



Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

Palomar Park in 1940 by Daniel Petlin

Palomar Park's developer, A.J. Harwood, envisioned our Hill as another "Hillsborough". Our Hill was known as "Rattlesnake Hill" in the early part of the century. The first summer cottages were built in the early 1920s as vacation homes for residents escaping the cold summers in San Francisco. During World War II, residents gathered at a farm (now part of Belle Roches Estates) to support the troops making blankets and other items to support the U.S. military. From 1942 to 1945, Palomar Park residents covered their windows in black cloth and a warden went around the Hill to make sure there was a "blackout" as an air raid precaution. The Palomar Park



Garden Club was founded in 1948 and has been involved in many projects, including signs, mailboxes, social events, cookbooks, and even Christmas bazaars. In 1956 the formation of the Palomar Park Property Owners association was incorporated and affixed with the Great Seal of the State of California. There was a horse ranch situated on the site that is now Clifford School. The Palomar Park Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1972, with a rescue truck, a fire engine and station on 178 South Palomar Dr. The department was retired in 2000. At one time Cervantes Rd. had a private entry gate and a woman sat beside the gate with a rifle.

After tremendous rainfall in the 50's and again in the 70' and 80's and as recent as 2018 there were large landslides, some which destroyed homes and making the front page news of the SF Chronicle.

PALOMAR PARK PICNIC RETURNS WITH RECORD ATTENDANCE

After a two-year hiatus, Palomar Park's annual summer picnic tradition returned on September 19th at Clifford Elementary School with nearly a third of the Hill's residents in attendance. Following the BBQ and potluck, the PPO Board raffled off Palomar Park items such as the Palomar Park Cookbook and history DVD. The youngest attendees met new friends during games on the field, veteran residents reconnected, and the newest Palomar Park members met their neighbors. All enjoyed live music by accordion virtuoso Rich Landi. A 2023 summer picnic is in the works and watch for a save the date notice. The picnic is free to all paid members of the PPO. Renew your dues now if you want free admission to this year's event.



A special thanks to BBQ masters Jeff Garratt and Danny Woerz for grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for the large crowd and a broader thank you to the community for ensuring the connections that make Palomar Park more than just a beautiful place to live.

If you would like to help volunteer please contact the PPO Board at PalomarNews@gmail.com

We truly live up to our motto; *An exceptional place with exceptional people.*

DIY OR CONTRACTORS YOU CAN TRUST

For many of us finding a good contractor is an overwhelming task. Homeowners need to be very careful when hiring contractors. Always verify a contractor's license with the CA License Board

License Board: www.cslb.ca.gov

DIY projects are becoming more popular with homeowners. Why not try your hand at doing a few simple projects on your own? Start out easy and focus on maintenance type projects, i.e. fixing sprinklers, replacing your furnace filters, replacing weather stripping or door sweeps, replacing decking boards, or repairing your fence. You tube is a wonderful source for videos on how to do just about everything.

Save \$ and DIY !

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#>



WELCOME TO THE HILL



Neda Pakdaman, 720 Palomar

Tom Zachystal and Lindsay Verity,
18 Estrada Place

Seph and April Zdarko, 14 Estrada Place

Eric and Pam Cheng, 175 Montalvo

Chris and Miro Crow, 15 Hermosa



RECORD RAIN SATURATES HILLSIDES

Landslides are a familiar thing in Palomar Park. We have had our share over the years, some of them being extremely destructive. These type of torrential and long lasting rains can play havoc on our hillsides. Most of us try and ensure preventive measures are in place for proper drainage. Here are some reminders and tips:

DO:

- *Maintain roof gutters & downspouts
- *Consider installing gutter guard to protect your gutters from being clogged with debris
- *Clean your catch basins
- *Make sure your sprinklers are off
- *Test sump pumps & even have a spare
- *Clean culverts near your home (don't rely on SMC)
- *Install flexible drain pipe to transport storm water from downspouts to drainage swales or creeks
- *Check on your septic and leachfield to make sure it's working properly and not overwhelmed
- *If you have a landslide think about placing a tarp over it to temporarily control it



DON'T

- *Don't allow your storm water to be directed onto your neighbor's property
- *Don't direct storm water to the base of your trees
- *Don't direct storm water onto your leachfield
- *Don't dig up hillsides or allow them to be bare of vegetation during the rainy season. (Think about seeding your hillside & creating a wildflower, clover or native grass meadow)



SMC RAIN BARREL REBATE PROGRAM

Even with the large quantity of December & January rainfall, conserving water is important. Did you know rain barrels are one of the best ways to save money and conserve water by cutting back potable water used for irrigation? You can capture about 312 gallons of water for every half-inch of rain that falls on a 1,000 square foot roof, an amount that can be then used to water plants.

