



The Lookout

Muir Woods Park Community Association

www.mounttam.org

February—April, 2013

415/381-3119

St Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday, March 16th, 6:00 PM

\$20/adult and \$10/child (under 14)

Calling all leprechauns! It's that time of year again when neighbors gather to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day...whether we're Irish or not!

This party is one of the highlights of the year and a perfect excuse to hang out with some of your neighbors.

Cocktail hour starts at 6:00 PM with no-host beer and wine, followed by traditional corn beef and cabbage dinner at 7:00 PM. Dessert follows, along with Irish coffee for adults. Bar tending and dancing into the evening will be orchestrated by Foo Kennedy.

Lynn Hindley is the Executive Chef, with sous chefs Carol Stern and Lila Sparks-Daniels managing the event.

Carol and Lila need help with cooking, decorating, serving, clean-up, bar-tending, and music. Just contact either of them to volunteer:

Lila at 415/819-0845 or lilasd@aol.com

Carol Stern at 415/388-0824 or
huckleberrycas@yahoo.com

Space is limited to 60 people, so get your reservations in soon. Call either Lila or Carol to confirm.



MWPCA President's Report

It's that time of year again. By the time you receive this electronic issue of the Lookout you should have received an envelope containing a dues notice and, for those without an e-mail address, a separate sheet describing how delivery of the Lookout has changed. In the future it will be available only electronically, no more hard copies will be distributed. If you members have not yet done so, please send in your dues. Non-members, please consider joining the MWPCA.

Since the last Lookout was distributed, there have been many community events:

- Jazz Fest and BBQ in October entertained and fed an appreciative crowd
- Annual Meeting / Potluck in November
- December separate Holiday Parties for adults and children. The children's party had abbreviated attendance due to the closure of Panoramic near Brighton from a large tree that fell across the road with power lines attached. Excitement but Santa Claus still appeared.
- Also in December our Artists of Mount Tam group held their first-ever Holiday Faire. It was very well-attended despite the cold, rainy weather.

This year will bring most of the events we undertook last year. The next event will be the always-popular St. Patrick's Day dinner, scheduled for Saturday, March 16. I hope you are able to attend.

Regards,

Board Meeting Highlights

Note: Complete MWPCA Board minutes are now posted online at:

<http://www.mounttam.org>
password is: musty

Thank you, Photographers

The electronic version of the Lookout allows for more interesting photos to be added to the articles. This issue is no exception. Thank you:

Harold Dittmer
Nancy Gribler
Lila Sparks-Daniels
Woody Payne

Kids' Holiday Party Challenged but...!



On the day of the kids' holiday party, a tree fell across Panoramic Highway, closing the highway and cutting off electricity to much of the mountain.

Despite the challenges, the Kids' Holiday Party proceeded as scheduled. A small group of children made their way to the clubhouse and decorated cookies by candlelight.



The Throckmorton Fire Station deserves great credit for delivering Santa to the club house after spending hours dealing with the highway closure and related problems. Finally, the kids and their parents were very appreciative of the all-weather Santa that was not deterred by rain, sleet or lack of electricity. In the end, much holiday cheer was shared by the hearty mountain children.

- Jennifer Sheetz
383-3185

Adult Holiday Party

Momentum that began with the Artists' Holiday Faire, continued as the MWPCA clubhouse was transformed into the annual holiday party. International finger foods were provided by members and guests. Bonnie Himburg even invited her reindeer friend to stay and join in the fun.



Holiday Faire a Successful Launch

MWPCA hosted our neighborhood artists for a Holiday Faire on December 1st and 2nd, beginning with a reception and cocktail gathering at the clubhouse.

Despite the pouring rain and stormy weather, a record turnout of at least 150 came through and began their celebrating and holiday shopping.

Items available included: jewelry for men and women, baby clothes, photos, greeting cards, scarves, small paintings, placemats, soft sculptures, ceramics, and much more.

Participating artists and craftspeople:

Beverly Anderson	Tripp Carpenter	Etta Deikman
Rhonda Dubin	Roy Forest	Tracy Gillespie
Bonnie Himburg	John Lovell	Novella Menconi
Bonnie Neumann	Woody Payne	Linda Sawtelle
Lila Sparks-Daniels	Alex Uncapher	Apryl Uncapher
Kirke Wrench		



Special thanks go to Scott McBernie and Derrick Chan for their magnificent decorations. They were so great we left them up for the MWPCA Adult Holiday Party. Talk about great community spirit!



