

To the Point

April-June 2014

Hwy 1 Bridge Replacement Project

by Breck Hitz

Pedro Point residents learned at a February 19 meeting organized by CalTrans that the agency will close Highway 1 from San Pedro Terrace to Linda Mar Blvd. from April 2014 to October 2015, while the bridge across San Pedro Creek is rebuilt. During the construction, traffic between Pacifica and Montara will be diverted along the section of San Pedro Avenue that runs parallel to Highway 1 in front of the Pedro Point Shopping Center.

CalTrans is undertaking the \$17.5-million project in order to bring the bridge, which is now below flood zone elevation, up to current seismic and structural standards. The new bridge will accommodate the enormous water flow that theoretically occurs once in a hundred years.

A focus of the Feb. 19 meeting was the project's impact on traffic to and from Pedro Point and the Pedro Point Shopping Center. While Highway 1 is closed, CalTrans will install a traffic light in front of the Ace Hardware store, at the intersection where traffic from Montara will enter San Pedro Avenue. CalTrans calculates that the detour will add only 30 seconds to most trips. Even during the morning and evening rush hours, Caltrans says the delays will be only a few minutes. Also, cars exiting the shopping center from either of the driveways at the front of the shopping center will not be allowed to turn left; all cars leaving the shopping center bound for Linda Mar and points north will

have to exit using the driveways on the south side of the shopping center. Pedro Point residents attending the meeting voiced concern and skepticism about CalTrans' projected 30-second delays. Highway 1 at Linda Mar is currently two lanes in each direction, but the new traffic light at the hardware store will have only one lane in each direction for Highway-One traffic. Fewer lanes means delays could be longer than 30 seconds.

People also voiced concern about all northbound traffic from the shopping center exiting from the south-side exits from the parking lot. Visibility is poor from those driveways, and those cars would add to the traffic back-up exiting Pedro Point at the hardware store traffic light. But perhaps the biggest concern voiced at the meeting was that the project was being presented to the

public as a *fait accompli*, with no opportunity for modification to meet the public's concerns. "When were the public meetings on this project held?" somebody asked. After consultation among themselves, CalTrans and City officials agreed that public hearings were, indeed, held – years and years ago. In fact, most of the public hearings took place before the Pedro Point Shopping Center was as vibrant as it is today, and before many current Point residents even lived here. During the weeks following the February CalTrans meeting, several discussions about avoiding future repetitions of this disconnect have occurred between Point residents and members of City Council. Mary Ann Nihart and Karen Ervin have been responsive. We are working with them to find a way to facilitate communication between Pedro Point and the City, but as of this writing no viable mechanism has been identified.



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Upcoming Events

- PPCA Board Meeting, 4/17 at 7:30 pm
- Egg Hunt, 4/20 at 10 am
- Flashback Jam, 4/20 at 7:30 pm
- Earth Day, 4/26
- Pacificans Care Casino Night, 5/3, 7 to 11 pm
- "The Natural Art" Surf Film, May, Date TBD

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President's Message

by Joanne Gold

It's an honor for me to take up the President's gavel for 2014, especially knowing I'll have a stellar and experienced leadership team to partner with, including Marcia Settler as Vice President, Breck Hitz as Secretary and Bruce Ferry as Treasurer. I'm also delighted that we've been able to welcome so many new members who are serving on the PPCA Board for the first time this year, including Camille Keating, Claire Ervin Lee and Andy Anderson. It's been really great that so many Pedro Point neighbors have been participating in community activities in recent months and I'm really looking forward to seeing what new ideas will develop as a result this growing involvement and enthusiasm.

We already have a number of exciting things being planned; April looks like it will be quite a busy month with the return of the "Flashback Jam" Film Series at the firehouse, Earth Day Celebrations at Linda Mar Beach and the upcoming annual firehouse Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday April 20th - one of my favorite traditions on The Point. Even though my own kids are now grown, I still love going to this fun family event and indulging in coffee and donuts while waiting to see which diligent egg hunter will

find the prized golden egg!

