#### 2025



#### BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John King, BPA President



ear Neighbors, As we settle into another sun-soaked Palo Alto summer, I want to

take a moment to reflect on all that makes Barron Park such a special place to live and share a few updates as we move into the second half of the year. Barron Park has always been a neighborhood with a deep sense of community. Whether you've lived here for decades or just recently moved in, chances are you've felt that sense of connection - visiting the donkeys at Bol Park, joining a neighborhood gathering, or simply exchanging smiles on a morning walk. This spirit is what the Barron Park Association (BPA) works to support and protect.

#### **Spring Highlights**

In March, the BPA had a successful Annual Meeting and enjoyed Mayor Ed Lauing sharing what is happening in the City Council chambers. Ed also took on some good questions regarding the development proposals on El Camino and the new El Camino bike lanes which were just recently completed.

We saw an enthusiastic turnout at our 45th May Fête in Bol Park, which was alive with neighbors of all ages, music and dancers, arts and crafts, active games, and of course the celebrated Maypole Dance! Thank

you to all the sponsors, event planners, performers, and volunteers who made this another stellar event for the neighborhood. Events like this remind us how important it is to gather and build relationships in person, especially in a time when so much of life happens online.

In June the BPA hosted a neighborhood "Beat the Heat" Free Ice Cream Social. It was a lovely, warm, and sunny day. We thank the organizers, Karen and Amol Saxena, and our volunteer scoopers for doling out hundreds of ice cream cones! Look for another Ice Cream Social in September!

Bol Park will be the sole venue for this year's National Night Out (NNO) on Tuesday, August 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. NNO is an annual communitybuilding campaign that promotes police and firefighter neighborhood connections, under positive circumstances, in the hope of making our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

#### **Lookout for Fall**

As we enter into Fall, our planning includes; in October, Movie Night in Bol Park AND our BPA-sponsored Diwali Festival! Stay tuned for details! Our movie this year, Shrek 2, will be in honor of our beloved donkey Perry, who sadly crossed the rainbow bridge earlier this year. We held a beautiful

celebration for Perry in late April under the redwood trees with over 150 people in attendance. Thank you to Jenny Kiratli for coordinating such a wonderful, heartwarming event.

If you haven't yet joined the BPA or renewed your membership, please consider becoming a BPA member or renewing! Your support makes everything we do possible - from publishing this Newsletter, to hosting events, to advocating for the needs of Barron Park residents.

We have a new and improved BPA website at: bpapaloalto.org It provides an updated membership platform where you may check the status of your membership. Your annual dues cover a one-year period starting from the date you join or renew. The site will automatically send you a reminder to renew when your year is up! Please reach out to me if you have any issues using the site, at: johnwadeking@gmail.com

Lastly, I want to thank all of you who continue to give your time, ideas, and energy to this community. It's an honor to serve as your BPA President, and I welcome your thoughts and involvement as a member of a committee or our Board, or with a one-time project.

Enjoy the sunshine, take a stroll through Bol Park, and say hello to a neighbor. This is what community is all about.

Again, I can always be reached at: johnwadeking@gmail.com Join or renew your membership, read the BPA Newsletter Archive, and check out our local businesses at: bpapaloalto.org

<u>Native</u>

**Habitat** 

**Activities** Survey

**Donkey News** 

<u>History</u> **Nuggets** 

**Melanie Cross** 

**Update** 

**Heat** 

**Unpacked** 

# **Community Service Thrives in the** Bol Park Native Habitat Garden

By Linda Elder, BPA Native Habitat Committee



Richard Elder and GrE Fellows Halle Donovan and Saleem Mokatrin lower the owl box for a routine inspection in November 2024. Photo by Shelley Pneh.

The BPA Native Habitat Committee the farm equipment and along the bike path works with many groups that want to during a community service day. Under the help out in the garden and elsewhere in supervision of Jeff Burch, Melanie Cross, and Richard Elder, they moved a LOT of mulch that morning!

Castilleja School Gators for the Bay Club (named after the school's mascot) joined us on three separate days during lunchtime to plant native plants and to pull weeds from the berm near the play structure and in the patch of hummingbird sage.

Our Work-Party Volunteers are mainly comprised of Barron Park neighbors, but we also welcome gardeners from Menlo Park and Los Altos! We hold four work parties per year: two primarily for cutting back annuals, perennials and shrubs; and two mostly for weeding. The work parties are usually held on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. A typical volunteer crew is about 12 people. It is always surprising how much you can get done in a few hours with so many hands! We have a lot of fun, even while we are weeding.

We work closely with Mark Ribeiro, Community Services Manager of the Open Space and Park Service of the City of Palo Alto. We recently identified several invasive trees in Bol Park which have already been removed



Scouts hauling and spreading bark mulch along the Bol Park pathway in April 2025. Photo by Richard Elder.

We recently received a grant from The Garden Club of Palo Alto to upgrade the Bluetooth-enabled irrigation controller. Richard Elder and Jeff Burch have most of the new system up and running. It was a bit of a challenge to fit the new system with parts of the old system, but they expect to complete

and will be replaced with native species. In

the meantime, the areas will be mulched

grasses and weeds from coming up.

the upgrade by the Fall.

to prepare the soil and prevent non-native

There is always plenty to do in the garden and park! Groups that help us provide much needed hands and energy. Through community service, volunteers learn about native plants, develop gardening skills, and learn to work together to get a job done! We are grateful for the power and passion provided by these groups and all the garden volunteers. If you are interested in joining us, please contact: bpnativegarden@gmail.com

Note that Friends of the Palo Alto Parks serves as the money manager for the Bol Park Native Garden project, allowing donations and grants to be tax-deductible. Donate to the Native Garden through the "Bol Park Fund" at friendsofpaparks.org/donations By mail or phone: Friends of the Palo Alto Parks (FOPAP), Bol Park Fund, 425 Grant Ave., Suite 27, Palo Alto, CA 94306; 650-327-7323.

