

To the Point

Oct—Dec 2014

Charlie Brown “Plant a Tree” & Wreath-Making Day

By Lynn Adams

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and four years of fun finding a Charlie Brown Tree on the Pedro Point Headlands, it is now more challenging this year. Oh trees are still there, in fact there are five suitable trees near the staging area. But to find the right tree this year might mean hiking to the far reaches of the Headlands, possibly to the North Ridge! Are you up for the challenge? While Charlie Brown trees may be elusive, there will be a plentiful supply of wreath-making and holiday decoration materials, good cheer, fun, and friends to make your foray to the Headlands well worth it. And there will be ample opportunities to plant a tree or native plant to restore yet another area of this special 246-acre coastal gem. So if you are game, please join the Pacifica Land Trust, Pedro Point Community Association and California Coastal Conservancy for our 5th Annual **Charlie Brown “Plant-A-Tree” & Wreath-Making Day on Sunday, November 30th** from 10am—2pm. Take a hike, make a wreath, plant a tree (native plant), make a memory and just maybe you will find your perfect Charlie Brown Holiday Tree.

→ Check in at the Castle Kitchen & Bath parking lot between 10am and 1:30pm. From there you will be safely transported to and from the Pedro Point Headlands staging area. Long sleeve shirts, pants and sturdy shoes are recommended. Planting and wreath making will be conveniently located near the Headlands staging area - hiking up for the spectacular views of the ocean, Devil’s Slide and beyond can be quite rigorous but well worth it (and optional!).



and future generations. We hope to see you on Nov. 30th.

For more about our ongoing stewardship and restoration efforts, go to www.pedropointheadlands.org or call us at 650-355-1668.

Who: Everyone is invited - all ages

What: Make holiday wreaths and plant natives

Where: Meet at the Castle Kitchen & Bath, San Pedro Ave., next to Ace Hardware

When: Sunday, Nov. 30th from 10 am—2 pm

How & Why: Help improve the Pedro Point Headlands, enjoy them and help the Pacifica Land Trust protect & preserve this special open space.

Event is free but donations to the Pacifica Land Trust are truly appreciated and will help preserve, protect and restore these magnificent headlands for us

Agenda for the Oct. 16, 2014 PPCA Board Meeting, 3rd Quarter, 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Approval of August 14, 2014 Minutes
- III. Treasurer’s Report: Balance Sheet, Income & Expenses through Sept. 30, 2014
- IV. Committee Updates
 - Firehouse Committee
 - Events Committee
 - Parents Group Committee
- V. New Business
- VI. Adjournment

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Happy Halloween

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **PPCA Board Meeting**, Thursday, Oct. 16 at 7:30 pm
- ♦ **Pedro Point Headlands Restoration**, Sunday, Oct. 26
- ♦ **Potluck**, Friday, Nov. 14 at 6:30pm
- ♦ **Charlie Brown “Plant-a-Tree” and Wreath-Making Day**, Sunday, Nov. 30, from 10am to 2pm
- ♦ **Madrigalli Market**, Fri & Sat, Dec. 5 & 6

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President's Message

The past several months have seen a number of good and fun things happen here on The Point. I think we're making very substantial progress with the Calson field issue, where we've submitted letters to the City of Pacifica from three experts on legal and environmental issues. The letters point out what we believe are glaring deficiencies in the draft Environmental Impact Report. (You can see these letters at PedroPoint.org under the "About PPCA" tab.) We are now waiting for the City's response. We've had several ambitious work parties at the Firehouse, and a special meeting to decide on a strategy for further repairs. Minor repairs and maintenance around the building have been completed, and several of us completely cleaned out the "third office" downstairs. I put that in quotes because the phrase has become an euphemism for the dirtiest room in

the building. We cleared everything out of that room and tore away the walls that were rotten. The good news is we discovered that the wooden structure underneath is relatively sound. In the long run, we would like to turn that room into a small party room, with doors to the playground and a pair of small restrooms.

And the 6th Annual PPCA Chili Cook-Off was the best ever! A great crowd, great entertainment, and of course great chili! Everybody came away very pleased with the event. And the September potluck dinner was also well attended, another very enjoyable event. If you've never attended one of these potlucks, come on down to the next one. It's scheduled for November 14, watch for the banner hanging between the trees and check your inbox for more info.

Cheers,
Joanne Gold, President

Hwy 1 Detour Update

Pedro Point residents and travelers along Highway 1 at Linda Mar Blvd. now go along a detour. Hwy. 1 is closed just south of Linda Mar Blvd. so that CalTrans can rebuild the San Pedro Creek Bridge. The level of the bridge needs to be raised up to allow for storm flows in the creek. Also, seismic and structural adjustments will be made. Until drivers get used to this new route, please be careful driving along this stretch of road. Watch out for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, confused drivers, distracted tourists, etc.