There are also a number of important civic activities on the calendar as well. Many people attended last month's presentation at the firehouse by Councilman Mike O'Neill, who spoke about several planned and proposed infrastructure projects underway in Pacifica. Because a number of residents have expressed interest in learning more about these projects, we've invited Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PH1A) to give a presentation about the proposed Caltrans highway widening project at the upcoming quarterly PPCA meeting on Thursday April 17th (see below). Even if you've never come to a PPCA meeting before, I encourage you to make time to attend on the 17th and learn more about this issue that has a direct impact on our community. The PPCA looks forward to hosting this and other guest speakers this year as a way to increase community awareness about important civic initiatives. We welcome other community organizations to contact the Board about getting on upcoming meeting agendas. All this and many more activities planned in the coming months...please share information about these events with your friends and neighbors, and we'll hope to see you all down at the firehouse!

Sincerely, Joanne Gold, President

Agenda for the April 17, 2014

PPCA Board Meeting, 1st Quarter, 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Special Presentation by PH1A
- III. Approval of Jan. 16, 2014 Minutes
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Balance Sheet, Income & Expenses through March 31, 2014
- V. Committee Updates
 - Firehouse Committee
 - Events Committee
 - Parents Group Committee
- VI. New Business
- VII. Adjournment

Pedro Point Playground Is One Year Old!

It seems like a lifetime ago, that we were gathering each morning, for the good of our children, to cut wood, rout edges, paint creatures, or prepare meals to share with our neighbors, as we came together and created our beautiful community playground. As the colorful blooms of flowers appear, and the days grow a little longer, we are reminded of springtime growth, and the transformation our playground underwent a year ago!

Since that time, we have watched our children build friendships and live out their imagination playing, and enjoying what their parents (and they) helped to create. As parents, we have shared time and laughs pushing our little ones on the swings, while growing a mutual respect for the roles we play in our family lives. We have welcomed neighbors from other communities, who have come to check out the "work of art" they have heard so much about! From the collection of beautiful tiles, to the hidden nooks and details, the creativity of this project has been enjoyed by people from all over!

The hard work and dedication from our teams of volunteers has been a beacon of inspiration to other neighborhoods, as to what can be created, by a community with a heartfelt vision. It has been our pleasure during this past year to reflect on the exhausting, yet well-worth-it week of construction of the Pedro Point Playground.

Most of all, the pride of knowing that for years to come, we will come together to enjoy company, share stories, and watch as our children's hand and footprints outgrow the tile imprints that were made ~ this is a gift of spring that will be with us forever!

With heartfelt thanks to all who made this possible that "long year ago"... Happy first re-birthday to our little gem! See you all around the neighborhood!

~Camille and Jen



THE FIREHOUSE FILM SERIES PROUDLY PRESENTS STEVE BROWN'S "FLASHBACK JAM - LAST LICKS" - APRIL 20

By Danny Estrella

This is the third installment of Steve Brown's Flashback Jam. Steve has put together another great film from his vast video archives of rock music that features some fun outdoor reggae, Zero in the Park, Sundogs at Slim's, Jerry Garcia and Bob Weir acoustic. The Surf Coasters (hard driving Japanese surf rockers) shred a couple, Bonnie Raitt and Grace Slick do their thing, Punk Rockers at Mabuhay Gardens, more from Roy Rogers, CSN&Y, Little Feat, The Band, Bill Graham, Terry Dolan, John Cipollina and the Grateful Dead. As a member of the Grateful Dead's management team Steve has captured very special moments of some of rock's great artists. This is rare and intimate footage that only Steve has recorded and won't be found anywhere else. **Details: Sunday, April 20 ("420"), Pedro Point Firehouse, 1221 Danmann Ave, Pedro Point, Pacifica. Doors open at 7 pm, film begins at 7:30. Tickets at the door, \$10, beverages and snacks will be available at the bar.**



THE FIREHOUSE FILM SERIES PROUDLY PRESENTS "THE NATURAL ART" SURF FILM BY FRED WINDISCH

By Danny Estrella

A remarkable artist and filmmaker, Fred Windisch celebrated the art of surfing with his creativity and inventive spirit. The photographs he began capturing at the age of 18, offer a rare and personal glimpse into what life was like as the sport was just beginning to take off in San Francisco, Pacifica, Santa Cruz and Oregon. His photographs, years ahead of their time, capture more than a sport—they capture a way of life.