Bol Park. Our goal is to promote the development of native habitat within Barron Park through example, education, and volunteer activities in a public-facing garden. All the groups we work with help us meet our goal, and their service work enhances our community.

We routinely work with Grassroots Ecology (GrE), a nonprofit whose mission is caring for the public lands and waters of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. Ecologist Shelley Pneh provides us with and supervises Grassroots fellows and volunteers. This year, the GrE Fellows were Halle Donovan and Saleem Mokatrin, both California Climate Action Corps Fellows. We met first in the early Fall to identify tasks and projects that could be done through Spring. Planting a five-gallon oak tree and cleaning the bird boxes were among the many tasks they completed this year.

Halle and Saleem also accompanied High School Stewards (9th-12th graders) several times to weed and refurbish the Native Garden paths by spreading mulch to paths and replacing old border logs with new ones.

In April, about 12 Scouts spread mulch near

BARRON PARK 2 ASSOCIATION

# Create your own Summer (and Fall) Fun with our BPA Activities Survey! By Star Teachout

Are you looking to add something new (or renewed) for you, your partner, your friends, your kids, or your family to do this summer (and later)? Our BPA Activities Survey will help you connect with others who live in the zone bordered by Foothill Expressway, Page Mill, and Alma. Complete the survey by scanning the QR code, clicking the link, or requesting a PDF of the survey from me at <a href="teachout@sonic.net">teachout@sonic.net</a> Feel free to tailor the activities to your age group if you (or a teen) wishes. The survey coordinator will respond if three or more people indicate a shared interest.

#### JOIN in Some NEIGHBORHOOD\* Activities

"Neighborhood" includes the Gunn school district generally bounded by Alma, Page Mill, Foothill, 280, Terman/Fletcher, and Monroe). This includes Ventura, Charleston Meadows, Monroe Park, PA Orchards, Greenacres II, Miranda, and Esther B Clark neighborhood associations.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Note: These activities are not organized nor led by the Barron Park Association, but we want to help you connect with local people over shared interests.]



Exercise • Games • Music

Food • Art/Crafts • Gardening • Holiday Activities Environment, Sustainability & Climate +

Take the survey and find some new friends!

Scan the QR code at the right or visit bit.ly/BP-Survey25



# **News from the Pasture**

By Jenny Kiratli, Barron Park Donkey Project



Perry at home. Photo courtesy of the Donkey Project.

he last Sunday in April was cloudy, cool, and windy as more than 150 community members gathered to remember Perry. People came from Barron Park, throughout Palo Alto, and around the San Francisco Bay Area. Speakers included Mayor Ed Lauing; Barron Park Association president John King; long-time veterinarian Gary Hanes; Doug Moran, our longest serving donkey handler; Inge Harding-Barlow, one of the original handlers; and Jenny Kiratli, current lead handler. Attendees were serenaded by the M'Earthtones led by donkey handler Tim Biglow, with an original song set to the music of "Will the Circle Be Unbroken"; treated to a haunting harp rendition of "Hallelujah" by Barron Park resident Tamara Mead; and joined in a round of "Sweetly Sings the Donkey," led by Gary Breitbard, to close the ceremony. It was truly a community event. A unique flower arrangement was provided by Jen Hess, and the sound system was managed by Tom Farley.

Numerous stories and heartfelt remembrances were shared by attendees, attesting to the tremendous impact of our little donkey on everyone who visited him and loved him over his 28 years with us. Coverage of the event was published in the *Palo Alto Weekly* in an article that came out the following day. Perry's passing was also felt deeply by his



Crowds gathered to remember Perry on a cloudy day in April. All photos by Myrna Rochester, unless otherwise noted.



Jenny introduces Inge Harding-Barlow, longtime donkey handler.

donkey brethren, Buddy and April, who were subdued in behavior and rarely apart from each other for weeks following Perry's death. Although life has settled back to a new normal in the pasture, there remains a deep hole that Perry left, and his absence is still palpable. He was a tremendous presence in so many people's lives and deeply loved. He is truly missed, but his legacy as

a playful, feisty, interactive, and affectionate community icon will endure. <u>paloaltoonline.com/community/2025/04/28/palo-altomourns-perry-the-iconic-donkey-who-wonfame-in-shrek/</u>

A YouTube video of the April 27th event is posted at: <a href="youtube.com/">youtube.com/</a> watch?v=jVmuGmdFWEM

Please look for the upcoming "Perry Tribute," a special edition of the BPA Newsletter to follow later this year.

See page 18 for more Perry images.



Tributes at Perry's memorial.

# Choice History Nuggets from Barron Park Neighbors

By Douglas L. Graham, Barron Park Historian

#### **Our History Has Many Sources**

Much of our neighborhood's history has been uncovered by individual residents who have experienced interesting events or discovered documents, maps, photographs, news stories, artifacts, or other evidence of the past. I have often heard stories that suggest entire lines of research. This year's May Fête on Sunday, May 18, was extraordinarily rich in such conversations. There was much interest in our history exhibit, which was visited by dozens of people, some of whom spent a lot of time studying details of photographs and maps. Lots of people stopped at the history table and went through the sampling of scrapbook albums that I brought to the fête.

Several history table visitors brought me information of interest, and all of them were open to meeting with me for detailed interviews. Some of the stories I heard from them are summarized below in this article. All the stories I gathered will be included in my Barron Park Historical Archive (not yet organized well enough for visitor access).

#### The First Tale: Cheryl Borja – An Old-Timer with Many Stories to Tell

#### **Seventy-Four Years on Her Property**

Cheryl told me that she has been living on her Matadero Avenue property since she was born in 1951. She is now the owner, having inherited it from her mother, Georgia Rose Blake (married name, Griffin), who had inherited it from Cheryl's grandparents, Georgia and Jack Blake. The elder Blakes were living on Oxford Street in Palo Alto when they bought the large Matadero Avenue property in 1947.

