February 20 is Town Meeting Time: Your Chance to Share Your Concerns

Town Meeting--Saturday, February 20

Come one, come all! Bring your suggestions and questions! Your recently elected Board of Directors needs your input. What is important to you? What direction do you want MWPCA to take? What are your issues? What problems need to be solved? What needs to be done? Make your voice heard.

All of us who live in the Muir Woods Park area share a number of concerns about issues vital to the health and safety of our area. Some of the issues in recent years:

- Reopening of Highway 1
- Developing fire safety and disaster programs
- Improving public health by identifying potential health hazards such as electro-magnetic fields
- Improving the vegetation in our environment
- Creating social programs for parents and children
- Fostering greater communication among residents

We need to identify future issues and be in a position to solve our mutual problems and improve our community.

Please make an effort to participate in this TOWN MEETING. Bring a potluck dish and get to know your neighbors.

Potluck: 6:30PM
A - M  Entrees
N - R  Salads & Appetizers
S - Z  Desserts

We wouldn’t mind if you brought along your 1993 dues payment!! Save you some effort and all that. See the insert for details.

First Parenting Meeting Scheduled for February 20

The first meeting of parents with young will be held at the Clubhouse on Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 AM. To be discussed are general topics that we are share:

1) Day Care possibilities at the Clubhouse
2) Baby-sitting network
3) Car pooling
4) Play yard completion/needs
5) Children’s activity calendar

Plan to attend. Bring your concerns with you. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

For more information, please call Beth Popson at 383-1135.
President's Column: Moan & Groan to Your Heart's Content...

To burn or not to burn, that is the question. How do you feel about controlled burning on Mt. Tam?

The MMWD has recently presented a study supporting selective burning. Since the study cost was $600,000 maybe they are right. But, maybe Mother Nature should be heard. Maybe we should let her take her prescribed course and let well enough alone. What is your opinion?

How about new development on the Mountain? Should we build out or not? How about sewers? How about the Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station? Is it adequate or not???

These questions are among the many that are important to you and your family and the safety and betterment of life on our Mountain.

At our Town Meeting on February 20th at 8:00 PM at the Clubhouse (6:30 PM for potluck dinner beforehand, they will be reviewed. Then they will be prioritized and developed into an action list for the 1993 MWPCA Officers and Board of Directors. We need your input as to what is important to you.

Are we fire safe enough? Does the Clubhouse need improvements? Should we be doing more for our children? Is PG&E doing what it can for us regarding electromagnetic fields (EMF's)? Should we take a stand for or against the Tam Junction expansion project? Do we have too many or too few social events?

What do you think? Bring your thoughts to our meeting on the 20th and let's talk...

We certainly do have things to talk about, don't we?       --R. Popson

Merciful Junk Sorters Need Not Apply

At the Clubhouse we have a target: the junk that has built up over the years inside the Clubhouse and out!

Our mission: dispose of it heartlessly. Imagine the fun you'd have tossing out all that stuff!

The ultimate goal (outside, at least, for a later day): build a new, larger shed out back to accommodate only our vital necessities.

So, please come to our work day scheduled for Saturday, February 27, starting at 9:00 AM at the Clubhouse. Bring some old clothes and gloves, and some food and drink to share in a lunch time repast amid the action, if you wish.

John Hokanson has kindly agreed to coordinate the construction of the new shed, so there will be an experienced hand to guide the action. Hope to see you there!

--Peter Hindley, Clubhouse Maintenance

February is a great time to pay your 1993 MWPCA dues. Just complete the enclosed form and send a check to MWPCA, 40 Ridge Avenue, Mill Valley 94941. Or, bring it with you to the Town Meeting on Saturday, February 20!!!

For Rent from the Association:

Weed wrenches: Rates: $5 first day; $2.50 each additional day; $15/week; maximum rental period: 2 weeks. Call Virginia Soper at 383-1941 or Lucile Withington at 388-3005 for details.

Field meter to measure EMF's: $10/day. Contact Jim Bramell at 388-6176. Not a bad price when you consider the 2-week plus wait list to go through PG&E. Talk about being ahead of the trend.
Emergency Radio System Test

On Saturday, February 6, a test was conducted of the proposed emergency radio system. A test signal was broadcast for about 2 hours from the Mill Valley Public Safety Building. Several of our neighbors participated in monitoring the signal and reporting on the reception in various parts of our community. My own monitoring of the signal strength and clarity involved driving through our community and into some of the more secluded streets.

Once the initial test was completed, I was able to convince the engineers to conduct a second test by transmitting a similar signal from the Throckmorton Fire Station. The signal transmitted from this location provided slightly better coverage of our community than the signal transmitted from Mill Valley. However, it was reported that this signal’s range was not adequate to cover Mill Valley.