Sutat: From Surf Punk to Buddhist Monk

When we left off on this journey, I was a year into my cycle sojourn from California to the Tibetan Himalaya. Passing through Thailand for 3 months, I spent 10 days, on two different occasions learning meditation in a Buddhist monastery.

About a hundred Westerners woke before dawn with the somber tones of a large bell, walked a forest path to the meditation hall, and practiced sitting and walking meditation until light. There was a break for exercise, which I used to do yoga and Tai Chi. Then we silently tread another path to breakfast, a bowl of rice and vegetables eaten in silence sitting at the edge of the forest. There was a short period for some chores, before returning to the meditation hall for more meditation until lunch, which looked and tasted a lot like breakfast, adding a piece of fruit. There was a brief period for some rest or a bath or a stroll after lunch, but we were encouraged not to read for the ten days, and of course there was no talking. Back to the hall for the afternoon session, during which the alternate periods of sitting and walking meditation were broken up by short periods of instruction. There was no dogma, no beliefs to subscribe to, just a simple breathing technique for a focusing. There was also no dinner. We kept at it until after dark, filing back to our dorm rooms to sleep around 9 PM.

No talking. No reading. Little eating. Lots of time practicing meditation. About half of the original group dropped out, opting to head off to the nearby beaches, or to explore other parts of Thailand. The first several days were physically hard, sleeping on simple cotton stuffed mattresses on the floor, sitting cross legged on the floor, eating only twice each day, no distractions from my own mind through banter or literature. The labels on my bathing products became fascinating to read.

About day 7, I was wading in the banality of my thoughts, when, for no apparent reason, my focus on my breath became effortless. My body which had ached for a few days now felt light. My nostrils seemed super sized, and my breath so obvious. Time disappeared. When I opened my eyes, there were only two others on the hall, and it was night.

I completed the ten day course, continued on my travels, and returned for another ten days 3 weeks later. I loved living quietly in the forest, and grooved on the simple sitting and walking and breathing and focusing lifestyle. I still had, however, this idea that I was headed to the Himalaya, so I carried on in that direction.

It took me nearly another year, passing through Burma, Bangladesh, India, and Nepal, to reach the Tibetan Himalaya. Just before the first snows of winter closed the high mountain pass into Tibet, I contracted hepatitis. I decided to return to Thailand, get my health back in the monastery while practicing meditation, and return to cross into Tibet with the spring thaw.

I had no idea I would be spending the best part of the next decade ordained as a Buddhist monk.

-Sutat
Prescription Exercise
[Http://www.Sutat.com](http://www.Sutat.com)

Yoga on the Mountain

Sutat continues teaching our evening yoga classes beginning at 6:30 PM every Wednesday.

Sutat's teaching style introduces beginners in a safe and uncomplicated manner, while encouraging seasoned practitioners to move deeper into postures.

The focus on breathing brings benefits at all levels. Sutat brings over 25



years experience in the mind/body arts, including over a decade spent in Asia studying with the masters.

Many people remember him from his years spent at Rancho La Puerta Spa, where he taught yoga as

well as meditation and Tai Chi. Living on the mountain, he is thrilled to bring his teaching to the neighborhood.

Annual Jazz Fest and BBQ



More people enjoyed the afternoon this year than ever before... listening to the great jazz provided by the Art Lewis Band and Josh Jones and the Latin Dub Stars. We danced away, caught up with neighbors, and feasted on oysters from Drakes Bay Oyster Company, sausages, jambalaya, hot dogs and other delicious treats. The Lagunitas beer wasn't bad either. And, the weather was perfect. Thank you, John Lovell, for organizing this event!



2013 MWPCA Future Calendar Alert

Below are some of the dates that have been scheduled for the MWPCA Clubhouse. Make sure you mark your calendars for your favorites:

St. Patrick's Day Dinner	March 16, Sat.
Clubhouse Work Day	April 13, Sat.
Informal BBQ/New Member Welcome Event	July 14, Sun.
Jazz Fest & BBQ	October 6, Sun.
General Meeting/Election	November 8, Fri.
Artists of Mt Tam Open Studios	Fall – dates TBD
Adult Holiday Party	December 8, Sun.
Children's Holiday Party	After December 20
Regular Gatherings:	
MWPCA Board Meetings	2nd Thursday most months
Mt. Tam Purls	Last Wed. of the month

Calling All Artists on Mount Tam!