The property was first built upon in 1937. When the Blakes bought it ten years later, both houses that now exist were already there. It is not known which was built first, or if they were both built at the same time. Several additions have been made to each house since they were built. (See Photo A, above, the two houses on the Blake lot in 1947.)

In the late 1940s, Cheryl's grandfather, Jack Blake, was killed by a train at the California



A – The two houses on the Blake lot in 1947. They are still there in 2025 on Cheryl Borja's Matadero Avenue property, although both have been significantly added to and renovated. The one on the right is the "front house" nearest Matadero; on the left is the "creekbank" house. Courtesy of the Borja family; photographer unrecorded, but was most likely Jack Blake, c. 1947.

Street crossing while hauling a load of rock. Cheryl believes this was shortly after he and her grandmother Georgia Blake moved to Matadero Avenue. Jack Blake is pictured in the photo below, which shows him hauling a load of lumber in his 1930s-style truck. (See Photo B, Jack Blake at the wheel of his truck.) Jack may have also owned a lumber yard, but Palo Alto directories of the 1940s, which list several lumber yards, do not show his name. The yard he worked for, or owned, may have been in a neighboring town.

#### Her Father Was a "Seabee"

Cheryl Borja's father, Ancie ("Tek") Griffin, was in the U.S. Navy's Construction Battalions (called "CBs") during or immediately

after World War Two in the Pacific. The Seabees are civilians, but labor under contract to the Navy to build airfields and bases that, in WW2, enabled the Marine Corps and Army to leapfrog islands and swiftly roll up the Japanese empire in the Pacific. (We quote Google Gemini AI here, "The nickname 'Seabees' for the Naval Construction Battalions was not invented by one person but rather emerged organically within the unit . . . While no single person claimed to have coined the term, Rear Admiral Ben Morell, who

spearheaded the formation of the Construction Battalions, is often considered the 'father of the Seabees.' The unit's name 'Seabee' was widely adopted within the organization and became the commonly used term.")

"Tek" Griffin learned carpentry as a Seabee, and after the war he put his skills to his family's benefit by making additions to the

house on the Matadero property closest to the avenue. When Cheryl was born, she, her father Tek, and her mother Georgia Rose lived in the house closer to the creek, while her grandmother Georgia Blake lived in the house closer to the avenue. Cheryl moved to the 'front' house after marrying Gary Borja in 1976. and has lived in it for the past 49 years. Her son now lives in the house nearest the creek. If this seems confusing, remember that a lot of important things happen in 74 years of family life.

Following her divorce, Cheryl worked for many years at the Stanford Shopping Center, first at Johnson's Jewelry, then at Roos Brothers Men's Clothing. Later on she took CalTrain to San Francisco for other jobs. Locally, she



B - Jack Blake, lumber hauler and probable dealer at the wheel of his lumber truck. The name of the man near the truck is unrecorded. Courtesy of the Borja family; photographer unrecorded, likely late 1930s or early '40s.

worked for several years at Hewlett Packard on the development of copiers and portable calculators.

#### A Longtime School Employee

Before retirement, Cheryl Borja had a long career in food service for the Palo Alto Unified School District, much of the time out of the main cafeteria at Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School (JLS) on East Meadow Drive. She provided meals for JLS, Palo Alto and Gunn High Schools, Terman Junior High (now Fletcher Middle School), and Escondido, Barron Park, Juana Briones, and other elementary schools.

#### "A Million-Dollar View"

Cheryl's son now occupies the house closest to the creek. One of its attractive features is the knotty pine paneling throughout. The kitchen has a knotty pine ceiling - certainly a unique feature in Barron Park. The rear of the house is on the north side (left) bank of the creek, about 150 feet downstream from the Barron Park Elementary School property. At this point, the creek goes into a tight "ess" curve, which provides some highly unusual views both up and down the creek. The view is enhanced by a canopy of mature oak trees and a lush growth of ivy. All along the edge of Cheryl's creekbank is a deck with a scenic railing that further enhances the beauty of the scene. The total effect is prettier than most of the public spots that offer views of the creek it is truly a "million-dollar" view.

## The Second Tale: The Pellizzaris - Concrete Contractors With Deep Local Roots

#### "Pellizarri" Stamped in the Sidewalks

Have you noticed, while walking in Palo Alto or nearby towns, the name "Pellizzari" stamped into the concrete of the sidewalk, driveway, or other pad or curb? If so, it is evidence that either the construction contractor, Monti Pellizzari, his father Mick Pellizzari, or indeed Monti's grandfather Albert were responsible for installing the concrete.

#### Neighbors since 1950?

The first Pellizzari who was a local contractor was Monti's great-great grandfather (GGG [first name not known to the author]). The second was GGG's son John Pellizzari, and the third was John's son and GGG's grandson Albert J. Pellizzari. According to my interpretation of information in Albert J.'s 1999 obituary, Monti Pellizzari's GGG built the house at 3842 Magnolia Drive. My "first built" database shows that it was built in 1950.

Albert Pellizzari, "a resident of 3842 Magnolia Drive," founded the Perry Concrete construction company in 1963 (the source of this information was not recorded).

It is clear that Albert, Mick, and Monti's family have been active in the Mid-Peninsula and West Valley since at least the middle of the last century. Mick told me that they've done many projects in Barron Park. Ever since I met his son Monti at this year's May Fête, I've been looking for the Pellizzari stamp on Barron Park sidewalks, and I finally found one: in a driveway on Ilima Court – Pellizzari Concrete, with a phone number.

#### Mick Pellizzari, Long-Term Barron Parker

Mick Pellizzari is now retired and lives with his wife Donna in Half Moon Bay, but treasures his memories of life on Chimalus Drive in Barron Park; the house at 698 was built in 1947. Mick represents the fourth generation of Pellizzari contractors operating in this area.

