



The Lookout

Muir Woods Park Community Association

www.mounttam.org

October—December 2008

415/381-3119

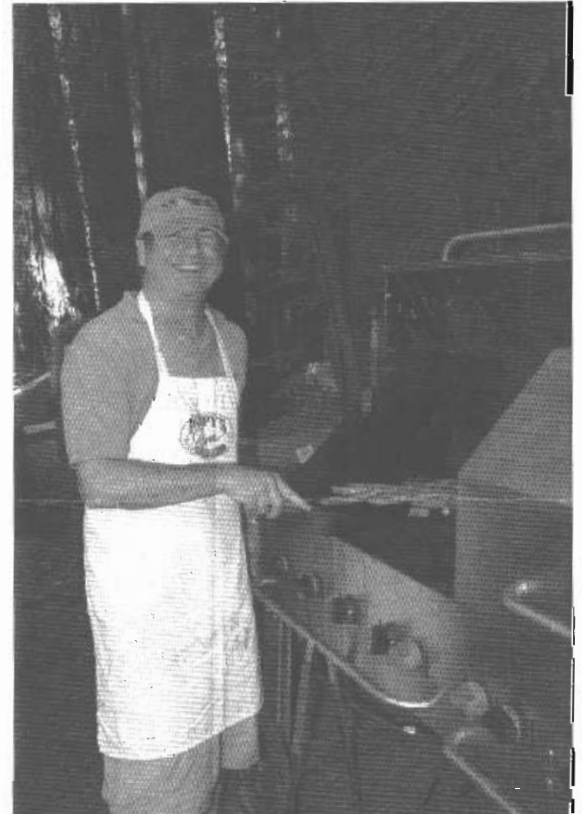
Keith Papulias and Team Contribute to MWPCA through Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival!

Once again Keith spear-headed the MWPCA Booth at the Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival, generating \$5,000 in revenues for the community. We're ever grateful, Keith, for your dedication and generosity.

Many of us have volunteered to help Keith year after year. It's our biggest fund-raiser and also one of the most fun ways to contribute to the community. Over the years the fund-raiser has generated over \$35,000 in revenues. Our steak sandwiches are legendary.

Special thanks also go to Lynn and Peter Hindley and Harold Dittmer who always help with set-up and tear-down. In all, 22 members of MWPCA volunteered to make this event a huge success.

Keith has also been contributing to the sewer study that's been underway for several years now.



Thank you, Keith! All we can say is, "Carry on!"



Kids' Pumpkin Party

MWPCA Community Center

Sunday, October 26th from 3:00—5:00 PM

Bring a pumpkin and come carve at the clubhouse, Please bring a dish to share for potluck dinner.

It will be a spooky good time. If you want to help with set-up or clean-up, or need more info please call Kit at 388-0829.

New Way to Keep in Touch—Using a Neighborhood Bulletin Board

“Join and Communicate with the neighborhood through our new email bulletin board named nuthill@googlegroups.com. This group communicates about neighborhood issues, interesting topics, what we have for sale, or other things that anyone wants to discuss. "Nut Hill" is the historic nickname for our area celebrating the eclectic diversity of our neighborhood. Gotta love it up here!

For those of you new to this electronic bulletin board idea, it works like an email party line. You can post discussion topics by simply sending an email to nuthill@googlegroups.com and everyone who has joined will see the email. Anyone can reply and continue the discussion.

But you have to first join! Do this by sending an email to me cyn@cynorman.com, your public servant, and I will add you to the list. Please send your name and address with the email so we know that you're part of the community. This will allow us to discuss freely about topics that we may not want the outside world to see or hear (like sewage issues, midnight hiking trips or sudden movie night announcements!)