Painters, sculptors, ceramicists, photographers, textile artists, mixed-media artists on the Mountain - join us for our 2nd Annual Open Studios Art Walk to be held late summer or early fall.

We are drawing on the successful, neighborly and fun-filled event of last year, as well as our recent Holiday Faire at the MWPCA Clubhouse (see report to the left). We have new ideas to make the Open Studios even better.

Whether the space you create your art in is a huge studio or a little nook in your home, we welcome you to present your work (or you can even share space with another artist).

Visit our website to meet some of the talented artists in our neighborhood: www.mounttamartists.org

We seek enthusiastic artists who live in our neighborhood, willing to pitch in as a community to produce the event.

If you would like to participate, please contact Rhonda Dubin (415-497-4069) or Beverly Anderson (415-388-2613). Preliminary planning will begin soon - don't miss out!



The Lookout Newsletter Goes All Electronic!

This is the first issue of the Lookout without printed copies. By now, you should have received a letter explaining the change and requesting you send your email address to: lilasd@aol.com. Lila will add your email to the master email list. She "blind-copies" distribution, so no one sees your email address but her. Please send your feedback if you have a chance.

We had hoped to maintain the print version, as well, but the demand wasn't there to make it cost-effective to continue. Our apologies to those of you without email addresses. Hopefully, you have a neighbor nearby who is willing to print you out a copy.

And, remember to email me your email to get added to the list: lilasd@aol.com

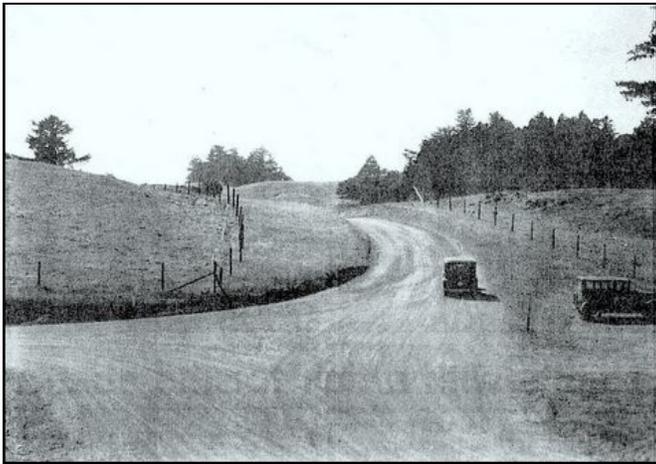
A History of Muir Woods Park Community Association

Nancy Klasky Gribler, January 2013

In 1950, an anonymous author took the time to perfectly type on eight sheets of onion skin paper 'A Short History' of the Muir Woods Park Improvement Association. This kind soul took the reader through the entire history of the club; why it was formed in 1935, high lit detail of the goals, obstacles and achievements, and laid out plans for the first clubhouse. One might presume the document was written to educate people about the Association and possibly fund-raise as it prepared to build the clubhouse (entirely by members) on land that had been granted to the Association that spring.

How It Began

In 1935, the County of Marin completed the road known as Panoramic Highway, reaching from Stinson Beach to the south end of Mill Valley. There was just one problem - they'd



decided not to pave the road. The dust and gravel that was kicked up in the busy summer months caused residents to endure an ever-present choking discomfort.

The local Supervisor showed little interest in championing the pavement project, so residents from what we now call 'Four Corners' to the West, got together and formed the Muir Woods Park Improvement Association at a meeting at the Mountain Home Inn in September of 1935. After electing officers and directors, they signed up property owners in the district and the membership grew to 108.

Only two months after formation, the Association had made an impact on the Supervisor, the Panoramic Hwy pavement project was funded and the project was completed soon after. Flush with this success, the Association became encouraged to plan more projects that would directly enhance the quality of life for the residents in terms of fire safety, social discourse, public services and other projects that specifically fit the needs of those in this district. One and a half years later, the Association earned a non-profit charter status from the state of California.

From 1935 to 1950, important projects were successfully completed including getting buses to pick up children going to Mill Valley schools, home mail service, providing a local voting precinct, PGE service, and fire protection.