#### Monti Pellizzari, Now the Fifth Generation

Monti Pellizzari has lived in Barron Park since he was born in 1981, attending Barron Park Elementary School (BPES), JLS Middle School, and Gunn High School. He represents the fifth generation of Pellizzaris in BP.

#### Mick's Grandson Graduated from BPES this Year

Monti's son (Mick's grandson), Gianni Pellizzari, graduated from Barron Park Elementary School on June 5, 2025. (See Photo C, Gianni Pellizzari at his BPES graduation with his parents, Monti and Stacey.) The ceremony was held in the small amphitheater with concrete bleacher seating that replaced the previous "Fireside Circle" at BPES. The amphitheater was constructed by Mick and Monti Pellizzari along with Roble Ridge resident James Witt in 2005. It was a joint non-profit project for the school. (See Photo D, Amphitheater at BPES in 2025.)

#### The Third Tale: Alan Karp, Time Travel in Barron Park?

Alan Karp, a resident of Ilima Court, is writing a time-travel novel set in Barron Park. Alan moved to California in 1977, to Palo Alto in 1982, and to Barron Park in 1993. He has become fascinated by our neighborhood history. His novel will feature a real estate agent who has the power to manipulate time and move people to the time of their (or her) choice.

The protagonists are a present-day young



C - Gianni Pelizzari at his fifth grade graduation from Barron Park Elementary School (BPES), June 5, 2025, with his parents Monti and Stacey Pellizzari. Courtesy of the Pellizzari family.



D - The amphitheater at Barron Park Elementary School, June 8, 2025, looking west toward the "daycare wing." Photo by Myrna Rochester.

couple, who want to buy a house in Palo Alto and are charmed by Barron Park. They have also been captivated by their reading about the 1950s and '60s and feel that they would have been happier living then – especially in a place like Barron Park. The realtor works her magic and propels them back 70 years. I don't want to be a spoiler at this point, so will say no more.

Alan is making use of my research and articles for his background and setting to make his depiction of seventy-or-so-years-ago Barron Park more real to his readers. I am wholly in support of his project and look forward to reading Alan's book!

#### An Impressive Résumé

Entirely aside from the above, Alan also has a solid life résumé. Originally from Syracuse,

New York, he has a PhD in Astronomy from the University of Maryland and a BS in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. He was briefly a professor at Dartmouth and an adjunct professor at Stanford. He has longtime experience in computer standards development. He was a scientist at both IBM's Palo Alto Scientific Center and at Hewlett-Packard Corporation in Palo Alto. He has startup-company experience in developing a data system network.

Alan continues to enjoy life on Ilima Court, which he characterizes as a "nice place with nice people." He particularly enjoys the annual summer "picnic on the circle" (the cul-de-sac). Interestingly, he prefers to describe himself as "unemployed," rather than "retired."

## The Fourth (and Final) Tale: Jeralyn Moran – Wildlife Habitat Manager

#### A Barron Park Volunteer

Jeralyn Moran has been deeply involved in Barron Park volunteer participation in recent years. Her main activity is as a donkey handler, feeding them breakfast on Tuesdays and walking them on Wednesdays. On weekends, she makes compost, mixing donkey manure with vegetative matter for composting. A couple of years ago, Jeralyn participated in a cleanup project on Matadero Creek at the bike path (shared pathway) bridge near the donkey pasture. (See Photo E, Jeralyn on the bridge, with water cleanup equipment.) She is a longtime, loyal contributor to this Newsletter, under the rubric, "Our Wild Neighbors." Look for Jeralyn's articles in the BPA Newsletter Archive at: bpapaloalto. org/bpa-newsletter/ We've watched neighbors clipping her articles for future reference.

#### A Creekbank Resident

Jeralyn lives between Josina Avenue and Matadero Creek. She has rented there for the last seven years from a good friend, David Coale. The house is located on the right (or south) bank, three houses downstream from Barron Park Elementary School. She has beautiful views of the creek and greatly enjoys observing the wildlife that travel up and down the winding channel. There, the creek bends to the north, beginning its tightest curve in Barron Park, with views like those enjoyed by the Borja family on Matadero.

#### A Lifelong Fascination with Wildlife

Jeralyn Moran is a wildlife biologist with a BS

degree from California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo. She has worked as an assistant to a Natural Resources/Wildlife Manager on the Willamette National Forest in Oregon. She alternated college and work at the National Forest, gaining on-the-job experience. Later, this helped her land a job as a full-time Wildlife Biologist at a nature center in Michigan.

Jeralyn married an engineer from Michigan, who developed and installed physical therapy machines. Her spouse's customers were mostly in the U.S. and in Asia, so he and Jeralyn moved a lot, living for a while in Hawaii, halfway between the two continents. Along the way, Jeralyn managed to bear and raise



E - Jeralyn Moran at a Spring 2023 cleanup project on Matadero Creek under the shared pathway bridge near the donkey pasture. Photo by David Coale.

three children, now adults.

Ever since childhood, Jeralyn has been fascinated with wildlife and especially interested in helping injured animals and birds. She told a story about treating a woodchuck (Eastern marmot) in Michigan, that had been hit by a car and lost its lower front teeth. She cared for it for years, both at home and at the Nature Center where she was employed, filing down the rapidly growing upper front teeth that normally wear against the lower ones. From Michigan, Jeralyn returned to the West Coast to care for her ailing mother in Sacramento.

Jeralyn volunteers in bird rescue and wildlife rehabilitation for the Peninsula Humane Society (whose Wildlife Rehab Center recently relocated to Saratoga). She is also active in a climate-focused Bay Area group, part of the international Scientist Rebellion.

#### **Experience Living on Both of Our Creeks**

Jeralyn has lived for extended periods on each of our creeks, Barron and Matadero. She grew up in a house at 1062 Los Robles Avenue, which had (and still has) a private bridge over Barron Creek. (See Photo F, the bridge at 1062 Los Robles Avenue in 2025.) The house was built in 1956, on the last empty lot in County tract #242 (El Cerrito #1), filed with the County Clerk in 1945.