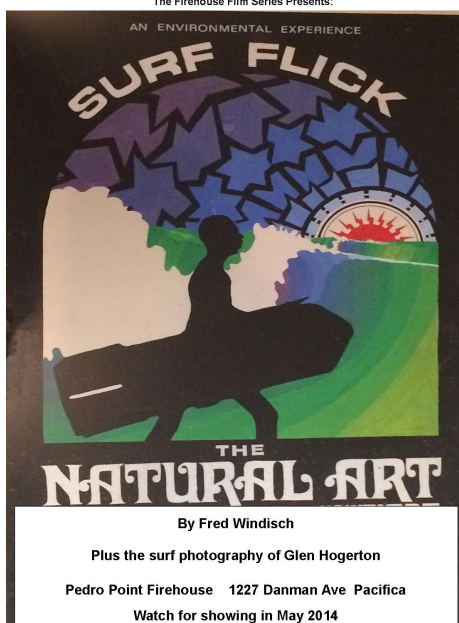
Fred turned to film making and documented the short board revolution in the late 1960s. His film, *The Natural Art*, was released in 1969. Featured surfers include Ben Aipa, Jackie Baxter, Tiger Espere, Dick Keating, Jim Lucas, John Scott, Tim Watts, performing innovative surfing and experimenting with innovative board shapes (early short board shapes, primitive wood surfboards in the West Indies, finless boards, a surfboard controlled by a rudder and steering wheel). It was filmed on location at Haleiwa (Hawaii), The Ranch (Southern California), West Indies, Secos (Southern California), San Francisco Ocean Beach, Monterey, Fort Point, Deadman's (San Francisco), and Davenport, California. Influenced by Fillmore Auditorium's rock concert light shows, Fred brought the light show effect to *The Natural Art* using images of clouds. The film explores technical developments with references to outer space, including space ships and flying saucers. It dives into personal growth and inner

space, exploring freedom of dance and the sense of community in free-for-all dancing at outdoor rock concerts, as well as yoga, martial arts and skiing. The wipeout sequences playfully bring out the sexiness of surfing. Fred's eye for the beauty of nature is brought out in the nature scenes of snow-capped mountains, lakes, colorful clouds at sunset and peaceful meadows. Fred's sense of whimsy is carried throughout the film.

The film cleverly draws from a broad range of musical styles with soundtrack transitions from folk rock boogie, to bluegrass, Indian ragas, 60s psychedelic rock, to African drumming, symphonic music, pop soul, to classical guitar, to Bach played on Moog synthesizer, to Chicago blues, to traditional surf music.

The world was filled with social, artistic and technical experiments in the late 60s. Fred captured that spirit and added his own contributions through his experimental and artistic filming techniques. Fred incorporated his artistic sensibilities into the film, making *The Natural Art* much more than a surf film. One message from the film could be Fred saying that it's not just surfing that's a natural art. Everything in life is.

Check your inbox for a screening date announcement. We anticipate showing it sometime in May.





EASTER EGG HUNT—April 20

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held this year on Sunday, April 20. Meet at the Firehouse. The hunt begins at 10 am for children 12 and under. Please do not bring children down until 10 am because we don't want to spoil the surprise for our kids! Adults can start hiding eggs--candy-filled and hard-boiled welcome--at 9 am. We hope you can bring your kids at 10 am to enjoy watching our neighborhood children hunt for eggs. Contact Barbara Keating Reiker or Jenn Hoover of the Pedro Points Parents Group if you would like help or donate in advance, contact us at pedropointparents@yahoo.com. See you at the Hunt!

