

To the Point

July | 2011

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PEDRO POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Pedro Point Parents Group

It's finally starting to feel like summer and Pedro Point Parents Group (PPPG) is looking forward to more get togethers as the weather warms up and the kids are out of school. Thanks to everyone who joined us at our latest event, the PPPG Kids Dance Party. Not only was it a ton of fun but we

were able to raise some money for our playground renovation next year. Look for the playground project website launching this summer which will detail the project and our fundraising efforts.

Lastly, welcome to the new parents and expecting parents who have joined our group. Pedro Point Parents Group (PPPG) is a committee under the PPCA. We have a yahoo group that links Pedro Point Parents (moms and DADS!) where we can share resources, post announcements and schedule events specific to having fun with the kids. Contact Jennifer Hoover at simplygraphic@comcast.net to be added to our list. See you around the neighborhood!
- Jennifer Hoover

Pacifica Tidies Up in Preparation for the Best of the Road Crew

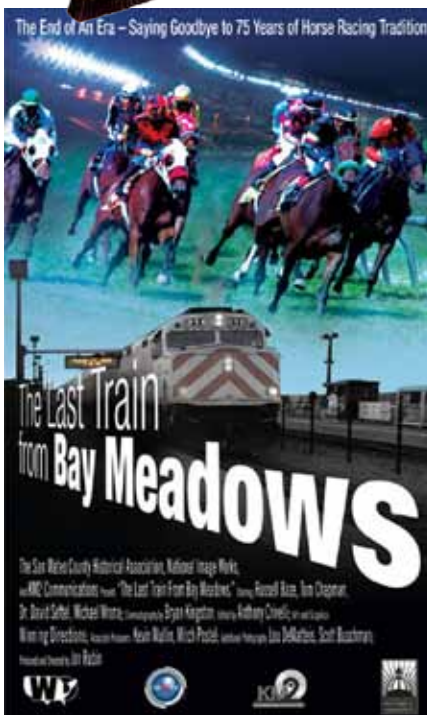
On a chilly Saturday morning, a hearty crew of Pedro Point volunteers arrived with tools in hand to spruce up the stretch of Danmann and Shoreside Drives on the berm and road to Shelter Cove in preparation for the Rand McNally/USA Today Most Beautiful Town in America Road Trip contest. In a few short hours, Dan Shugar, the Jacquiths, the Ferrys, Dick Keating, Breck, and Danny E had trimmed back weeds and picked up trash, significantly improving the look of one of our city's most scenic views.

As a friendly reminder, the evaluators will be in Pacifica this coming Monday and

Tuesday, July 11th and 12th. Let's clean off the welcome mat and show the

country that Pacifica truly is the beautiful town in America!

- Danny Estrella



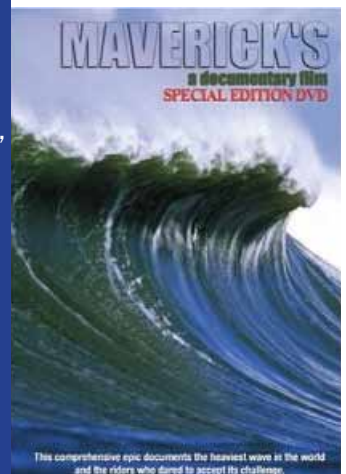
Local Documentary Viewings

The Last Train from Bay Meadows and Mavericks September 9th 7pm at the Firehouse

In August of 2008, after 75 years of operation, Bay Meadows, the longest continuously operating thoroughbred racetrack in northern California closed. The pressures of off track wagering and real estate economics finally ended three quarters of a century of racing tradition.

This full-length, nationally broadcasted documentary features breathtaking images and poignant interviews as the history of the Bay Meadows racetrack in San Mateo, California is celebrated. The film provides an up-close and personal, behind-the-scenes perspective of operations at the track,

and an in-depth look at its fascinating history and eventual closure, and was filmed by Pedro Point's own Bryan Kingston of KM2 Communications. Special thanks to Bryan for generously donating the rights to this showing to the community. To help raise funds for ongoing firehouse improvements, we request a donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids at the door. We will also be viewing Mavericks: this short documentary that takes the viewer through the history of Mavericks to what is today- a world-renowned surf location and host of its own annual big wave surf contest in Half Moon Bay, California. Come join us!



Meeting called to order at 7:45 by Danny Estrella.