The original private bridge was wooden and would have appeared flimsy compared to the one in the photo. It was probably built in 1956 to allow access to the house. Jeralyn recalls the wooden bridge and believes that it was lost in a later flood, likely the big flood

of January 1983, and replaced by the current concrete structure later in 1983.

Jeralyn attended Barron Park Elementary (BPES) for the last few weeks of sixth grade in 1971, after returning with her family from a two-and-a-half year stay in Tokyo. She liked her BPES teacher so much that she wrote (to me), "Bless you, Mr. Godsey." She attended Terman Junior High (now Ellen Fletcher Middle School) and Gunn High School, graduating in 1977.

#### A "Free, Happy Time"

Jeralyn pointed out that "growing up in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s was very different for kids, compared to today." Aside from the technological changes, there have been some

significant cultural changes. Gone now is most of the freedom that kids enjoyed then in exploring their neighborhoods. Barron Park, with two creeks and lots of nearby open land, offered opportunities for short outdoor adventures without adult presence. Kids hardly ever get chances for these experiences today.

#### **Walking Under Gunn**

Jeralyn has fond memories of adventurous exploits with neighbor kids and school friends, including a few that had to be treated as "top secret" from all the parents. One of these was exploring in the 1,120-feet-long, five-foot diameter underground drainage pipe that takes Barron Creek water from the Sedimentation Basin (known locally as "the duck pond") and carries it under the Gunn High School playing fields to the boundary with Barron Park. The water is then released into the



F - The private bridge today at 1062 Los Robles Avenue. Jeralyn lived here from her birth in 1959 until she graduated from Gunn in 1977. Photos by Richard Elder.

open channel that runs alongside Los Robles Avenue from the Gunn boundary north to the trash rack at Laguna, where the creek goes underground again in another five-foot pipe that runs along the north side of Los Robles Avenue to and under El Camino Real.

Jeralyn and her friends used to explore the pipe under the Gunn fields. Entry was not blocked at either end in those days. The kids were small enough that they could walk and even run upright in the pipe. As Jeralyn told me, "we would go up and down the tunnel, but only in dry weather when the water would only be an inch or so deep. It was a little scary but a lot of fun." Readers should note that this pipe is nearly four times the length of a football field – a long distance to scramble underground in pitch darkness! (See Photo G, Barron Creek culvert outfall at Los Robles Avenue.)

The kids also rode their bicycles everywhere (much less traffic then), and sometimes went through the fences and hiked in the Stanford cattle pastures west of Barron Park. Of course, they also visited the Bol farm and donkey pasture where Bol Park is today. It was a free, "happy time."

#### The Flood of 1970

"Holy Cow – Is that what I think it is?"
Jeralyn has vivid memories of a flood on
Barron Creek, when she was about 11 or 12
years old. It was spectacular, rising almost
to the height of their driveway bridge. She
saw something very strange in the floodwater – it looked like an animal's body – and
she followed it as it raced down the channel
along Los Robles Avenue. When she got to
Laguna Avenue, it was caught in the trash
rack along with driftwood and trash, and she
could see that it was a full-sized cow – dead
as dead could be. (See Photo H, Barron



G – Barron Creek culvert outfall at Los Robles Avenue. This is the lower (east) end of the culvert under the Gunn playing fields, at the Barron Park boundary. The photo is taken from the extreme upper (west) dead end of Los Robles Avenue, where a gate permits pedestrians and bicyclists to enter the school property. The pipe looks small in the photo, but it is five feet in diameter. This photo was taken in June 2025, but the scene looked very much the same in 1970 since this channel has been kept clear of vegetation.

Creek trash rack at Laguna Avenue in 2025.) Except for the subsequent vegetative growth, the creek would have looked the same in 1970. (Full disclosure requires me to tell you that Jeralyn did not say "Holy Cow!" but that's what I would probably have said, had I been there.)



H – Barron Creek trash rack at Laguna Avenue, in 2025. Except for the vegetative growth, it looked the same in 1970. Just imagine the carcass of a full-grown cow lying sprawled across the grate!

#### Was This Really in 1970?

Over the years I have heard many stories of the flooding on Barron Creek, including stories of multiple private wooden bridges ripped out and piling up on each other in the 1960s, but never before have I heard the story of the cow on the trash rack. Matadero Creek had sizeable floods in 1962 and 1973,

but neither of those years fits Jeralyn's story. If Jeralyn's memory of her age at the time is accurate, I conclude that this was probably a flash flood on Barron Creek and maybe on Adobe Creek as well - Adobe is the much larger creek to the south without causing flooding on Matadero Creek. That would be quite possible: Violent storm cells can be small enough to cover only one or two of these small creek watersheds. And so, I am dubbing this the "Dead Cow Flood of 1970 on Barron Creek."

#### A Naturalist's Message to Our Readers

Jeralyn would like everyone to remember the natural environment when selecting and applying animal control measures, especially rodenticides. According to information from Santa Clara County Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga, and Curt Riffle, Board Treasurer for the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District,

> published in Spectrum in April 2025, it can take up to ten days for a poisoned rodent to die, making it easy prey for pets and native predators. The toxins then accumulate in the bodies of the predators, most strongly in those at the top of the food chain. Thus, the victims of poisoning may well include hawks, owls, raccoons, coyotes, and others.

#### How to Contact the Historian

is dgrahampaca@gmail.com, landline: 650-493-0689, or snail mail: 984 Ilima Way, Palo Alto, CA 94306. I would especially like to hear from anyone who finds an error of fact or interpretation in this article, or anyone who has information to add, or (best of all) a photograph to add to the Barron Park Historical Archive.

# Remembering Melanie Cross (9/17/1946 - 5/30/2025)



Melanie finds a giant mushroom in the Bol Park Native Habitat Garden. Photo by Claire Elliott.