I'm afraid the CalTrans detour will be with us for at least another 12 months. Labor Day weekend was awful, many of us just gave up and stayed home rather than venture out into that gridlock. The Monday-evening mess a couple weeks ago was apparently caused by a malfunctioning traffic light at the hardware store, which has since been fixed. But even with everything functioning perfectly, the evening backup usually begins at Crespi and continues all the way to the hardware store. You know, I've always breathed a sigh of relief as I pass that hardware store, because it means I'm home on the Point. These days, I'm even happier to see that store go past my left window.



Happy
Thanksgiving!



August 24 Chili Cook-Off Was a Big Success!

On a pleasant, Sunday afternoon, the old Pedro Point Firehouse on Danmann Avenue was the hot place to be as 10 contestants battled it out for bragging rights over who makes the best chili in Pacifica. Serenaded by the sweet sounds of Danny Estrella and his acoustic guitar, as well as the Coastside Strummers with their ukuleles, Pacificans gathered to taste some good chili and cast their vote at the 6th annual Pacifica Chili Cook-off. Official blind taste judging was carried out by City Council Members Mike O'Neill and Len Stone and professional auctioneer Ed Gold. Gorilla Barbeque won the People's Choice award, Dial Glass won best professional meat chili, Oceana Market won best non-traditional chili, Lovey's Tea Shoppe - best professional vegetarian chili, Pacifica Senior Center was runner-up for best professional chili, Lisa Warns, best home chef chili, Marcia Settel, best home chef vegetarian chili and Kathy Long, runner-up best home chef chili. The judges all agreed there was a lot of variation in the taste - from a sweet, chocolate-like taste to a spicy, smoky taste. To kick off the event, Hearty of Earthcapades made a surprise appearance and juggled the crowd into a frenzy. Just before the winners were announced, the belly dancers from Asia Arabesque performed enticing Moroccan-style dancing. Stone said, "The Pacifica Chili Cook-off is one of my favorite events every year. You guys do a great job." The event raised money for much needed maintenance and repairs to the old Firehouse, which can be rented for events any day of the week. ~ Bruce Ferry



Firehouse Maintenance Report

by Danny Estrella

There's been lots going on at the Firehouse. At the last Firehouse work party, the cracked plaster in the wall at the entryway was fixed (thank you Frank Lazzari and Julian Brock). Joanne and Bruce tackled trimming the bottlebrush. Breck Hitz and Ed Gold installed the track for the new track lighting over the bar. I removed the foot rail at the bar as it had not been useful and was somewhat of a hazard. The foot rail is seeking a new home in case anyone is interested in it. Frank also replaced the timer switch for the furnace. There was a plumbing backup recently that required a plumber to fix. The plumber pulled out some baby wipes, which, along with paper towels, are the two common culprits in causing plumbing backups. These paper products are made with plastics to give them strength, which keeps them from breaking down. Thus they are not to be flushed. So take note, do not put baby wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

We also learned that the old cast iron pipes are prone to backups. So the Board has decided to have the pipes replaced. This is a good opportunity to remodel the restrooms. So the Board has approved the remodel including upgrading the men's restroom to a unisex ADA-compliant restroom. This work is scheduled to be done in February 2015. It was also decided to have the floor refinished in the main hall. This work will be done following completion of the restrooms remodel in February 2015.

On a recent Saturday, Joanne, Claire, Frank and I cleared out the third office downstairs, where the backup had flooded, and pulled out the wet carpet and tore out the wet ceiling and walls. Frank hauled the debris to the dumps. We were then able to assess the dry rot in the wall of the office. We're seeking bids to do the repair work to this rot and the restroom remodel. There's lots of unused items and trash that will be removed during the next Firehouse maintenance work party, which will be scheduled in November - e-mail Danny at warnella@hotmail.com if you can help.



PPCA Board Meeting Minutes—August 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 on Aug. 14, 2014 by President Joanne Gold. In addition to Joanne, these board members were present: Marcia Settel, Bruce Ferry, Breck Hitz, Sam Casillas, and Danny Estrella.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the April 17 PPCA meeting be approved as they appeared in the PPCA Newsletter without change. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Bruce Ferry reported that PPCA currently has a cash balance just short of \$25,000. Legal and professional fees paid in connection with the Calson field issue have been completely offset by contributions from the neighborhood. It was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously to approve the report.

Events Committee:

- The 6th annual Chili Cook-Off will be held Sunday, August 24. So far, there are six entrants, but more are expected. There will also be entertainment.
 - Fog Fest wine and beer booth this year will be Saturday, September 27.
- The September potluck is scheduled for Friday evening the 14th.

Firehouse Committee:

Danny outlined many items on the to-do list, including:

- fix the hole in the wall beside the front door
 - repair the timer switch on the furnace
 - repair the sink in the ladies' room
 - prune the bottle brush bushes
 - install track lighting over bar
 - fix the defective party lights in the rafters
- In addition, there are major repairs needed to the Firehouse structure, including repairing water damage in the walls, cleaning and organizing the dirt room, and converting the third office into a party room.