Minutes approved

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as they appeared in the To The Point newsletter.

Pacifica Sanchez Library Garden

Danny introduced Elizabeth Martin, a Pedro Point resident who described the planting beds at the Pacifica Sanchez Library Garden. The Library Garden is beginning to build the beds to raise vegetables and fruits to be donated to the Pacifica Resource Center and low-income seniors. Two beds were built by volunteers this past Sunday, and six more are planned. Elizabeth noted with appreciation that Linda Mar Ace Hardware and Lyngso Garden Materials had contributed materials for the project, and Wells Fargo had provided funds to purchase lumber.

PPCA Bylaws

Marcia Settler passed around copies of the revisions proposed by the Bylaws Committee. The revisions include:

- A quorum is changed from two-thirds to a simple majority of the Directors
- Only one signature is required on checks.
- PPCA meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month rather than the second.
- The terms of Board members are changed from one year to two.

The revisions were approved, and the vote will be finalized upon receipt of any outstanding mail-in ballots.

Earthquake/Tsunami Preparation

I described what was happening with emergency preparedness on the Point. Danny and I had started dividing the neighborhood into cells of six to ten houses for mutual assistance, but recently Captain Realyvasquez of the Pacifica Police suggested we hold off on that activity until the City organizes its own program. But given events in Japan and the uncertainty of the City's schedule, I'm thinking we might want to move ahead anyway. But it will take more than two people to get this project going. Cherie Chan, Sam Casillas and Therese Langille volunteered to help.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Ferry distributed a P&L and balance sheet for the past three months, and explained that there was approximately \$5800 in the PPCA checking account, plus \$3200 in the fund for the playground. The treasurer's report was approved.

Events Committee

Marcia reported on several upcoming events:

- Garage sale on May 7. People can rent a table at the Firehouse, or sell from their own houses. A list of participating addresses will be on display at the Firehouse.
- Potluck dinner on May 13, which will be a special celebration of the life of Jean Bennett.
- The third annual Chili Cook-Off will be held on August 21.

The question was raised as to what had happened to the Cioppino Feed that had been scheduled for March 13. It was explained that late in the process the lead organizer for

the event was not able to get the event launched in time and it was subsequently cancelled. (Thanks anyway to all the PPCA volunteers!)

Danny mentioned that Brian Kingston has recently completed a documentary about the closing of Bay Meadows racetrack, and there was a possibility the film could be shown at the Firehouse. Danny will pursue this possibility.

Anne Hitz suggested asking Brian to create a video of the Firehouse that could be used as a virtual tour on the Firehouse website. The suggestion was well received, and Danny said he'd touch base with Brian. John Janes said that he could make a video if Brian couldn't, but his wouldn't be as good as Brian's.

Firehouse Committee

Danny reported several recent projects that Frank Lazzari and others had worked on:

- Frank wired the cellar with much-improved lighting
- Frank has expanded the deck and built an attractive cabinet for the garbage and recycling containers.
- A dozen volunteers completely renovated the main office room downstairs. Cleaned and painted the walls, new cabinets, new carpeting.
- Top priority projects now include:
 - The leak in the tower
 - Refinishing the floors. Bruce has contacted a good-quality finisher and will obtain pricing from him.

Other Business

Alice Whealey raised the issue that there's no sidewalk in front of 384 San Pedro Avenue, which she feels is a public-safety issue. It's against PPCA policy to take sides in neighbor issues like this, but several people made constructive suggestions about how the issue might be resolved.

Sam explained his follow-up on several items raised at the January meeting:

- The City collects a fee on construction projects and those monies are intended for neighborhood parks. The question had been raised whether those funds might be available for the playground behind the Firehouse. But Sam checked with the City, and found the funds can be used only for City-owned parks.
- Some of the public trash cans – like the one in front of the Firehouse – are not being emptied by Recology. Sam checked with Chris Porter and Recology, and it seems the problem is new drivers. The hope is these cans will be emptied once the drivers learn the routes.
- The issue of parking congestion on the Point is already aggravated by the many illegal in-law units, and is likely to become even more troublesome if paid parking is implemented at the beach. Frank has investigated having the City formally restrict parking in front of the Firehouse. These parking issues were referred to the PPCA parking committee, comprising Denny Delk and me and, as of this meeting, Sam, Danny and Mel Pleasant.