Melanie transplanted Douglas Irises from the original native garden to an area near the donkey pasture. Photo by Myrna Rochester.

n most days you could find Melanie in the Bol Park Native Habitat Garden. An expert gardener, she cared for the garden in every way - she planned, propagated, purchased, planted, mulched, pruned, weeded, and watered. Yet she was never too busy to talk with the passerby who inevitably stopped to admire the garden. She loved answering questions and was generous with her knowledge. Melanie had a passion for native plants, the beauty and habitat that grew around them, and for the folks in our community.

Melanie knew the scientific names of most of the native plants in the garden. She delighted in saying the Latin names aloud. Melanie recruited her husband, Peter, to create hundreds of plant labels showing names of almost every plant in the garden. She was a source of knowledge and inspiration. And she was the leader of our core group of gardeners at Bol Park.

Melanie's plan was to expand the original native garden at Matadero and Laguna, but with more emphasis on providing habitat and low/no maintenance. She was always on the lookout for where to plant a few more natives. And oh, the garden grew. It now extends from the original garden to the play structures and beyond!

On the berm, we added mulch and let the purple needlegrass (originally planted in the '90s) grow. Melanie sowed Ruby Chalice Clarkia seeds there also. It is a remarkable sight to see pops of purple-pink Clarkia flowers among the delicate needlegrass. Near the donkey pasture, she transplanted Douglas Iris that came from the original native garden, after almost singlehandedly clearing out some invasive privet and blackberries.

She had boundless energy for new projects, whether it be mulching with the Scouts, creating the plants list, posting educational signs, designing layouts for new areas, meeting with high school groups, hosting a garden party, leading tours, or guiding volunteers in the garden.

When an issue about the native garden paths arose, we met in the garden to discuss it. Within minutes, she knew just what to do. Melanie began moving logs to create new paths that meandered throughout the garden sections. Move paths? No problem! She went all in, always with a generous spirit.

It is hard to imagine the garden without Melanie. But her presence will be felt in every native plant now spreading to

restore habitat throughout the park.

A celebration of Melanie's life will be held on Sunday, August 10, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m. at Melanie and Peter's house.

Please contact <a href="mailto:bpnativegarden@gmail.com">bpnativegarden@gmail.com</a> for more information.



Melanie in the Bol Park Garden in April one week after major lung cancer surgery. Photo by Peter Cross.

# Neighbors Celebrate May Fête 2025!



May Fête musicians Margaret Davis, Kristoph Klover, and Ernest Kinsolving have offered up traditional music year after year. Photo by Serena Martin.



Fifth-graders Gianni Pellizzari on trumpet and Reyansh Minapalli on tenor horn perform a musical introduction to start off the festivities. Photo by Maury Green.



The musical accompaniment grows as more musicians gather and join in. Photo by Serena Martin.



Gary Breitbard organized the music and dancing and was the Maypole dance caller. Photo by Maury Green.



After the dance, a child gazes at the completed, ribbon-bound Maypole. Photo by Myrna Rochester.



The bouquet at the top of the Maypole. Photo by Maury Green.



Barron Park Historian Doug Graham guides neighbors through Barron Park history materials from his archive. Photo by Myrna Rochester.



April enjoys a well deserved break from the May Fête excitement. This photo and the photo below by Serena Martin.



The kids can't wait to have their faces painted! Photo by Myrna Rochester.



Deciding your patterns and colors is an important first step. Photo by Serena Martin.

#### A warm thank you to the businesses and individuals who supported this year's May Fête!

#### **Sponsorships and Donations**

- · Barron Park Donkey Project
- · Barron Park Nursery and Market
- Cal Preserving, Restoration & Maintenance
- · Celia's Restaurant
- · Copy Factory
- · Driftwood Market
- · Ernie's Liquors
- The Great American Framing Company
- · GreenMail
- · John W. King, Realtor
- · Kumon Math and Reading Center
- · Palo Alto Café
- · Shanti Dhara Wellness
- · State of Mind Slice House
- · ZombieRunner Coffee

#### **Food and Snacks**

- · Island Ice Hawaiian Shave Ice
- · State of Mind Slice House

#### Volunteer Neighbors and Friends included:

- Dan Adams
- · Darren Ashworth
- · Gary Breitbard
- · Doug Burns
- · Richard Elder

Continued on Page 12



Morris dancers execute traditional 15th century patterns with sticks, scarves and bells, always to live music. Photo by Maury Green.



Garlands of flowers and ribbons abound, in hoops, on hats and as skirts. Photo by Maury Green.



Parents and children wind the ribbons around the Maypole under the direction of Gary Breitbard. Photo by Maury Green.



You're never too young or too old to enjoy the Maypole experience. Photo by Serena Martin.

#### Thanks Continued from Page 11

- April Fiegl
- · Doug Graham
- · Maury Green
- · John King
- · Serena Martin
- · Betzahire Pelayo
- · Leon Rochester
- · Lisa Landers
- · Myrna Rochester
- Star Teachout

#### **Music and Dance**

Gary Breitbard, our Maypole dance caller, organized all the music and dancing by: The May Fête Musicians, Mad Molly, Berkeley Morris, Dear Creek, and Seabright. With the BPES Fifth Grade music class on horns!

#### **Activities and Tables included:**

- Doug Graham's Barron Park History display and archive
- · The Bol Park Native Habitat Garden
- · The Barron Park Donkey Project
- 350 Silicon Valley Palo Alto Climate Action
- 3rdThursday on Cal Ave
- Plus, Scouts and student groups set up and ran: Face Painting; Crafts; Teen Volleyball; Bean Bag Toss; Hula Hoops

. . .

# **Updating your Membership Profile: Newsletter Preference and Interests**

By Lisa Landers, BPA Membership Chair

Thanks to all those who have already joined for 2025!