-- Barbara Keating Reiker and Jennifer Hoover



Pacificans Care Casino Night

By Ginny Jaquith

Pacificans Care Sets Casino Night for May 3rd

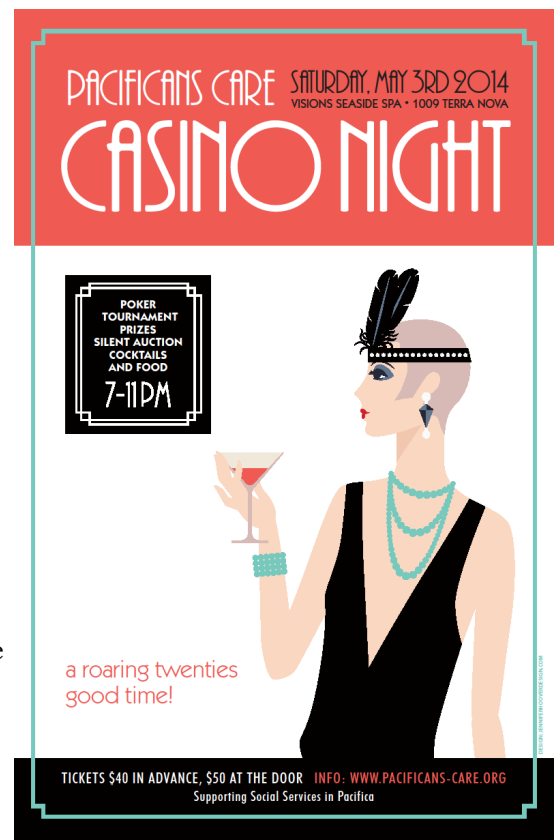
Knock Three Times! and mark your calendars for a night of fun and fortune on Saturday, May 3rd from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 pm at the Pacificans Care 7th Annual Casino Night, 'Speakeasy style', at Visions Seaside Spa, 1009 Terra Nova Blvd. Tickets for this fun event are \$40 prior to the event and \$50 at the door.

Proceeds from the event support social services in Pacifica including the Youth Service Bureau, Pacifica Resource Center, Pacifica Senior Services and Pacifica Child Care. Pacificans Care supported the Pedro Point playground build last year by serving as fiscal sponsor for the project.

Play the Blackjack, Craps and Roulette tables to win great prizes. Compete in the Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament, bid on fabulous trips, gift certificates and baskets during the silent auction, or take a chance in the famous Truffle Raffle where everyone is a winner! Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be available all night along with beer, wine, waters and our famous "Speakeasy Special" for purchase.

Tickets are available from Pedro Point residents Ginny Jaquith at 355-0805 or Christine Stahl at 868-0641. Tickets are also available at Visions Seaside Spa, 1009 Terra Nova Blvd
Re/Max Properties at 450 Dondee Ave.

Janis Haynes at the Community Center at 540 Crespi Drive
Ann Cooney at the Pacifica Resource Center, 1809 Palmetto Ave.
Visit www.pacificans-care.org for more information about Casino Night and the great work that Pacificans Care does as Pacifica's community foundation. A special thanks to Pedro Point resident Jennifer Hoover for her poster design.



PPCA Board Meeting Minutes—Jan. 16, 2014

Meeting was called to order on 1/16/14 at 7:35 pm.
Board Present: Bruce Ferry, Danny Estrella, Joanne Gold, Tony Brockman, Robin Jaquith, Sam Casillas, Marcia Settlet
Absent: Breck Hitz and Michael Martin

1. The meeting opened with a presentation on home security from Pete Olinger, a volunteer with the Pacifica Police Department Crime Prevention Unit. Mr. Olinger handed out "Site Security Audit Forms" on which we could evaluate our neighborhood safety issues. He also distributed a "Home Security Checklist" to assess our own homes for safety issues. Although the focus of his presentation was crime prevention, he suggested that these assessments can also be of value in home emergency situations, such as isolation in a tsunami. Mr. Olinger can be reached at (650) 738-7324 or olingerp@pacificapoice.org if more information is needed or if you want a copy of the forms.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were not approved as there was no quorum from that meeting. The unapproved minutes are part of the record.