The Association was responsible for all the original fire hydrants on the Mountain, plus they operated a volunteer fire department including a Ford Fire Truck, ladders and hoses until WWII, when all the able-bodied men had gone off to war. The Association convinced the Marin County Fire Department to take over the protection of residents and their homes - a benefit we enjoy to this day.

The Association was fervent about keeping restaurants and other retail off the mountain, and conducted a successful campaign that resulted in the area being zoned for residential and agricultural use only.

All Was Not Politics

Living on the mountain is beautiful and serene, but we can be isolated here. From the very beginning the Association worked to provide social activities including dances, Fiestas, potlucks, Christmas parties, carnivals, bingo, movies and guest speakers. They were particularly worried about keeping the youngsters entertained, and held well-attended folk dancing lessons. **The Lookout** was and continues to be the community paper bringing news and information to everyone who wishes to receive it.

As the activities, meetings and Entertainment Committee expanded, it became apparent that the Association needed a clubhouse.

Our Lovely Land on Ridge

In March of 1950, the Muir Woods Park Improvement Association was granted the land on Ridge Avenue by the estate of Reginald Houlton Calvert, shown on the map as Marin View Acres. Located on two lots, the land was breathtaking, and the perfect spot to build a permanent clubhouse.

In the next issue, history of the club from 1950 on, and the story of how the clubhouse was built.

This article would not have been possible without the efforts of the aforementioned anonymous writer, plus historical documents that have been preserved over the years. Please email me any files or photos that pertain to the Club and/or Clubhouse building, from past or present to nancy.gribler@yahoo.com

All Today Feels like Prelude

An hour a day in nature is a good thing...
6 hours must be better.

Today- I heard birds speak to their own in many tongues.
I felt the wind of their wings pulsating.

Today I saw color and texture and states of new life promise
and scars of death.
I felt my breath easy and quiet and at one
I felt it hard and insufficient and depleted.

I felt softness of mist, coolness of wind,
Stuffiness when wind stopped but air stayed filled with moisture.
Its moisture, became mine.

Now I sit at ocean's edge.
Sand defines everything.
It closes in on every orifice.
It reigns supreme.
Oddly what draws me in
What captures my spirit
What holds mystery
Possibly, no probably, metaphor...
Not crashing, rhythmic pulsating of waves
Cutting into and defining shore...
No- it is this "aside pond."
Are you fresh or salt water?
Dare I taste and solve the mystery?
No.

Something splashes
Reeds and willows and rushes
Mangrove-like stump asleep
Knee-deep in mucky water
Nothing here moves....
Green algae closes in.
Whoops! There swoops in a swallow,
Voices appear to my ear...

Silence is broken
Mystery remains...
I do not.
It's funny what familiar, inane conversation
Of a known species does to dispel magic.

Was **Magic** what I came here for?
I came here for something.
To be jolted out of complacency
Into more present
Into more alive
Into more absorption
Into more connection
Into is the operative word.
So...one last leaping frog?
One last look.

- Jean Sublett

You're Invited to a Turkish Gathering Sunday, February 24, 1:00 to 4:00 PM

We are hosting Hamza Yildiz, our Turkish rug friend, at the MWPCA Clubhouse. While he has jewelry and pillows as well as rugs to sell, we have always considered the get-togethers we host for him as social events with no expectation that people will buy anything. We usually host him at our home, but we are concerned about parking. Hamza is wonderful and very knowledgeable about Turkish rugs. In the past friends have brought small oriental rugs for Hamza to look at. He will also go to homes to look at larger rugs.

The company is called Noah's Ark Carpets and Kilims in Istanbul. Website: www.seeingisdreaming.com. Hamza's wife teaches in the archeology department at Yale. Her specialty is ancient Turkish pottery of a certain period.

- Bob and Judy Graham
jsgrlg@comcast.net

**If you have ideas for future articles for the
Lookout, please contact Lila at:
lilasd@aol.com**

**She's interested in article ideas, photos,
poetry, etc.**

That's Progress



When I was a small boy, we used to travel to Mill Valley from San Francisco by ferryboat and electric train.

All small boys loved the big old ferries, especially since they went close to Alcatraz, the grim island that was still a prison. Here, we were told, were the worst men in the world, locked up. They were so dangerous, no one could get close, even by ferry.