Instructions:

1. Send an email to cyn@cynorman.com. Include name and address.
2. Within a day or two, you will receive an invitation from the group. Follow the instructions to reply.
3. You're in and we want to hear from you! When you have a topic, send an email to nuthill@googlegroups.com

Cindy Norman



Bus Service in the Neighborhood

Marin Transit would like to remind riders of the availability of The Stage coming through our neighborhood. Call them at 415/526-3239 or go to the following website for schedule updates: <http://www.marintransit.org/stage.html>

Winn Memorial Bench has Arrived

Stella and Howard would be pleased to see the special bench their family has donated honoring them and their contribution to MWPCA over the years. They were such a joy to us for decades.



Safety Report

We now own the safety siren and in the next 4-6 weeks we will do a community test of our communications system. The test will include:

- Siren Announcement
- AM Radio Broadcast (now operational)
- Telephone usage-calling the neighborhood on home phones via recorded message

This system will be used for emergencies. While other elements are in the works, we will test the above for coverage and message attention. The County, OES, and the Sheriff's Department have been really helpful and supportive in this effort.

The safety container is now in place at the Clubhouse. Its use is to store equipment and supplies to be used in case of disaster. It has been awarded to us by County Fire and it will house foods, bedding, etc. for use of those in need. The Red Cross will offer items for containment.

We will begin work on making the container ready for use by altering the interior (shelves, electricity, vents etc.) and modifying the exterior as needed.

Note - We need help with involvement with Fire/County CERT programs. If you have interest please call me.

Richard Popson
608-1172

Sewer Report

The sewer project has been inching along these past few months. The bulk of the work has been meetings held with other sewer agencies, adjacent to our Neighborhood. We have also met with the board of the Southern Marin Sewer Agency (SASM).

The purpose of these meetings has been to present our case and ask for their help and cooperation to help us build a sewer to the homes of the Muir Woods Park Community.

This has been a delicate task. One problem has been the "spills" from SASM'S treatment plant that occurred last winter. Timing for us is difficult. However I am happy to report that the agencies involved have given us the go ahead to proceed to further study the situation and make proposals to them.

About two years ago, we hired CSW/Stuber-Stroeh to do a feasibility study regarding bringing the sewer to the mountain. The "Feasibility Study" has been developed and refined. Maps have been added, existing pipes that may be accessed by us have been identified, and their physical condition assessed. It is accepted that one of the problems that Southern Marin has is "old leaky pipes," which allow the system to be infiltrated by ground water during the rainy season. One solution is to have us help to upgrade some of the existing pipes leading to the treatment plant. This would of course increase our costs.

We have spent some \$10,000 to pay for the work done so far by CSW/Stuber – Stroeh Engineering Group. This money has come from a dedicated fund raising group headed by Keith Papulias and private donations. No MWPCA dues money has been used.

The next step is to identify persons willing to join a much larger Sewer Committee and see if we can take the next steps.

If you are interested in joining the team please call Lynn Hindley at 388-7252. We need your help.

Thank you, Karen Buckter

Karen recently resigned from the MWPCA Board to pursue other interests. So, the current board and others in the community want to acknowledge her contribution to the community and express our gratitude for her accomplishments.

Highlights include: project manager for the remodeling of the community center, doing a particularly fine job on the kitchen. As a result, it has become easier and easier to attract rentals, which generate important funds for our community projects. Karen spent hours and hours, days and days on our behalf and we will continue to be grateful for years to come.

In addition, Karen has served as Treasurer for the MWPCA Board for the past four years, providing accurate and timely records on which to base our decisions.

We are grateful for Karen's contribution and wish her well....and look forward to seeing her at future community activities.



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 August and Thursday, 9 October, noting, discussing, or deciding the following:

Karen Buckter announced her resignation as Treasurer and from the Board. Thanks Karen for all you good works over the years.

Brad Silen agreed to assume the role of Treasurer.

Marin County has paid the bill for repair of the siren on the Clubhouse's roof

The Board has agreed to finish separating the lawn from the patio with a stucco-like material on the vertical walls and flat stone on the top, where people would be able to sit comfortably. Final design awaits stone selection and cost estimate and approval.