I later determined that the engineer responsible for testing the “field strength” of the signal in our community did so from a number of locations along Panoramic Highway, and that except for a short section of lower Edgewood, did not venture into our side streets to determine the reception in our neighborhoods. It appears the only data available to address that issue was obtained by myself and our volunteer monitors. As a result of our testing, I am not fully satisfied that the proposed transmitter location is capable of meeting our needs. I will be exploring the possibility of a possible transmitter site on Blithedale Ridge.

If any of you caught the transmission on February 6 and have not yet contacted me with your results, please do so at 381-8430. It’s never too late!

I’ll keep you posted.          --James Campbell

Current Real Estate Listings

Thanks to Kathleen Delehanty of Prudential California Realty (recently merged with TRI Realty) for this update of listings on the mountain. For more details just call Kathleen at 388-4516. For current interest rates, call Keith Papalias at 388-9219.

New Listings
130 Marin View 4br 2.5ba 449,000
645 Sequoia Valley Rd. 4br 2ba 482,000
572 Panoramic 4br 3ba 585,000
1 Sunnycrest 4br 3.5ba 862,000
2 Sunnycrest 4br 3.5ba 862,000

Pending
465 Edgewood Avenue 3br 1ba 210,000
530 Panoramic 2br 2.5ba 895,000

Active Listings
474 Panoramic 3br 2ba 349,950
628 Amaranth 3br 3ba 419,500
569 Edgewood 3br 2.5ba 474,500
98 Washington Park 3br 2ba 479,000
430 Panoramic 4br 3ba 580,000
530 Panoramic 2br 2.5ba 895,000

Price Reductions
190 Edgewood Avenue 2br 2.5ba 409,000
620 Amaranth 2br 2ba 419,500

Lots
140 Redwood Avenue 79,000
120 Redwood Avenue 99,800
84 Cypress 150,000
65 Marin View 199,000
484 Panoramic Hwy 200,000
0000 Edgewood Avenue 549,000

Closed
295 Panoramic Hwy 2br 2ba 405,000

Temporarily Withdrawn
16 St. Jude 2br 2ba 379,000
73 Ridge Avenue 4br 2ba 845,000
Withdrawn
280 Edgewood Avenue 3br 2ba 595,000

Professional, Responsible Couple Seeking New Rental Home

10-year residents of Mill Valley and Mt. Tam seek private mountain-side rental for their new home. They need at least 2 bedrooms and preferable 2 baths. References (including Kathleen Delehanty) available on request. Please call Mark or Pilar at 383-9617.

Good news:
Ghilotti Construction will be repaving (not patching) the problem areas on Panoramic Highway when the weather allows!
Welcome New Members

Sandra & Duncan Ross 84 Monte Cimas
Roy Forest, DC 40 Monte Cimas
Josefa Heifetz 170 Bay View Dr
Harry & Ruth Olson 40 Brighton Blvd
Joan Herz 280 Panoramic
Ellen Hammerk & 24 Madera Way
   Michael Newman

Our 1993 total to date is 72 MWPCA members: 9 new members and 63 renewals. Send your dues in by February 28 to assure your listing in the 1993 directory. Just complete the enclosed form and send it to MWPCA at 40 Ridge Avenue.

Earl Mottley Passes Away

30-year Mountain resident Earl Mottley of 766 Panoramic Highway died January 14 at Marin General. He had been ill for a long time. He was a good neighbor and he will be missed.

Earl worked with the California State Employment Office for 25 years and was a World War II veteran. He had been retired for some time. He is survived by a brother, Vincent Motley of Citrus Heights.

Mailbox Thefts Cause Action on Monte Cimas--Will Washington Park Follow Suit?

Monte Cimas residents have taken action. With Marge Priest's leadership, they found special thief-proof mailboxes at a reasonable price ($40 small and $90 large size). All but 1 resident have chipped in to share the costs. With the help of Steve Thompson (resident architect) mailboxes are being modified to maintain a more rustic look. Marge is happy to talk with you about the manufacturer they found and other details. She can be reached at 383-8119.

Randy Barrow on Washington Park reports more problems in his neighborhood. He says he is willing to help organize residents on Washington Park.

If your mailbox is on Panoramic at Washington Park and you are interested in considering new, secure mailboxes (and perhaps fire safety), contact Randy at 381-6634. He will keep a list of interested people and then organize a meeting.