In Sausalito we transferred to electric trains for the short trip to Mill Valley. I was even more smitten by these trains, which seemed to my small eyes to be big, exotic and very fast.

More than one train met the boat at Sausalito—the others went to Fairfax or San Rafael. These were two and three car trains, but the Mill Valley train was usually only a single car. The trains were orange—the color of Halloween pumpkins—and at least twice as big as the electric streetcars we knew in San Francisco.

They were powered by an electric third rail, like BART trains are now. But these power rails were out in the open. If you stepped on them—zzzt! You'd be fried like a piece of toast. Or so we were told.

Once aboard, the Mill Valley train glided off along the Sausalito waterfront, which then held houseboats, a few elderly abandoned ships, and a shoreline packed with seagulls and shore birds. It turned off the main line at Almonte, then went past Tamalpais High School, and right down the middle of Miller Avenue.

The whole trip from Sausalito took only 15 minutes, and then, with a whoosh of air brakes the train stopped at Mill Valley.

Mill Valley! We thought exotic and charming. The railroad depot was the centerpiece of the town, and still is. In the electric train days there were taxis waiting, and the depot was a full service railroad station. You could send a telegram, or even buy a train ticket to New York. New York!



We thought a trip to Mill Valley was exotic and a longer trip, to say, San Anselmo, an adventure.

Mill Valley was only half the size it is now, but according to an old timetable, there were 30 trains a day between Mill Valley and Sausalito with connections to the City. Of course, after the Golden Gate Bridge was opened, the electric train service with its ferryboat connection was considered horribly old-fashioned and the last electric train rolled out of Mill Valley in 1940, only three years after the Golden Gate opened. The ferries lasted only a few months longer.

But the electric train and ferry service was actually faster in some cases than the bus service now offered by Golden Gate Transit. For example, more than 70 years ago, the Northwestern Pacific electric left Mill Valley at 7:15 a.m. and with the ferry connection, arrived in San Francisco at 8:05. One Golden Gate bus schedule is almost identical today, leaving Mill Valley at 7:16 am. Arriving in San Francisco at 8:07...actually a bit slower than the old way.

And coming home at night, the reliable 5:15 ferry from San Francisco with the electric train connection arrived in Mill Valley at 6:02 p.m. There is a Golden Gate bus running on the same schedule today. The bus takes a minute longer than the old ferry and train.

That's progress.

-carl nolte

Let There Be Light

Just after dark on a cold clear Marin County night a lone tree, high up a Mt. Tam ridgeline, far from any known power source, suddenly and magically came ablaze with 200 large white Christmas lights.

The story begins years before when a group of friends regularly took hikes from Kent Woodlands up the Indian Fire trail, an insanely steep rocky path that shoots straight up the Mountain. About halfway up stands a solitary, tall and majestic Douglas Fir. This single tree on the ridgeline stands out and can be seen from San Rafael to Sausalito. This tree is perfect for stringing lights. Perfect.

During a weekend hike our idea was hatched: to string lights on that particular tree, somehow power them up. After one of the friends unexpectedly died, the tree lighting idea took hold. It became a mission, in his memory, to get that tree lit.

The first year, on New Year's Eve, we lugged a car battery and battery inverter up that mountain. Erik, the expert tree-man climbed high using all his specialized tree climbing techniques with ropes and taut line hitches. He carefully strung the strands of big white lights, climbed back down and flipped the switch. Zap. The tree was lit! And it stayed lit for maybe 15 minutes. That was all. The light show was short.

The next year two car batteries. Big ones. Newer ones. Heavy ones. We lugged them up that mountain. Again Erik climbed high. Again he strung lights. And again that tree did shine. The lights stayed lit for 45 minutes. Tops. We were hoping for more but figured that inverter sucked up way too much juice.

The next year a generator! That would do the trick. This time we wisely drove up to the East Peak parking lot and packed that heavy Briggs and Stratton generator DOWN the Indian Fire Break to the tree. Erik again climbed high. We turned on the generator and the light shined brightly against the quickly descending dusk. We stood under the tall tree, drinking beer, and basking in the light. The plan was to leave the generator running and retrieve it early the following morning. So we left. We stopped at a fellow tree-lighter's house in the hills above Mill Valley to view our glorious handiwork from afar.