Other Business:

Calson field—Joanne reported that PPCA has submitted three letters from experts concerning the Calson field to the City. Briefly, these letters argue that the DEIR contains contradictory statements and fails to analyze potential impacts of the proposed change in land-use designation for the field. Having submitted these letters, we now wait for the City's response, which should not be expected for at least three months. Financially, PPCA to date has raised \$4,600 from

neighbors for funding this project. Our original ballpark estimate of funds needed was \$5,000, but now the reality is we probably will need another \$2,000 to follow through after the City's response. Several people in attendance immediately made contributions to help cover that need.

Special Thanks—It was noted that, once again, Mindy Clar has supplied us with snacks to munch on during the meeting, even though she herself was working and could not attend. Hence, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that PPCA formally express its gratitude to Mindy for her generosity.

Respectfully submitted - Breck Hitz, Secretary

8th Annual Madrigalli Market

December 5th and 6th

**Perfect Place to Shop for
Holiday Gifts!**

**When: Friday, 4–9 pm and
Saturday, 10 am–4 pm
Where: Pedro Point Firehouse**



Once again, the Firehouse will be transformed into an artisans' craft fair, with gifts ranging from jewelry and ceramics, to paintings, clothing and even some yummy holiday treats! The proceeds from the event will go towards the maintenance of the Firehouse's new community playground.



Pedro Point Headlands Restoration

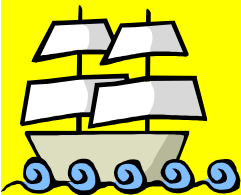
by Lynn Adams

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for some habitat restoration work on the Pedro Point Headlands on Oct. 26. As we head into winter, it is time to check on and restore the waterbars and make sure the drainage routes are clear of debris before the winter storms. We will also begin the preparations for the November 30th Charlie Brown Tree/Wreath event. We meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse at 9:45 am and carpool up to the site. We will hike and enjoy refreshments then return to the firehouse between 1 and 1:30 pm. Old, young, and everyone in between are encouraged to join us. We have fun and make a difference. For more information you can go to www.pedropointheadlands.org or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lynn Adams at lynn4promos@aol.com

If you would like to help with the November 30th **Charlie Brown Plant a Tree and Wreath-Making Event**, please contact Lynn Adams at lynn4promos@aol.com. We can use help with greeting and guiding visitors, wreath making or serving refreshments, music, taking photos, and help with the planting station.

Thanksgiving Jokes

How did the Mayflower ship show that it liked America?



It hugged the shore!

Why did the pilgrim eat a candle?

He only wanted a light snack!



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Pedro Point Headlands News

Fall is upon the Pedro Point Headlands and the dried-out thirsty plants may appear brown, even dead, but be patient, as soon as the winter rains arrive, these same plants will become bright green and plush once more. Currently the Pearly Everlasting and Asters are showing off their colors, the coyote bush is ready to open its flowers, and the California Sage, looking all dried out, is budding with seeds.

Our 30 restoration plots on the 3 planted slopes had a 68% survival rate as of May but after this long dry summer we are not sure what the numbers will be. After the rains, we hope to see signs of renewal and growth and conduct our next count.

A no parking sign was installed at the green gate area for safety reasons, we think. The most convenient parking is at the first Devil's Slide parking lot on the north end. From there, cross the road to the paved walking trail above the bus stop into the headlands staging area.



Upcoming Beach Cleanups

Visit www.pacificabeachcoalition.org for more information and more dates

Scheduled from 9 - 11am

Oct. 18 - Linda Mar State Beach
(meet by seawall just north of Taco Bell)

Nov. 1 - Rockaway Beach (meet in the north lot by the seawall)

Is your newsletter label incorrect or incomplete? Would you like to save the environment by going paperless? Please help us keep the mailing list updated by e-mailing any changes to: Mindy Clar – mindyclar@yahoo.com or call: 359-4567

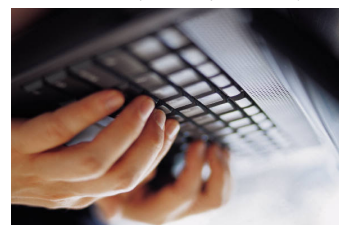
For the most current and accurate news and announcements, please subscribe to the Pedro Point mailing list at: www.pedropoint.org

Pedro Point Neighbor

Darius Kayhan and
Mary Ellen Carroll
at 280 San Pedro Rd.

New Neighbors

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
Oct. 16 at 7:30pm



November Potluck—Friday, Nov. 14



The next potluck at the Firehouse will be on Friday, Nov. 14. Watch your inbox for a detailed announcement. Potlucks usually start at 6:30pm. Our potlucks are fun and free! Everyone brings a dish to share.

- Last names A-H, bring dessert
- I-R, main dishes
- S-Z, 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

Charlie Brown "Plant-A-Tree" & Wreath-Making Day

Sunday, Nov. 30 from 10 am to 2 pm, see front page for more details.