- Respectfully submitted, Breck Hitz

A May Potluck to Remember

The potluck dinner held in May was a tribute to remember Jean, our friend and neighbor who passed away recently. Many of Jean's friends came and shared their memories of him, some very touching, some very humorous. Charlie Sturtevant donated Jean's overalls, jacket and shopping basket that we associated with him for the past few years. Charlie also provided a wonderful collection of photos of Jean taken as a young, handsome man through recent times. I want to thank all of you who came and shared this moment to celebrate this special individual.

- Danny Estrella

Firehouse Work Party

Sunday, August 7th 10 am to 12 pm.

In our ongoing efforts to keep our volunteer-built pre-Pacific Firehouse the true gem that it is, a few tasks need to be completed. Many hands make light work, so come down to the Firehouse to pitch in!

Together, we will do some light painting, move some furniture, repair the playground fence, and cut back some extra plants. Come on down! If you have questions or to sign up, contact Danny at 359-3263 or warnella@hotmail.com

- Danny Estrella

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PPCA Meeting Agenda

Events Committee - Marcia
Firehouse Committee Update - Danny
Pedro Point Parents Group/Committee - Jen
Walk-in new business

Next PPCA Meeting:

Thursday, July 21st at 7:30 pm

PPCA Meetings are now held on the third Thursday of the month in January, April, July and October

President's Message

Greetings to all in this summer of 2011. We've had a few nice, warm days to gather 'round the BBQ, spruce up our gardens and make progress on those outdoor projects.

We have some fun events coming up: the next potluck dinner is on July 15th, on August 21st we'll be hosting the third annual Chili Cook Off, on September 9th we'll be showing Bryan Kingston's documentary film of the closing of Bay Meadows "The Last Train from Bay Meadows". This film captures the sense of family of the employees and patrons of the race track and the history and rich culture that thrived among jockeys, owners and fans of horse racing. Some of the shots taken by Bryan are spectacular, like the ones taken from the starting gate when the jockeys steady the horses, brace for the starting gun and sprint from the gate. Whether you're a horse race fan or just like to see a great story told this is a fun film to see. And it was made by a resident of Pedro Point.

I'm activating the wish list again. We need some new tables and chairs for the Firehouse. If you'd like to 'adopt' some we can pick up tables for \$88 and a 4-pack of padded seat chairs for \$93 at Costco. We could also use some 5-gallon bottles for our water well on the bar.

As a reminder, the PPCA newsletters and bylaws are now posted on the PPCA webpage (pedropoint.org). Some PPCA members now receive their newsletter via email. Electronic distribution of the newsletter saves the PPCA a lot of money. Also, if you get the newsletter electronically you get to see it in color. If you're not receiving the newsletter by email and would like to please let me know.

- Danny Estrella

Next PPCA Potluck: Friday, JULY 15, 6:30

The results are in! We sent out an electronic survey* and people preferred Friday, July 15th for next get-together at the Firehouse. Good food, good conversation—come meet your neighbors—get involved in your community—no charge. Please bring something to share. If your last name begins with the letter below, please bring the following item:

A – H: appetizer or side dish
I – R: main dish
S – Z: dessert

Wine, beer, water and coffee will be available. Questions?
The next potluck is tentatively scheduled for September 16th.

- **Marcia Settel 355-8731 gilset1158@gmail.com**

* If you did not receive the survey, it means you are not on the email distribution list. Please help us update the mailing list and keep costs down by e-mailing any changes to your contact information or preference for an electronic copy to Mindy Clar – mindyclar@yahoo.com or call: 359-4567.



For most Beautiful City in America (Population under 50,000)

Just a reminder that the Rand McNalley Best of the Road team will be in Pacifica on Monday and Tuesday, July 11 & 12.

You can still help in any of a number of ways:

- Go to any beach or street and pick up litter
- Find the spot in Pacifica you want to remove weeds and

JUST DO IT!

Particular locales they will surely go:

- Linda Mar Boulevard
- Bike Path from LM to Mori Point
- The Segway Tour Path from Rockaway through Pedro Point to the Shelter Cove Overlook

LET'S GO PACIFICA!

- Lynn Adams



PLT and PPCA Jointly Sponsor an Evening of Food and Wine at a Grape in the Fog

Support the Pacifica Land Trust - Grape in the Fog Fundraiser

Join friends and Land Trust colleagues and enjoy wine and a casual dinner at A Grape in the Fog (AGITF) to benefit the Pacifica Land Trust!