The next day we headed back up Tam bright and early, planning to hike down the ridge, grab the evidence and high-tail it out of there before anyone else found it. However, pulling into the East Peak parking lot we saw a Marin Municipal Water District Ranger truck. We knew

this was trouble. We overheard : "Yep, someone strung a bunch of lights on a tall tree down the ridgeline. We got a bunch of calls. I was told to get the power source."

Then we spotted our generator in the back of the Ranger's truck. So we just slinked down the hill back to Mill Valley sans generator.

Later that same day I hiked back to our tree to clean up any mess and to see if the ranger had left a note...and, there it was. In a plastic baggy, on Water District stationery reading that our generator – and beer – had been impounded due to various violations that included leaving "unattended property and unauthorized structures."

It went on to read that they would return our generator and beer, after discussing our actions with them at the Sky Oaks Ranger station in Fairfax. So Erik, with some trepidation, went to talk with them. They suggested that we should legally decorate the Fire Lookout on top of Tam instead of sneaking around after dark stringing lights.

Now the Tam Fire Lookout has been decorated with lights every December for the last fifteen years. Look up between 5PM and 11PM every night until January 1st and you should see them.

- Mike Muldoon
Marin County Fire Department

2013 MWPCA Dues are Due!

By now you should have received in the mail information about the association and ways to join. There is also a special alert about the Lookout going all electronic for those of you who haven't sent us your email address.

We hope you will join MWPCA for a variety of reasons. Because of our isolation, it's good to know our neighbors in case of emergency. And, many of us have found dear friends right here who share common interests.

Complete the form and return it to:
MWPCA Clubhouse
40 Ridge Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

To get added to the Lookout email distribution list, be sure to note that on your form or email Lila directly at:
lilasd@aol.com

Muirly Mia's Musings

Time to visit your nearby Woods Winter Wonderland! Soon baby coho salmon will emerge from the gravel, hopefully dodging the voracious otter to thrive underneath the ferny banks of our redwood forest. We are encouraged by this year's salmon runs over the holidays and also the recent news that there are red-legged frog egg masses in the new habitats down at Muir Beach.

Do you know that the red-legged frog is this year's featured endangered species? Learn more at the Muir Woods Visitors Center and pick up a special calendar. There is also a FREE coloring book on endangered species for kids.

We feel rejuvenated from the recent special celebrations we hosted among the redwoods:

- Winter Solstice was memorable and meaningful
- Earth Day brought several hundred into the park for lots of service work

Now we prepare Phase IV of the Muir Beach restoration work which will close the parking lot June - November with only hiking access (a great way for knowledgeable locals to enjoy it). Visit this spring to learn more about what's happening and to figure out your hiking trail approach to watch the changes...keep in touch through our website: <http://www.nps.gov/muwo/index.htm>

Early flowers delight. Look closely for the smelly fetid adders-tongue, watch for the first trillium to bloom, search for the Indian warriors on the upper trails as well as the blue-purple blooms of the hounds-tongue. Varied thrush flit among them and early butterflies such as mourning cloak are already flying!

Trail crews are hard at work opening the Hillside Trail, making repairs on Bootjack and Lost Trail. Do you have time to help us this spring? We'd appreciate you working along side us even for a few hours! There are:

- Forget-me-nots to weed
- Decks to floss
- Downed material to move to open up trails , and
- School groups to greet

Thank you for being good neighbors and we hope to see you early and late on our trails to enjoy the peace, quiet and rejuvenation of these special places. Breathe deep of these special places. Breathe deep.

- Mia Monroe
Muir Woods Site Supervisor
415/388-2596

Help Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station Reach You Quickly in an Emergency—2 Things to Do

Members of the Marin County Fire Department are committed to serving Marin's residents. As Firefighters, we are always ready to be called to someone's home for an emergency. It is our priority to have a quick response time.

As homeowners, there are two important things you can do to help emergency workers respond as fast as possible: maintain roadway access through vegetation management, and make sure address numbers are visible.

1. **By keeping vegetation cut back, fire personnel can better access residents in need.** Unmanaged trees and bushes growing adjacent to the street can, over time, narrow the overall width of the road. This narrowing causes longer response times for ambulances and engines trying to get to their destination. On overgrown streets vehicles need to drive slower and, in some cases, the streets are not accessible by our vehicles. Trees that have grown into the street should be removed. We recommend you use a licensed tree company to remove any trees.
2. **Your street numbers need to be easily seen** from both directions as you drive up to the property. They need to be four inches tall and made of reflective material. Lastly, numbers need to be mounted on a contrasting background (example - white numbers on green board).