The Fall Arts Festival steak sandwich booth generated a net return of about \$5,400. Thanks to Keith Papulias and a dedicated large crew of helpers for three days of concentrated effort.

The MWPCA's financial condition is good, with adequate cash to cover near-term operations.

Harold Dittmer agreed to become a Board member, filling the vacant position left by Karen's resignation, and the Board voted unanimously to appoint him. Welcome aboard Harold.

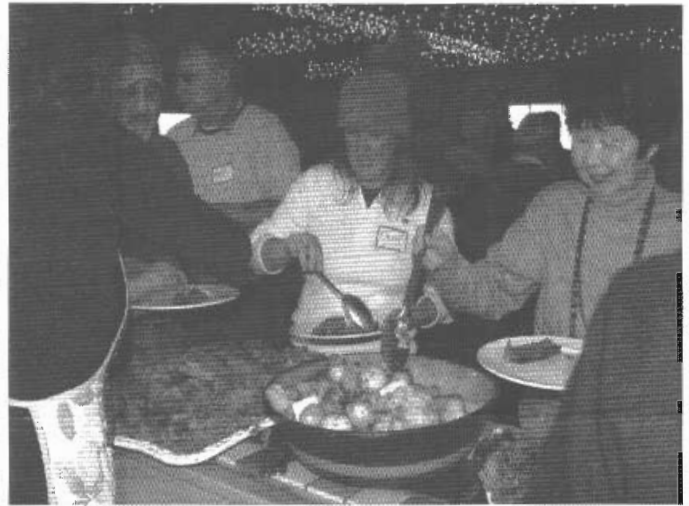
The Jazz Festival, a great party and entertainment the past few years, will not take place this year as John Lovell, the main inspiration, is busy with his upcoming wedding. Congratulations John!

General Election/Annual Dinner Friday, November 14th at 6:00 PM

Bring your ballots to the MWPCA Community Center to mingle with neighbors and elect your 2009 Board of Directors.

No-host bar will be open at 6:00 PM with pot-luck dinner beginning at 7:00 PM. Please bring a favorite dish to share with about 8 people.

The Nominating Committee made up of Lynn Hindley, Lila Daniels, and Brad Silen has put together an excellent slate for 2009.



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:

- Volunteer to serve on the 2009 MWPCA Board of Directors (see above)
- 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

Seasonal Changes in Muir Woods

Fall color brightens the forest: poison oak warns with bright red foliage, the maples are a softening golden yellow and look closely for the massed ladybugs! The woods rustle with chipmunk and squirrel eating in preparation for winter, and the bucks chase down the doe during this rutting season. Visitors still report otter sightings and the newcomer: the barred owl hangs out frequently up near the Fourth Bridge. (Check out the website for updates on this story!) Lots to look at while taking a fall walk!

The woods is also full of the noise of activity as trails get repaired (thank you trail crew and volunteers), biologists check to see if any young salmon could give us hope that a few coho spawners might have made it up last year, and school groups learn important ecology lessons in our newly configured Curly Bark Classroom (check it out at base of Ocean View Trail).

We continue to celebrate the park's Centennial with beach clean-ups, dance performances, an education symposium and soon to be released books. Keep an eye on the Visitor Center for Muir Wood Meditations (featuring notable quotes and the beautiful images of Stephen Joseph) and the new cultural self-guide.

This is a great time for locals to visit...fewer crowds, warm days and you can make a loop out of it with the Stage...plus, remember to bring out-of-town relatives for a special holiday experience since we're open every day of the year!

Special local event: Winter Solstice on Sunday, December 21...celebrate the shortest day and longest night among the tallest trees. Seasonal music and stories, walk the luminaria-lit woods, make symbolic wreaths. Free and perfect for families!

Enjoy the fall and wish for abundant rain to welcome the salmon!

Mia Monroe
Site Supervisor
Muir Woods National Monument
stay in touch by checking our website regularly (www.nps.gov/muwo).