Tuesday evening, July 19, starting at 6:30.

Dinner will be served as guests arrive from 6:30 and 8. Dinner, wine and dessert, \$25; dinner only, \$14.

A portion of the evening's proceeds will go directly to the Pacifica Land Trust.

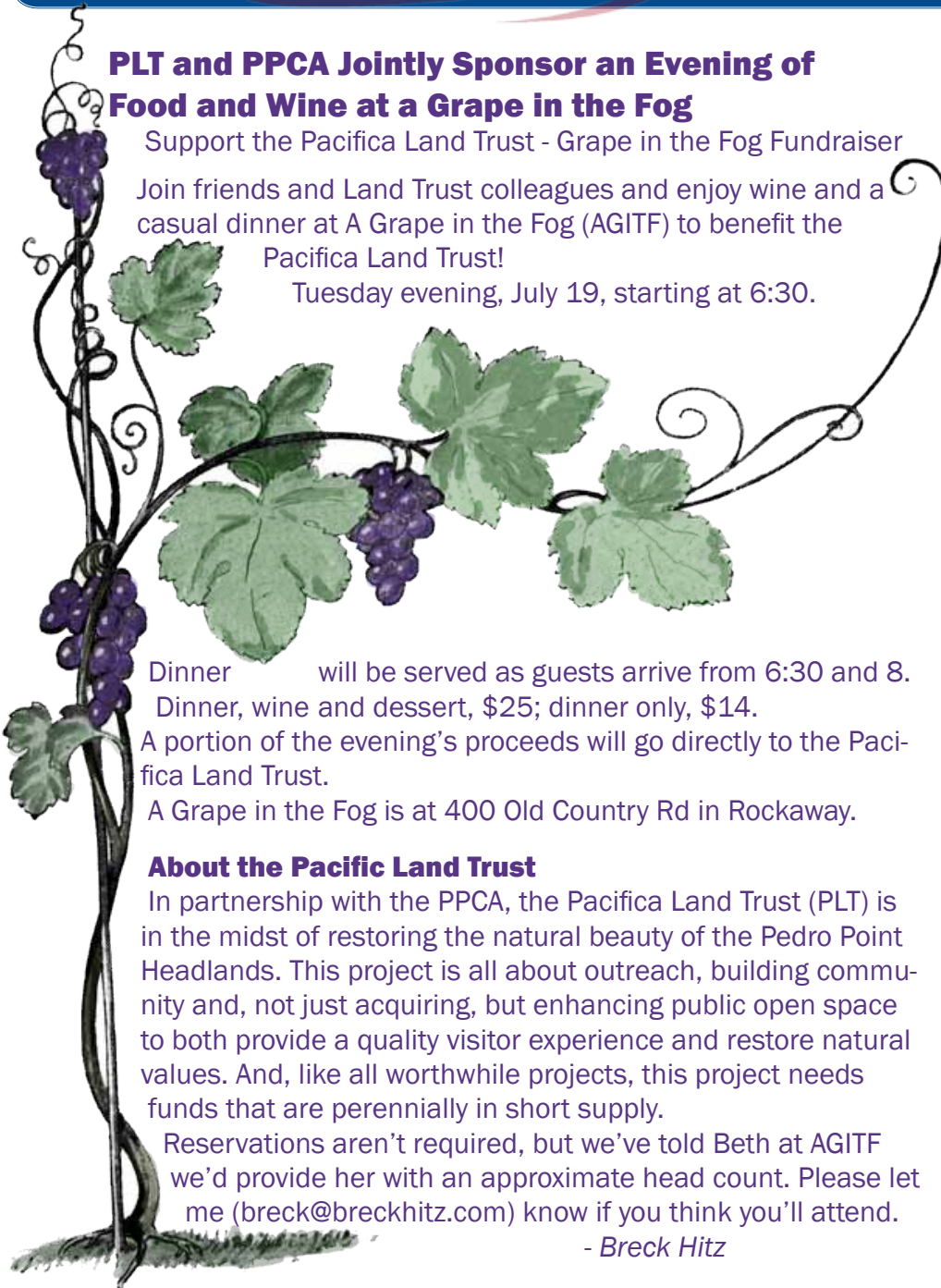
A Grape in the Fog is at 400 Old Country Rd in Rockaway.