By having a wide, clean roadway leading to your well marked house, you can feel confident that if an emergency occurs, help will not be delayed. In certain situations, minutes can make the difference between simple and catastrophic outcomes. Like the old saying goes, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

-Ben Ghisletta, Interim Senior Captain
Marin County Fire Department

PG&E has hired Davey Tree to maintain vegetation around power lines. If you see areas that need attention, contact Davey Tree at 415/717-2226.

Current Marin Real Estate Market

Sales have increased dramatically for Marin real estate in the last year and in the current market. The number of buyers wanting to purchase homes is very high and the current available inventory is very low. This high demand and low inventory is creating multiple offer situations, with most homes selling over the asking price. It is common to see 5 to 10+ offers on properties which are well priced and well maintained. This low inventory, low interest rate situation has catalyzed fervor with buyers, which is continuing to mount.

The pending rate (the percentage of homes in escrow in relationship to the number of listings on the market) is much higher than we have seen in years! Below one million dollars, there are twice as many homes pending as there are homes active on the market right now. This is a very unusual market for Marin real estate.

If you are sitting on the fence wondering when you might put your home on the market, NOW may be the BEST TIME to sell before inventory increases again. If you would like a free market analysis of your home, please give me a call. I will be happy to provide you with statistical information and comparable home prices to assist you with your decision making process. This is an excellent time to consider selling your home!

- Kathleen Delehanty
415/755-8300
kwhite@apr.com



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Thank you, Kathleen, for the quarterly real estate updates and for your description of the current market!



Kathleen Delehanty

Listing and selling properties on Mt. Tam.
Contact me...Let my 20+ years experience on The Mountain work for you.

Alain Pinel Realtors
DRE#00897634
415/755-8300
kwhite@apr.com

ACTIVE LISTINGS		
192 Adams St.	2BR/1BA	\$ 650,000
8 Walsh Drive	4BR/4.5BA	3,595,000
OFFERS PENDING		
642 Amaranth Blv	2BR/3BA	729,000
14 Monte Cimas	4BR/2.5BA	1,549,000
SOLD		
161 Bayview Driv	2BR/1BA	200,000
240 Panoramic H	3BR/2.5BA	710,000
631 Sequoia Vly	4BR/3BA	732,500
85 Marin View A	2BR/2.5BA	1,540,000
98 Washington P	3BR/2.5BA	1,675,000
746 Sequoia Vly	5BR/4BA	2,200,000
55 Ridge Ave	4BR/3.5BA	2,945,000
1040 Edgewood A	4BR/4.5BA	3,700,000
LOTS /ACTIVE		
290 Edgewood Av	.163 acres	199,000
56 Mountain Lan	.161 acres	198,000
Edgewood Ave (u	.57 acres	299,000

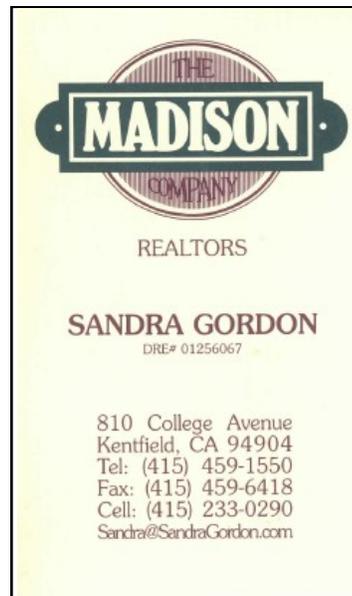
Neighborhood Bulletin Board—Neighbors Contacting Neighbors

Special thanks to our paid advertisers including Kathleen Delehanty and Keith Papulias whose ads appear on page 11:



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Fax: (415) 459-6418
Cell: (415) 233-0290
Sandra@SandraGordon.com



Matthew Pouliot
Pacific Union GMAC
Real Estate
Mill Valley, CA
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matthew.pouliot@pacunion.com
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Debra Allen, (415) 279-3751
Realtor® dallen@fhallen.com
DRE #01002768
Frank Howard Allen Realtors
25 E. Blithedale, Mill Valley, CA 94941
www.deballen.com
www.muirbeach.com
Selling and renting property in all of Marin (especially Muir Beach), since 1992

