



Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

Palomar Park in 1940 by Irene England courtesy of Dan Petelin

We arrived on "The Hill" in February of 1940 at 324 Palomar Drive. (Helen and Doug Gottschlich current residence). We considered ourselves way out in the country in those days. There were only 25 houses up here. Where Clifford School is now there was a cow pasture and we often went down there to pick blackberries for pies and jams. We had a Property Owner's Picnic in the 40's at Searsville Lake (now Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve) and we played games and ran races. I remember my husband Art and I won the three-legged sack race. We had a lovely tranquil year but then World War II was upon us and we all felt compelled to do something for the war effort. The men all organized to be Air Raid Wardens and Fire Wardens. We were most concerned about incendiary bombs being dropped on our dry hills by the enemy. The Fire Wardens burned off the hills systematically and carefully with very controlled burning. We all had a place to go in our homes where the lights wouldn't show through at night during an air raid signal. All lights were intentionally out in Redwood City throughout the war. The women on the Hill also organized the AWVS (American Women's Voluntary Services) and we met once a week at Mrs. Crowley's home (currently the Taylor home at 415 Palomar) to sew, knit and make quilts, whatever was needed for our "boys" in the war. Late on it was changed into the Red Cross and then we had to sterilize everything. We fashioned a little hospital on the Franchesi Ranch (20 acre ranch with cattle and horses, now the Belle Roche Estates). It was just a little shack, but we painted and scrubbed everything and collected beds, mattresses and emergency supplies. We sterilized everything and had it all ready for any disaster. With all our war activities and Property Owners meetings and the Garden Club, we all got to know one another not only as neighbors, but as real friends too! There is no place like Palomar Park. *(Irene England passed away in the Spring of 1998. Irene was one of the founding members of the Palomar Park Garden Club and known for her huge collection of begonias.)*

NOT EVERY DAY IS TRASH DAY

Every community has its own rules and regulations regarding the issue of trash bins and when they should be placed on the street for pickup and when they should be removed from the street. So here is the Palomar Park skinny:

- Trash, Recycle & Yard Waste bins should be placed on the curb by 6:00 a.m. on Thursdays.
- All bins should be put back inside your yard by 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Why is this necessary ? Well a few reasons:

- > Trash bins are a traffic hazard on our narrow and winding roads. Vehicles often need to veer into the oncoming traffic lane to avoid trash bins when they are out on our Palomar Park roadways for pickup.
- > Unauthorized use by neighborhood workers, utility works and contractors (other people other than you and your family filling up your trash bins.)



> Unsightly and a real eye sore (have pride on how the front entrance to your home looks.)

> Trash bins left outside are a signal to burglars that you are not home.

Obviously, it's not always possible to retrieve your bins by 6:00 p.m. if your traveling or you return home in the wee hours of the evening. Given these type of cumstances, having a neighbor act in your stead to retrieve the bins is a good idea.

Be a champion of Palomar Park and follow this criteria to maintain our community to the best of our ability.

CONTRACTORS YOU CAN TRUST

For many of us finding a good contractor is a very hard task. Homeowners need to be very careful when hiring contractors and here are some must do's:

- * Verify contractor's license with Contractors State License Board: www.cslb.ca.gov
- * Check insurance & workers comp policy
- * Do not prepay for work
- * Check references

Preferred Palomar Park Contractors:



Fences - Julio Cerna 650 704-4198

Roofs - R&G Roofing 650 759-0614

Raingutters - BK Raingutters 650 271-2573

Tree trim/removal - AM Tree Service 510 862-9965

Fire Prevention/Home Hardening - Ember Defense 415 573-24000

Handyman jobs do not require a contractor's license but be sure to check references.