3. A new Board and Officers were seated. As there were fewer than 12 nominees, and no contested officers, no election was necessary. The Board members are:

Joanne Gold, President

Marcia Settlet, Vice-President

Bruce Ferry, Treasurer

Breck Hitz, Secretary

Camille Keating, Claire Ervin Lee, Tony Brockman

Sam Casillas, Andy Anderson, Danny Estrella

4. There was no treasurer's report but it was reported that rental income is up. However, our insurance rates have increased by \$600 a year. Other insurance agents have been contacted to see if a better quote can be found. There was discussion about how to increase our rental income, such as raising rates or more variation based on time of event. A subcommittee to review rental rates were appointed. Members are Camille, Danny, Tony and Claire.

5. Firehouse Committee—Danny reported that no major firehouse repair or renovation had occurred in the quarter. A ceiling mount for a projector had just been purchased so as to enable easier showing of films. The next film to be shown is another Flashback Jam on April 20. There was discussion of remodeling the downstairs area to have indoor birthday party space and an ADA compliant bathroom. A capital campaign would be needed to raise the fund for long-term improvements. A Firehouse Committee consisting of Danny and Andy was established; it was suggested that both John Peterson and Mike Panesi would be good members as they have construction skills.

6. The Annual Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for August 24th. The Progressive Dinner is scheduled for April 26th if there is enough interest. Other possible events include a garage sale, maybe the same week end as the Alma Heights sale, and an art show.

Respectfully submitted—Marcia Settlet, Vice President

Firehouse Maintenance Report



by Danny Estrella

A video projector mount was installed in the ceiling of the Firehouse to enhance the film events of the Firehouse Film Series. This will enable us to present our film events without having to lay the video cables across the floor. We'll have more comfortable seating without having to place chairs to avoid the cables. It's a minor change that our guests may not notice but it does upgrade our facilities. We'll see it in use at our next film event. See the related story about Steve Brown's *Flashback Jam – Last Licks*.

Firehouse maintenance work party: Scheduled for Saturday TBD (call Danny!) from 10 am to noon. Watch for a reminder via our email and NextDoor. We need to do a chair and table inventory and assessment. We have some aging and damaged chairs and tables that we need to take out of service. We will repaint the chairs that we acquired some time back. There are also a few minor maintenance items we'll address.

Save the Date!

6th Annual Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014



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Earth Day—2014

EARTH DAY IS COMING—APRIL 26

by Lynn Adams

Little things do matter which is why the Pacifica Beach Coalition invites you to join the 10th anniversary of their **Citywide Earth Day of Action & EcoFest** on Saturday, April 26th.



The day includes gardening, habitat restoration, and litter removal projects all over Pacifica, many within walking distance from the Point! Action is scheduled from 8:30—11 am and an EcoFest will follow at Linda Mar State Beach with 3 live bands, a circus, kids activities, environmental booths, speakers and refreshments.

More than 8500 volunteers participated in **Taking A Bite Out Of Litter** and honored the sharks last year. They removed over 15,000 pounds of trash, recyclables, and green waste. What can we achieve this year while honoring the little Snowy Plover as our Earth Hero and remembering that **"Little Things Matter?"** We hope you will find time to join in the action and have fun at the EcoFest and follow it up every day by doing the little things that make a big difference! Like bringing your own coffee mug or drink container, saving water, recycling more, washing and re-using plastic zip bags, avoiding disposable straws and lids, etc.

Earth Day Pedro Point Headlands

When: Saturday, April 26
Action 8:30 to 11 am
Followed by EcoFest at Linda Mar State Beach

Where: Meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse at 8:30 am to carpool to the worksite.

Pedro Point Area Action Projects:

- Restoration of the Pedro Point Headlands - meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse and car pool to the site at 8:30 am
- San Pedro Creek - meet at the Pedro Point Shopping center next to the creek mouth
- San Pedro Creek flood plain - meet at the Convalescent home
- Parking lot above Danmann street (site captain needed here)
- Pacifica Community Center - meet in the west parking lot by the Portola statue
- Linda Mar State Beach Cleanup (meet at the seawall just north of Taco Bell)
- Linda Mar Park and Ride
- Be a site captain for the project of your choice - visit the Pacifica Beach Coalition website: www.pacificabeachcoalition.org for more information.