Other services in the neighborhood:

Seat Weaving

Linda Sawtelle: 415/806-9936

Mountain Repair Service

Andy Lillestol: 415/302-7790 Cell

Computer Services

Peter Spear: 383-1842

Graphics/Photography/Web Design

Rhonda Dubin: 497-4069

Ideas for future listings—suggestions?:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Dog Walking | House Sitting |
| House cleaning | Car pooling |
| Elder care | Meal preparation |
| Carpentry | Baby sitting |
| Web design | Play groups |
| Handymen/women | |

If you have items to share on the “Neighborhood Bulletin Board,” email Lila at: lilasd@aol.com

Neighbors

Armand Fernandez lived and hiked on the Mountain for close to 50 years. He bought his house at 812 Panoramic in 1963 and for many years commuted to the East Bay to the College of Alameda, where he taught philosophy and French.

Armand died, peacefully, in his sleep early Sunday morning, December 16. There was a memorial gathering for him on Saturday, January 19 at 2:00 in the atrium of the Unitarian Universal Church of Berkeley. Judy and Armand had been spending part of their time in Berkeley for the past couple of years.

Michael Kahn is recovering very well from a heart procedure done in early January. Ah, the wonders of modern medicine! Carry on, Michael.

Nancy Klasky Gribler and Jeremy Gribler just returned from a glorious week in Paris over New Year’s Eve. Lucky them!

Visit our website: <http://www.mounttam.org> for current and past issues of the Lookout, as well as other information related to the association

New Section: "Neighbor to Neighbor"

For people who want to reach others living here on the mountain with:

- Individuals or special interest group (SIG) ideas - like the gardening group Judy Sparks Graham is suggesting; other possibilities:
 - Artists group (see page 6)
 - Knitting (see page 14)
 - Cooking/Baking
 - Play groups
 - Poetry/Creative Writing
 - Book club
 - Dinner parties
 - Hiking
- Articles to exchange or sell
- Special events to announce: art shows, etc.
- Requests

Forward your listings to be included in the next issue to:

lilasd@aol.com
415/819-0845 if you prefer to call

Attention all Muir Woods Gardeners

If you would like to share information about gardening on the mountain, including successes and failures, with other local gardeners, contact Judy Sparks-Graham at: jsgrlg@comcast.net.

Knitters: "Mt. Tam Purls" 4th Wednesday of the Month 3:00—5:00 PM

Come join in the fun. To receive reminders contact Lila Sparks-Daniels at lilasd@aol.com for meeting locations and to get on the email distribution list. (Upcoming dates are also listed in the calendar on page 13.)

2013 MWPCA Board Officers

President	Peter Hindley	phindley@nexant.com
VP	Keith Papulias	383-0269
Treasurer	Carol Stern	huckleberrycas@yahoo.com
Rec. Sec.	Nancy Gribler	nancy.gribler@yahoo.com
Corresp. Sec.	Lynn Hindley	lynnhindley@sbcglobal.net 388-7252
Director	Lila Sparks-Daniels	lilasd@aol.com
Director	Faybeth Diamond	388-9255 fbdlive@comcast.net
Director	Harold Dittmer	hdittmer@sbcglobal.net
Director	Susan Johnson	susancaj@comcast.net
Director	John Lovell	golfodulce@yahoo.com
Director	Judy Sparks Graham	jsgrlg@comcast.net

Committees

Clubhouse Rentals	Lynn Hindley
Safety/Emergency	Susan Johnson/Faybeth Diamond
Lookout Newsletter	Lila Sparks-Daniels
Webmaster	Diane Curtis; dianecurtis@mail.com
Tech Consultant	Peter Spear: 383-1842
Parenting	Jennifer Sheetz: 383-3185

MWPCA Community Calendar See online for updates

(or page 5 for events all year long)

FEBRUARY

7:00 PM	7	Board Meeting
3:00 PM	27	Mt. Tam Purls

MARCH

7:00 PM	14	Board Meeting
6:00 PM	16	St. Patrick's Day Dinner
3:00	27	Mt. Tam Purls

APRIL

7:00 PM	11	Board Meeting
10 AM	13	Work Day at Clubhouse

Clubhouse Available for Rent

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