MWPCA Board Sending Letter to PG&E President

On the back page is a draft of the letter being sent to the president of PG&E concerning the need to study the electromagnetic fields on the Mountain. Copies of the letter are being sent to all the following people:

CC: Diane Feinstein, US Senator
    Barbara Boxer, US Senator
    Lynn Woolsey, Congresswoman
    Milton Marks, State Senator
    Vivian Bronschvag, State Assemblywoman
    Gary Giacomini, Marin County Supervisor

    White House Office of Science & Technology Policy
    Richard Guimond, Director, Office of Radiation Programs, EPA
    William Farland, Director, Office of Health & Environmental Assessment, EPA
    Dr. Richard Neutra, Chief, Special Epidemiological Studies Program, CA Department of Health Services

    California Electromagnetic Fields Consensus Group, State Public Utilities Commission
    Dr. Hiatt, Marin County Department of Health & Human Services
    Electric Power Research Institute
    Donald F. Austin, MD, Chief, Cancer Epidemiology Unit, CA Department of Health Services

    Lynn R. Goldman, MD, Chief, Environmental Epidemiology & Toxicology Section, CA Department of Health Services
    Diana B. Petitti, MD, Department of Family & Community Medicine, University of California, SF School of Medicine

    Fred Skillman, PG&E
    Louis Slesin, Microwave News
    Paul Brodeur, The New Yorker
    All local newspapers and television
February 12, 1993

G.A. Maneatis  
President  
Pacific Gas & Electric  
77 Beale Street  
San Francisco, CA 94106-0001

Dear Mr. Maneatis:  

The Muir Woods Park Community Association (MWPCA) in Southern Marin County has conducted a survey of cancer occurrence in its neighborhood. Our Environmental Health Committee's cancer cluster study of cancer houses in our area has produced evidence of high EMF's in and around all of the cancer houses studied. As a control group, we have sampled long term residents in households with no cancer. All these houses had low EMF readings. Obviously more study is needed, but many residents rightly find the implications of this study alarming.

We are requesting two actions from PG&E:

1) PG&E should work with the MWPCA to conduct a complete survey of the neighborhood, house by house, to ascertain where problems exist with power lines and transformers.

On several occasions, Mr. Skillman of PG&E has conferred with residents in our area, but more work needs to be done. We feel that conducting a complete and systematic survey of the area at this time is far less disruptive to your staff than having each of the 350 families here make individual requests.

2) PG&E should begin to survey the supply lines immediately. All transformers found to be faulty (emitting high levels of EMFs) or containing PCBs should be removed and replaced prior to the end of 1993.

It is known that some transformers in the area still date from the 1950s. Many are rusting and present a clear hazard to health if they leak or are taken down by windstorm or earthquake.

The MWPCA Board of Directors feels that this issue is of such importance that we are enlisting the aid of our elected officials to help us win PG&E's cooperation.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Please call me at 415/388-1135 at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Popenoe  
President

Attachments: Pacific Sun Article, Map of Muir Woods Park Area

cc: (see attached list)
1993 Officers and Board Members

President  Dick Popson  388-1135
Vice Pres.  Del Goetz  388-8493
Treasurer  Clif Davenport  383-3892
Record. Sec.  Peter Hindley  388-7252
Corresp. Sec.  Lila Daniels  383-8422

Directors  Jim Campbell  381-9320
Kathleen Delehantry  388-4516
Les Draper  383-6594
Keith Papulias  388-9219
Bob Rydjdol  388-3621
Erika Teahan  388-1122

Standing Committees

Clubhouse Maintenance  Peter Hindley
Public Safety  Bob Scheibach/Dick Popson
Environmental Health  Del Goetz
Newsletter  Lila Daniels/Les Draper
Social  Keith Papulias/Stella Winn
Parents Network  Beth Popson/Erika Teahan
Cancer Cluster Study  Jim Bramell
Mountain Workers Network  Peter Spear
Membership  Kathleen Delehantry
Community Affairs  Bob Rydjdol
Sergeant-at-Arms  Barney Lenheim

MWPCA 1993 Calendar

Feb.  20  MWPCA Town Meeting/Potluck
       6:30 PM
    27  Work Day 9:00 AM
    27  Tam Conservation Club Dinner
March.  3  MWPCA Board Meeting  8:00 PM
       10  Environmental Health 8:00 PM
       13  Mt. Tam Interpretive Association
       19  St. Patrick's Party/General Meeting
            6:00 PM
    20  Yuki Matsumoto
    27  James Lloyd (Wedding)
April  7  MWPCA Board Meeting 8:00 PM
       10  Children's Easter Egg Hunt
            (tentative)
       11  Easter Hike
       23  General Meeting: Fire Safety/
            Potluck 6:00 PM
May  5  MWPCA Board Meeting 8:00 PM
     8  Turnaround Dinner
     21  General Meeting: Environment
June  2  MWPCA Board Meeting 8:00 PM
    20  Fathers' Day Pancake Breakfast
            (tentative)
July  4  4th of July BBQ
    7  MWPCA Board Meeting  8:00 PM

Clubhouse Rental Rates

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The new contract form stresses fire/smoking, parking, noise and maintenance regulations.

Need a new MWPCA directory? Call Del Goetz at 388-8493.