We are asking all BPA members to please check their membership profiles on our website (bpapaloalto.org). The new BPA system is missing profile information for many members!

- 1. If you joined online in 2025, first click on Log In on the right side of the top menu bar. Once you have logged in, you'll be sent back to the home page where you can click on the link "My Account" that now appears in the menu bar. See directions below to update your profile page.\*
- 2. If you joined with a paper form in 2025 or joined between October 2024 and December 2024, you will first need to create or update a password. See directions in the section below: How to set Password/Log In.\*\*

#### \*How to update your Profile Page:

- a) Follow the instructions above to Log In and click on the "My Account" link.
- b) Your membership profile will appear when you click on "My Account."

- c) If appropriate, add a household member's name and email address.
- d) Choose a newsletter preference: Online link or USPS mailed copy.
  - Currently, if you did not indicate a newsletter preference, you have been listed to receive a print copy by U.S. mail.
- e) Choose the **volunteer committees/baby sitter listings** you are interested in.

#### \*\*How to set Password/Log In

- a) Go to the BPA website: bpapaloalto.org
- b) Click on "Log In"
- c) Click "Forgot Password." Enter the email address you used for previous memberships.
- d) You will receive an email message to choose/reset your password.
- e) Click on the link in the email message. You'll go to a page where you will enter your new password, twice. Once you have reset your password, you will be taken back to the BPA website home page where you will be already logged into the website.

 f) Click on "MyAccount" to reach your Profile Page, and complete your information.

If you do not receive an invite to update your password, please contact <a href="mailto:barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com">barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com</a> to obtain your login email.

Our system is still being updated and will be easier to use in the future.

The BPA appreciates your continued support!



#### BPA EMAILS AND WEB LINKS

#### SUMMER 2025

- BPA Website: bpapaloalto.org/
- BPA Newsletter Archive: bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/
- BPA Membership (Join/Renew): bpapaloalto.org/#join
- Membership Questions:
   Lisa Berkowitz Landers at:
   barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com
- BPA Email Lists: Join at: <u>bpapaloalto.org/bpa-email-lists/</u> or Write to: listmanager@bpapaloalto.org
- **BPA President:** John W. King at: johnwadeking@gmail.com
- **BPA Treasurer**: John W. King at: johnwadeking@gmail.com
- BPA Newsletter Editor: Myrna

- Rochester at: mbrbpa@sonic.net
- **BPA Business Liaison**: Paul Yang at: pabloyang@yahoo.com
- Support for Buena Vista Neighbors: Karen Ratzlaff at: <a href="mailto:karen.ratzlaff@hotmail.com">karen.ratzlaff@hotmail.com</a> Buena Vista Partners (non-profit) at: buenavistapartners.org
- Emergency Services Volunteer Program: Maurice Green at: <u>mauryg3@comcast.net</u>
- Barron Park Historian: Douglas L. Graham at: <a href="mailto:dgrahampaca@gmail.com">dgrahampaca@gmail.com</a>
- **Senior Connections:** Jaya Pandey at: jaya.jpandey@gmail.com
- **BPA Webmaster:** Maurice Green at:

#### bpawebman@bpapaloalto.org

- Barron Park Donkeys: To volunteer, donate, or purchase merchandise, go to: barronparkdonkeys.org or contact Jenny Kiratli at: barronparkdonkeys@gmail.com
- Bol Park Native Habitat: To volunteer, contact Rich Elder at: rich.e.elder@gmail.com
  Donate to the Native Habitat through the "Bol Park Fund" at: friendsofpaparks.org/donations2
  By mail or phone: Friends of the Palo Alto Parks (FOPAP), Bol Park Fund, 425 Grant Ave., Suite 27, Palo Alto, CA 94306; 650-327-7323.

# We Beat the Heat!

The Barron Park Association hosted its first "Beat the Heat" free ice cream social of this summer at Bol Park on Sunday, June 8, 2025. Neighbors chatted while Karen and Amol Saxena delivered and then scooped hundreds of cones.



Karen Saxena, David Coale, and John King flex their muscles to scoop ice cream for a stream of neighbors. Photos by Myrna Rochester.



Early birds enjoy ice cream at Bol Park while the line builds up behind them.



Ice cream treats and community spirit are enhanced by the music of Sarah Kirton, Jena Rauti, and Gary Breitbard.



## ARE YOU AN ARTIST OR WRITER?

Do you enjoy the creative work featured in the BPA Newsletter? Would you like to see your art, photography, crafts, music, published (or unpublished) writing, etc., in a future issue? Please send your idea with a draft Artist's Statement and reproducible samples or a description of your work to Myrna Rochester at: <a href="mailto:mbrbpa@sonic.net">mbrbpa@sonic.net</a>

#### View the BPA Newsletter in Full Color!

You can read this issue in full color and with live Web links, as soon as it's posted at: <a href="mailto:bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/">bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/</a>

While you're there, check out our Archive of past Newsletters. You can easily review past activities in the 'hood and catch up on issues you may have missed.

Thanks! The Editors



# 2025 Barron Park Association Membership bpapaloalto.org

Thanks to our members! **2025 Membership Renewals began on January 1, 2025.** 

Join or renew your membership online with PayPal at: <a href="mailto:bpapaloalto.org/#join">bpapaloalto.org/#join</a>

To pay by personal check, mail this membership form and your check to: **BPA Treasurer, 724 Barron Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306** 

Memberships renewed October 2024 to December 2024 are valid through 2025

Name(s):	Primary email address:	
Address:	Secondary email address:	
<ul> <li>■ Newsletter: I'd like the full color online edition (instead of a print copy for Spring, Summer, and Fall)</li> <li>■ NEW! Babysitter Listings: I want to list a babysitter</li> </ul>	Phone:	
or request the list. BPA will email you for information.		
□ <b>Sponsor</b> \$100	☐ Member	\$35
□ Patron \$50	☐ Senior (62+)	\$20
☐ Additional Contribution: \$	☐ Business	\$50
Total Contribution: \$		
If sending a personal check, please pay to: Barron Park Association.		