About the Pacific Land Trust

In partnership with the PPCA, the Pacifica Land Trust (PLT) is in the midst of restoring the natural beauty of the Pedro Point Headlands. This project is all about outreach, building community and, not just acquiring, but enhancing public open space to both provide a quality visitor experience and restore natural values. And, like all worthwhile projects, this project needs funds that are perennially in short supply.

Reservations aren't required, but we've told Beth at AGITF we'd provide her with an approximate head count. Please let me (breck@breckhitz.com) know if you think you'll attend.

- Breck Hitz



Pedro Point Headlands Work Parties

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for some habitat restoration work on the Pedro Point Headlands on July 31st, August 28th and September 17th (Saturday - Coastal Cleanup day) if you can. We will be widening trails, collecting seeds, and possibly embarking on some experimental restoration work on one of the eroded slopes. We will also check on the native plants newly planted on the old slide and help them along with water if needed.

We meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse at 9.45 am and carpool up to the site. We plan a hike and refreshments and return to the firehouse between 1 and 1:30.

In June, 24 volunteers had fun collecting seeds and removing invasives around the staging area and Earth Day planting site. They also took a hike to the coast to check on all of the flowers and native plants.

If you would like to learn more and help some, we'd love you to join us. Old, young, and everyone in between are encouraged! We have fun and we make a difference, please join us.

If you would like more information you can go to www.pedropoint-headlands.org or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lynn Adams at 650.355.1668.

- Lynn Adams

Community Garage Sale Report



We hope the garage sale was a great success for all of the households who participated, as well as for everyone who went shopping. We raised approximately \$250 for the Firehouse and better yet, successfully cleaned out our homes!

- Marcia Settel



Victory Over Iceplant!



Just Part of The June Restoration Crew



3rd Annual Pacifica Chili Cook-Off

The date is set... Sunday August 21! Pacifica's best Chili Cook-Off contest will be held at the Firehouse with proceeds to benefit the PPCA. ALL chili-making contestants and chili eaters are welcome: there will be meat and no-meat categories. Music and entertainment will accompany tasters as they enjoy all kinds of Chili - hot and spicy or sweet and savory! Come and bring your family and friends - there will be fun and food for everyone! If you are interested in joining the contest, contact Bruce or Cherie at cherieandbruce@gmail.com or 557-1491.

- Bruce Ferry



CHILI COOK-OFF



Featuring Live Music and Entertainment
 by local band Blue on Green

A Fundraiser
 at, and benefiting
 the historic
 Pedro Point Firehouse
 at 1227 Danmann Avenue
 in Pacifica. <http://pedropoint.org/>
 For info about the cookoff, call: 557-1491
 or email cherieandbruce@gmail.com

3RD ANNUAL PACIFICA

Sunday, August 21st
 Noon—4:00 pm

CHILI COOK-OFF

ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI & SIDES
 VEGETARIAN AND MEAT CATEGORIES
 UNLIMITED SODA AND LEMONADE. NO-HOST BAR

\$40 Family
 \$15 Adult 21-64 yrs. old
 \$ 5 Seniors/Youth



Summer Activities In our Community
(For more details, open your community newsletter)

Event	When	Page
Beautiful Town Road Trip	Mon-Tues July 11-12	1,4
Potluck	Friday, July 15, 6:30 pm	4
Land Trust @ A Grape in the Fog	Tuesday, July 19, 6:30 pm	4
PPCA Quarterly Meeting	Thursday, July 21, 7:30 pm	3
Headlands Work Days	Sunday, July 31, 9:45 am	5
Firehouse Work Party	Sunday August 7, 10 am	3
Chili Cook-Off	Sunday August 21, noon	5,6
Headlands Work Days	Sunday August 28, 9:45 am	5
Local Movie Night	Friday Sept. 9, 7 pm	1
Potluck (tentative)	Friday Sept. 16, 6:30	4
Headlands Work Days	Sunday Sept. 17 9:45 am	5

Pedro Point Community Association
 P.O. Box 951
 Pacifica, CA 94044



Next PPCA Potluck
Friday, JULY 15th
6:30 pm at
The Firehouse

Is Your Newsletter Label Incorrect or Incomplete?
 Would you like to receive this by email and save the environment by going paperless?
 (Mailing this newsletter costs our Community nearly a dollar in postage and printing fees each quarter.)

Then please help us update the mailing list by e-mailing any changes to:
 Mindy Clar - mindyclar@yahoo.com or call: 359-4567