Children's Christmas Party Sunday, December 21st 3:00—5:00 PM

Come join us for some good cheer, potluck and fun. Be sure to be there when Santa arrives by fire truck.

Please bring a dish to share and a small marked, wrapped gift for Santa to give your child. If you would like to help out please call Kit at 388-0829.



Annual International Holiday Buffet Sunday, December 9th, 6:00 PM

Festivities begin with a no host bar. Please bring your tastiest finger food delights to share with your friends and neighbors.



This is a very popular event and we encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors who may be new to the club and/or new to the area.

Here's a chance to renew friendships and make new ones as we head into 2009! So, dust off that recipe book, fill yourself with cheer, and come spread good tidings. We'll be waiting for you!

Photo Request for Website Update

Brad Sifen graciously volunteered to update our website and we'd like to include photos from the neighborhood that feature our community. Please email digital candidates to me, or call to arrange a time when I can scan your photos.

Thank you so much!

- Lila Daniels

lilasd@aol.com or 383-8422



Come Join Us!

Breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 am – 11 am

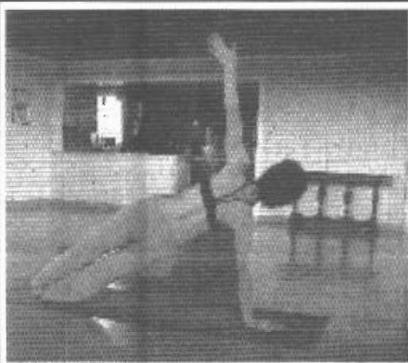
Lunch Wednesday – Sunday 11:30 am – 3 pm

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 through October 31st

\$14 per person

**Drop-ins are
welcome!**

Tuesdays and Thursday from 6:00 PM—7:00 PM

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

If it 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!

Neighbor Looking for Morning Work

Bonnie Himberg recommendation: Liz Montoya lives at 41 Ridge and is the nanny for Danica Himberg's two boys. She is looking for morning work on the mountain. She speaks English and Spanish. She drives and has a license but no car. Her contact numbers are 272-9172 (c), 388-2958 (h) and Lizmon82@gmail.com (email).



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Mt. Tam View home.
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Matthew Pouliot
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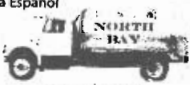
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• Install Risers



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LOOKOUT

Submit copy to:
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Confirm by phone:
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MWPCA MEMBERSHIP & DONATIONS Due for 2009!!

\$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
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2008 MWPCA Board Officers

President	(vacant)	
Vice President	Lynn Hindley	388-7252
Treas/CorresSec	Brad Silen	383-3612
Recording Sec.	Peter Hindley	388-7252
Director	Lila Daniels	383-8422
Director	Pat Teahan	388-1122
Director - <i>safety</i>	Dick Popson	388-1135
Director	John Lovell	383-4530
Director	Bob Clemons	388-3641
Director	Keith Papulias	383-0269
Director	Kit Harris	388-0829
Director		

Committees

Clubhouse Rentals	Lynn Hindley	388-7252
Membership	Lila Daniels	383-8422
Safety/Emergency	Dick Popson	388-1135
Lookout Newsletter	Lila Daniels	383-8422
Parenting	Kit Harris	388-0829
Webmaster	Brad Silen	383-3612

Community Calendar - see online for updates

ONGOING

Tuesdays	Yoga Class	6:30 PM
Thursdays	Yoga Class	6:30 PM

OCTOBER

Thursday	14	Board Meeting	7:00 PM
Sunday	26	Kids Pumpkin Carving	3:00 PM

NOVEMBER

Friday	14	General Election/Potluck	6:00 PM
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DECEMBER

Thursday	11	Board Meeting	7:00 PM
Sunday	14	Adult Christmas Party	6:00 PM
Sunday	21	Kids Christmas Party	3:00 PM

Clubhouse Available for Rent

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