Deadline for next Lookout: March 3.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance

Friday, March 19
MWPCA's Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Feed
6 PM Bar -- 7 PM Dinner
8:30 PM Dancing

4th of July BBQ
MWPCA Board Meeting 8:00 PM
Board Meeting Highlights, Wednesday, February 3, 1993

Dick Popson welcomed new Board Members and congratulated returning members for the successes we had in 1992.

Del Goetz will devote her primary energies to organizing the community during 1993. She will be looking for ways to actively involve everyone in some way. She will create a Community Organizing Committee, to act as a resource for other committees as they reach out into the community.

Cliff Davenport reported that the finances are in good shape. We have $12,354 in the checking account, including the Save Mt. Tam Fund, and $7,211 in the money market account. This is the best financial shape ever, largely due to the fundraising efforts last year. Those funds will be spent once a decision is made about the location of the emergency radio broadcasting transmitter.

Income from Clubhouse rentals exceeded income from membership dues for the first time during 1992. So, it was decided that we need to do a major Clubhouse clean-up and then arrange for regular cleaning.

Barney Lenheim was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

Bob Rydjord will take over the responsibility of community relations representative.

Kathleen Delehanty will have a “welcome” packet going out to new residents on the mountain beginning in Mid-February.

The next Board meeting will be held at the Club on March 3rd at 8:00 PM.

Pollen Alert! Pollen Alert! Pollen Alert!

Your Environmental Health Committee (EHC) urges all of you with runny noses, sneezing, asthma and other allergy symptoms to beware of the acacia. Acacia is one of the most highly allergic pollens and our woods are full of them.

There are 2 varieties which can be distinguished from one another. The most common one has a fern-like leaf; the less common one has a long, narrow leaf much like a bay tree. Both have yellow blossoms. However, the narrow leaf variety has a lighter, almost creamy colored blossom and is more potent. Both are in bloom now.

Another allergenic pollen currently in bloom is redwood. Yes, redwoods do have pollen—a light, yellow powder that often causes sinusitis and coughing as well as affecting eyes and nose.

Those of you with allergies may contact the EHC Chairperson Del Goetz about how to minimize the impact of pollens that create allergies.

The EHC recommends electronic air filters for furnaces, large amounts of vitamin C, and a chain saw to the acacias as most successful remedies.

Questions or comments may be directed to Del Goetz at 388-8110 or come to the next EHC meeting on Wednesday, March 10 at 8:00 PM.

--Del Goetz, Chairperson

Classified Ads

Duplex unit: 975 sq. ft living area plus 500 sq. ft. deck. View 1 BR with sleeping loft, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, walk-in closets. Available Feb 1. $1250/month includes utilities. Call Del Goetz at 388-8493.

Commercial space in Sausalito: 1750 sq. ft. with 18” roll-up door. $1300/month. Call Mark Rizzo at 331-8227.
1993 Dues are Now Due:
Send them in by February 28 to Assure Your Listing in the 1993 Directory

1991 and 1992 have been a very successful years for our association. We have more members and greater involvement from our membership. We helped get Highway 1 reopened in 1 year (when they originally projected environmental impact studies of 3-5 years), we have a siren at the Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station, and we have most of the needed funds for a local area radio station to alert us in case of fire, earthquake, or other disaster. It’s taken a lot of work from our members but the results are paying off.

The dues from our membership help keep efforts moving forward to benefit our community, and we ask you to make a contribution now for 1993. We will include the new membership list in the April, 1993 issue, so to assure your continuing subscription and membership, be sure to send us your completed form with payment by February 28. Your support continues to be especially important again this year with the continuing threat of fire.

In addition to the regular amount of $35 for families and $10 for seniors, please consider making an additional contribution. The last five years your extra donations have made the difference between break-even and having flexibility to take special action. Please complete the form below and mail it to MWPCA.

I would like to contribute to my community's well-being by joining/extending my membership in the MWPCA. My check for $35 is enclosed.

As a senior citizen I would like to contribute to my community's well-being by joining/extending my membership in the MWPCA. My check for $10 is enclosed.

Enclosed is my donation to help support association activities.

Enclosed is my donation to assist the "Save Mt. Tam" Disaster Committee in their important efforts.

I would like to discuss serving on the following Committee: __________________________

Please contact me.

Please send me further information about MWPCA.

Please send me details on Clubhouse rentals. I'm interested or I know of someone who might be interested in renting it.

Name/s

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Home: __________________________ Work: __________________________ FAX: __________________________

Work: __________________________ FAX: __________________________

Please return to: muir woods park community association

40 Ridge Avenue

Mill Valley, CA  94941
TOWN MEETING

Saturday, February 20

6:30 PM Potluck
8 PM Meeting

What problems need to be solved?
What issues need to be dealt with?
What do you want your Association to do?
Help us identify community concerns!

We need your input!

CALL 388-8493 FOR INFORMATION