Pedro Point Headlands 2014 Habitat Restoration Schedule

**April 26 (Saturday, Earth Day
8:30—11 am)**

**May 18 (also Native Plant Hike with
Jake Sigg), June 29**

Aug 24, Sept 28

Oct 26, Nov 23

Young and old are invited to join us for a variety of tasks that vary with the season. Unless noted, work time is 9:45 am to 1 pm. Meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse at 9:45 am to carpool to the work site.

Pedro Point Headlands News

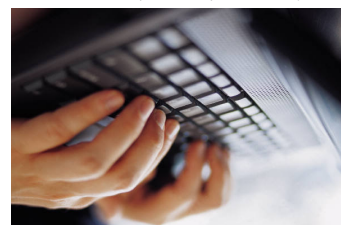
The Devils Slide County Park just opened in March and already the Pedro Point Headlands have seen an increase in hikers. The Headlands stewardship team under the direction of the Pacifica Land Trust through a grant by the Coastal Conservancy has been preparing for this moment for a long time. Not only have they made many trail improvements, they have installed trail signs at all of the strategic intersections to guide these visitors safely to and from the ocean vistas. A new trail was even built above the old Green Gate entrance location so that visitors can park in the Devils Slide County Park parking lots on the north end and walk into the headlands via a paved trail. A welcome sign was recently installed. This trail is for pedestrians only as it is not suitable for bikes. A future bike path to Pacifica is planned for this site.

Other News Recently, groups of enthusiasts enjoyed the Charlie Brown Tree and Plant a Native event, bird hike, and SOS watering events to help the plants make it through the drought. The last work team discovered a rare San Francisco dusky woodrat nest near a newly discovered and deeply hidden slide area that was covered in pampas grass. There is always something to do and wonderful people to work with so if you have any interest in the headlands we invite you to join us.

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For the most current and accurate news and announcements, please subscribe to the Pedro Point mailing list at: www.pedropoint.org

Pedro Point Neighbor

We're on the web at:
www.pedropoint.org



Pedro Point Community
Association
PO Box 951
Pacifica, CA 94044

Upcoming Events

PPCA Board Meeting at the Firehouse

April 17 at 7:30pm

Many Pedro Point residents have expressed interest and concern over proposed infrastructure projects that will have a major impact on our community, including the proposed Caltrans Highway 1 widening project. Pete Shoemaker, chair of Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PH1A) has offered to attend our upcoming April 17th PPCA board meeting to provide an overview on this project and present their proposed alternatives. The presentation will begin at 7:30pm, and will include opportunities for Q&A. All residents are welcome to attend the presentation, followed by the quarterly PPCA board meeting.



Pedro Point Progressive Dinner

It has been a few years since we've held our progressive dinner and it's time to organize another one. We tried to organize one for April but we did not have enough people interested. We would like to try again to schedule it for sometime this fall. In case you're new to the Point, the event serves as both a fundraiser and as a way to meet your neighbors. Neighbors start at various homes for appetizers, then move on to another neighbor host for an entrée, and finally, we all get together at one house for dessert.

Are you interested in hosting or participating? Call or email Marcia Settel, 650-355-8731
gilset1158@gmail.com

Potluck at the Firehouse May, TBD

The next potluck at the Firehouse will be in May, date and time TBD. We plan to do it on a Sunday afternoon and bring out the BBQ grills. Watch your inbox for a detailed announcement. Our potlucks are fun and free! Everyone brings a dish to share. This time, the food assignments are: last names starting with A-H, dessert, I-R main dish, S-Z side dish or appetizer. Good food, good conversation, meet your neighbors, catch up on events, get involved in your community. Questions? Contact *Marcia Settel*: 650-355-8731; gilset1158@gmail.com

Save the Date!

6th Annual Chili Cook-Off
Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014