Learn about the benefits of owning a rain barrel and how to receive up to \$200 from San Mateo County by visiting; www.flowstobay.org



WHO WHO...OWLS THAT'S WHO

Winter is the time of year that our Palomar Park owls look for their mates. You will hear them calling back and forth to one another. After dark, you may be lucky enough to hear their mesmerizing call. It



Barn owl

sometimes can sooth you to sleep (for the insomniacs of Palomar Park). Owls play a large role in our rodent control here on the Hill.

If you hate rats and moles around your home then think about making it a little easier and more attractive for owls to hunt in your backyard.

- ❖ Think about adding an owl house to your property (There are many online sources for owl houses)
- ❖ Keep flood and other lights off that shine into your backyard hunting ground. Owls need it dark for their eyes to be able to see the movement of rodents. Unlike humans, owls can see in the dark.
- ❖ Do not use rat poison. If an owl eats a poisoned rat they can absorb the poison from the dead rodent.
- ❖ There are several types of owls in Palomar Park; Great Horned, Screech and sometimes Barn owls (these are the white ones)

2023 BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

During the November 2022 General PPO zoom meeting we announced the results of the 2023 PPO Board election. Only incumbents were on the ballot and if your'e interested in potentially running for a seat on the PPO Board for next year please contact President Rich Landi for an official nomination. The Board meets once a month and has several committees that we are always looking for volunteer help with. **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Rich Landi 2023/2025 term
Nell Triplett 2023/2025 term
Dan Petelin 2023/2025 term



MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes and sign boards will soon be receiving thier annual maintenance.

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



LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

Local honey will soon be for sale; Pure, raw honey from Palomar Park's early 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



**Profits 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 evacuation 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 or email cleung@smcgov.org



PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; www.palomarpark.org. Do you have a picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the website? 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



PALOMAR PARK IS CHANGING

Lets talk about the good, the bad and the ugly. Palomar Park is a nostalgic community. A small enclave, almost lost in time, amongst the lush hills of semi-rural San Mateo County. We aren't perfect and we have some short comings, like our various non-maintained roads. Long ago, the County of San Mateo did not accept some of our roads as public roads they would maintain. All the reasons why they weren't accepted remains somewhat of a mystery. For those residents living on these roads it can be frustrating and bumpy to say the least. Some of these roads are literally falling apart. New home remodels and new construction in our community has put tremendous pressure on our roads as well as our patience, as large construction vehicles barrel through our neighborhoods. These heavy, oversized vehicles put a large amount of wear and tear on our roads, creating pot holes and eroding pavement. SMC Public works has not addressed the Palomar Park roads in quite a while and many of the supposedly maintained roads are not in good shape either. Every time a building permit is issued the applicant is required to pay "Road Impact Fees" Why are we experiencing so much construction in Palomar Park and yet not benefiting from our community generated Road Impact fees which are suppose to pay for road repair and maintenance?

The PPO Board has lobbied Public Works to do more maintenance, however we need your help. If you live on a road that needs maintenance, contact the SMC Public Works and request road maintenance. Sending pictures and the exact location is always helpful.

Anne Stillman Public Works Director - astillman@smcgov.org

Khoa Vo Roads Director - dvo1@smcgov.org

Dist. 3 Supervisor Ray Mueller - rmueller@smcgov.org



A few of the unmaintained roads have residents living on them who have banded together to seal and maintain their roads, i.e. Palomar Dr., Cervantes, and Belle Roche. If interested in getting something organized on your road contact Board member Bob Bedbury for further information on how they did it.

UNMAINTAINED ROADS IN PALOMAR PARK

Loma Rd.

End of Los Cerros

Montalvo

Palomar Dr. to Pebble Dr. (After Loma Ct.)

Belle Roche

Cervantes

PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew your annual 2023 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. 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 our 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 BEDBURY

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