
| Director | Dick Popson | 388-1135 |
| Director | John Lovell | 383-4530 |
| Director | Brad Silen | 383-3612 |
| Director | Bob Clemons | 388-3641 |
| Director | Keith Papulias | 388-9219 |
| Director | Kit Harris | 388-0829 |

Committees

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------|
| Clubhouse Rentals | Lynn Hindley | 388-7252 |
| Membership | vacant | |
| Safety/Emergency | Dick Popson | 388-1135 |
| Lookout Newsletter | Lila Daniels | 383-8422 |
| Parenting | Kit Harris | 388-0829 |
| Webmaster | Karen Buckter | 381-1801 |
| Tech Consultant | Peter Spear | 383-1842 |
| Sewer Committee | Lynn Hindley | 388-7252 |

Community Calendar - see online for updates

| ONGOING | | | |
|-----------|-----|--------------------------------|---------|
| Tuesdays | | Yoga Class | 6:00 PM |
| Thursdays | | Yoga Class | 6:00 PM |
| SEPTEMBER | | | |
| Thursday | 11 | Board Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| | TBD | Jazz Fest | |
| OCTOBER | | | |
| Thursday | 9 | Board Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| Sunday | 26 | Kids Pumpkin Party | TBD |
| NOVEMBER | | | |
| Friday | 14 | Annual Dinner-General Election | 7:00 PM |
| DECEMBER | | | |
| Thursday | 11 | Board Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| Sunday | 14 | Adult Christmas Party | TBD |
| Sunday | 21 | Kids Christmas Party | TBD |

Clubhouse Available for Rent

Rates, rules, forms, calendar and all information about what is included are on the website: <http://www.mounttam.org>.