STAY INFORMED DURING EMERGENCIES

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Services provides emergency alerts through a notification system, SMC ALERT, which sends emails and texts to you during an emergency, i.e. wildfire, evacuations, road closures, flooding, police activity, etc. Please subscribe to SMC ALERT so that you and your family can stay informed and safe during an emergency. **SUBSCRIBE TODAY**

<https://www.smcgov.org/cmo/smc-alert#>



2022 APPROVED PPO BUDGET

REVENUE

Estimated Member Dues - \$6,700.00

EXPENSES

Mailbox & Sign board repairs \$2,500.00

Doggie bags/Fire hydrant blue dot markers - \$300.00

Printing/Banners/Flyers (incl. 2 newsletters) \$900.00

Summer Picnic - \$1500.00

Website/Postage/Admin/Tax Filings -\$325.00

Roadside hazardous fire fuel reduction - \$1,000.00

SPRING INTO ACTION

Spring is here and it's always a busy time of year. How should you prioritize home and garden maintenance?

Here are some tips to ensure your house and garden stay in tip top shape.

- * **Test** all sprinklers to make sure there are no leaks or clogged sprinkler heads. (Yes, it is time to turn on sprinklers.)
- * **Trim** back bushes and trees especially overhanging your house. Be sure to remove anything dead.
- * **Weed whack** annual grass when it starts to turn yellow.
- * **Add fresh soil/fertilizer** around your important plants. (Water after fertilization to prevent burning your plants.)
- * **Add mulch** to help with water retention. (do not place wood mulch next to your house as mulch is combustible.)
- * **Use weed and feed** on your lawn (be sure to water afterward or you could burn your lawn)
- * **Mulch** around any sensitive plants or bushes. Do not mulch your entire yard. This only adds combustible material to your property. Keep combustible mulch away from your house.
- * **Roof evaluation** - is it time for a new roof?
- * **Exterior Paint** - does your house need a new coat of paint?
- * **Wood Decking** - is it time to replace it? If so think about ignition resistant material like TimberTech Azek.
- * **Gutters/Gutter Guard** - do you need to replace or repair gutters or add gutter guard to prevent debris buildup?

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPER DAY

June 7th and September 20th

will be the Palomar Park chipper days. Please have your materials out on the street the day before.

It is important that all the following requirements are met:



- * Stack branches with cut ends facing out to the street
- * Vines and leaves are not chippable (place in your greenwaste bin)
- * No root balls with dirt are allowed
- * Do not allow your pile to block the roadway
- * No lumber or branches with nails
- * No vines or piles of leaves
- * No short firewood size wood or wood cut into rounds
- * No branches larger than 8 inches
- * Limit your pile to 10'L x 10'W x 6'H

If you have questions re: the Palomar Park Chipping program please contact Denise Enea-Charlebois @ denea@woodsidefire.org

IT'S TIME FOR THE BABIES

Spring means baby everything; Baby birds, owlettes, hawks, fawns, foxes, racoons, possums and even skunkettes. Our wildlife plays an important roll here in



Palomar Park. Owls and foxes are critical for rodent control. Birds, racoons, possums and skunks eat insects of all sorts. Our deer population are beautiful, endearing and provide such a tranquil ambiance to Palomar Park:

Here are some reminders and tips to help our wildlife flourish and maintain our natural environment:

- ❖ Before weed whacking walk your areas to make sure there are no ground nests or fawns.
- ❖ Do not use pesticides or herbicides on a broadcast scale. Spot spray individual weeds and use organic insecticides like soap & water or neem oil.
- ❖ If trimming bushes or trees look closely for active nests. Give them a wide birth until the baby birds fledge the nest.
- ❖ Refrain from spraying your trees for moths or worms; the trees can handle the insects and the birds depend on the protein for their young.
- ❖ Do not use poison which can kill foxes, hawks and owls when they eat a poisoned rodent. Instead use mouse and rat traps in safe areas. Remove ivy and wood piles which only harbor rodents.
- ❖ Create small water features in your yard, i.e. shallow fountains or dishes of water.
- ❖ Plant native pollinator plants to attract bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects.
- ❖ Reduce the amount of tall fencing in your yard or lower portions of fencing so wildlife can safely utilize the natural cooridors to get off the road and travel to other open areas to reach food, water and safe havens.
- ❖ Drive slow and be on the look out as their will soon be fawns and other very young wildlife out and about who are likely not road savvy.
- ❖ Keep dogs on leashes when in open wildlife areas as chasing young wildlife often ends up as a deadly encounter for the babies.

MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes and sign boards are receiving their annual maintenance.

Contact us at: PalomarNews@gmail.com if you have an issue or maintenance request.



LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

Local honey for sale; Pure, raw honey from Palomar Park's spring blooming trees and flowers. Bees are crucial to the environment and honey is a super food that has amazing health properties.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/drugs-supplements-honey/art-20363819>

\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)

To place an order contact:
Denise Enea-Charlebois
650 740-9883 or
decharlebois1@gmail.com



**Pofits go to Red Cross and Animal Welfare charities.*

EVACUATION.....KNOW YOUR ZONE

Residents can find an evacuation map showing all the exit routes out of Palomar Park on our website; www.palomarpark.org. It is your responsibility to know all the routes and become familiar with them. In the event of a wildfire, "Know your zone". This is the SMC evacuation system and you can go to: community.zonehaven.com to find out critical evacaution information. Palomar Park's zone is **SC-E008**

CONSTRUCTION REGS= NO SUNDAYS

The LEGAL hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. **No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.** Also, there are hefty fines in SMC for not pulling a permit for your project. Permits are required for most improvements to your home including: fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, etc.

If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call: 650 599-7311



PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; www.palomarpark.org. Do you have a great picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the web site? The Board manages the website and we try to have useful online forms and current information for our residents.

If you have something please contact us at: PalomarNews@gmail.com



NO BETTER TIME TO GO NATIVE

by Nell Triplett and Denise Enea-Charlebois

Living in Palomar Park, we are so privileged to experience an abundance of different plants and trees. Non-native plant species, many of which were introduced to Palomar Park during its development, do not support our native wildlife or provide the array of benefits such as water savings, low maintenance and fire resistant properties. The natives make California a biodiversity hot spot and we as stewards of the land should consider some of the negative effects non-native plants have on our local ecosystem.

As you're thinking about your garden this spring consider removing non-natives and invasive specimens. Find and plant natives that will flourish and be of benefit to the pollinators, birds and mammals that live here with us.

Non-native invasives which are fire prone:

Pampas Grass

Italian cypress

Juniper

Scotch broom

Palms

Acacia & Eucalyptus



pampas grass

scotch broom

italian cypress

CA native pollinators with fire resistant properties:



creeping manzanita

coffee berry



CA fuchsia

red bud

Local nurseries with a variety of natives:

*Wegmans, RWC

*Yerba Buena Nursery, HMB

*Summer Winds Nursery, Palo Alto

*CNPS Nursery, Los Altos



*Native Gardening Resources:

Learn more by visiting our local chapter of the California Native Plant Society: <http://cnps-scv.org/gardening>
Search this database to see what grows naturally in our area: <https://calscape.org>
To order native seeds: lernerseeds.com or pcseed.com
Doug Tallamy video on *Natures Best Hope* and why we should plant natives: <https://bit.ly/TallamyCNPS2020>

PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew your annual 2022 Palomar Park Owner's membership. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host community events, fund the annual chipper program and other beneficial projects and functions for Palomar Park and our residents. Your \$50 donation goes a long way. If you are a new resident to Palomar Park your first year membership is free. You can pay online: www.palomarpark.org or mail a check to: **PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.
Palomar Park
CA 94062**



SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from it's residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park an even better place, please drop us a line.

PalomarNews@gmail.com



WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: PalomarNews@gmail.com

PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Palomar Park is a remarkable place for remarkable people. The PPO Board works hard to keep you informed, improve Palomar Park, be good stewards of our environment and maintain the rural attributes of our community.

PRESIDENT - RICH LANDI

VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS

SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY

TREASURER - CHRISTINE TRISKA

BOARD MEMBER HUGO LOURO

BOARD MEMBER -BOB BEDBERRY

BOARD MEMBER - DAN PETELIN

BOARD MEMBER - NELL TRIPLET

CONTACT US AT:

PalomarNews@gmail.com If you have a question for the Board or if you are interested in serving. www.palomarpark.org