The Barron Park Association is your volunteer neighborhood group serving the interests of our very special community. All residents of Barron Park and Green Acres are encouraged to join. If you have questions about the BPA or need to check your membership status, please email: <a href="mailto:barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com">barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com</a>

Your BPA membership supports many Barron Park community events and interests including: May Fête, Movie Night in Bol Park, Ice Cream Socials, Babysitter Listings, Senior Connections, Emergency Preparedness, Quarterly Newsletters, and Email lists.

#### **Calling Local Business Owners!**

Do you have a business in Barron Park? Are you a business owner living in Barron Park? A **BPA Basic Business Membership (\$50/year)** gives you one free ad in the Spring, Summer, or Fall BPA Newsletter. You may also place a full-length "Spotlight" article about you and your business during your first year as a member. Plus, you'll be listed on the home page of the BPA Website.

At another level, **Business Sponsors** (\$350/year) may place an ad in each of our quarterly Newsletters. For more information, contact our BPA Business Liaison, Paul Yang at: <a href="mailto:pabloyang@yahoo.com">pabloyang@yahoo.com</a>

# The EV Roadmap Unpacked

By Andrea Gara, Co-Leader, 350SV Palo Alto Climate Action

he weather is warming, and maybe your thoughts are turning to a road trip. Range anxiety and the power of habit still have some turning to gas or hybrid vehicles for longer trips. Or, avoiding EV ownership altogether. But are those fears warranted? We decided to put our Volkswagen ID.4 to the test!

#### The Challenge

We wanted to take a month-long road trip to attend a wedding in New Mexico and visit our son in Boulder, CO, with an unspecified route home. (Spoiler alert: We went through Wyoming). How would our VW ID.4 do out of the California charging bubble?

#### The Trip

A shared love of adventure travel lit the spark between my husband (Al) and me. However, like many, I have become concerned about the environmental impact of air travel. So, these days I am challenging myself to find more adventures closer to home. Al has always loved a road trip, but I feared fast-food meals and long stints trapped in the car. Would an EV road trip be for me? With the prospect of a wedding in Santa Fe and visiting with family in Colorado, I decided to give it a go.

The verdict? EV road trips are indeed different from gas ones, but how they stack up may depend on the driver. If you like to blast through, in a feat of endurance, to your destination, they may cramp your style a bit. But, if like me, you appreciate extra chances to stretch your legs and take a look around, you may find an EV trip much more fun than a gas one.

In many ways, an EV road trip felt like a throw-back to a time before we all just filled up with-out leaving the interstate. While there is no shortage of EV chargers just off the highway, I loved that charge time allowed me to check out more small towns than I would have otherwise, including the historic town of Las Vegas, NM (who knew?) where we found an excellent hole-in-the-wall sandwich shop. Or Gallup, NM, where nearly 50% of the population is Native American and there is a thriving Native American art scene. Or Barstow, CA,



Our route: Palo Alto →King's Canyon National Park, CA→ Mojave, CA Flagstaff/Sedona AZ

→ Albuquerque/Santa Fe NM →Pueblo, CO →Boulder/Golden, CO→ Laramie, WY →Park City,
UT→Elko, NV → Tahoe → Palo Alto. All images by Andrea Gara.

on Route 66, where we enjoyed the kitsch and a classic diner lunch. Maybe charging will prove a boon to small-town America and make everyone's road trips more interesting. Towns like Mojave, CA, are clearly banking on it, and their ample charging stations did entice us to make that a stop.

One challenge for us was that our car came with 3 years of free charging at Electrify America stations, highly incentivizing us to use them. They have a robust network, but are concentrated outside of town centers, often in a Walmart parking lot, with some fast-food joints nearby. As a vegetarian and a picky eater, I found I needed good picnic fixings, just in case. Next year, when our freebie period with Electrify America ends, we will be making even more stops in small towns.

Another unusual aspect of our EV road trip was meeting fellow travelers while charging. Some of the best conversations were with the woman pulling a teardrop camper with her EV (who said she had taken multiple 4k mile trips!) and the older couple who were completing a round trip from AZ to NY and back.

After 3.5K miles through blue states, red states, mountains, high desert, and city centers, temperatures over 100 degrees and below freezing, we are more confident than ever about EV road tripping. All told, we had a great adventure, and I am happy to report that the high-adrenaline moments were







Multiple charging stations in Mojave, CA. We charged at the first station. All photos by Andrea Gara.

attributable to my poor gravel bike skills and unexpected wildlife in the bathroom . . . not that we were driving an EV!

Usual Wait time for Chargers: 0 minutes.

Total Wait Time for Chargers: 9 minutes.

Average Charge Time: 30 minutes.

Average Charge Speed: 100 kW dropping to 80 kW

#### **Useful Apps**

- ABRP (A Better Route Planner) Don't leave home without it! You can input your starting point, destination, starting charge and the buffer charge you want when you arrive. Add way stops and get info on amenities at the charging station. You can also play around with how many stops you want versus time charging to customize your trip. It takes elevation into account (critical!)! One pitfall: the ABRP navigation app is not great. We just plugged the charge spots into Google after we got the route from ABRP.
- <u>PlugShare</u> Good for seeing all of the chargers along a route, including slow chargers and free chargers. You can filter for amenities such as nearby dining, hiking, or shopping. Useful info on pricing and reliability plus user reviews.
- Charger Apps (<u>ChargePoint</u>, <u>Electrify</u>
   <u>America</u>, <u>EV Connect</u> . . .) These apps are good for seeing charger availability, status (are they in use/working), charging speed, and nearby amenities.
- Google Maps Has gotten quite good at showing nearby chargers.
- <u>Stay-N-Charge</u> Find out which hotels have EV chargers.

#### **Pro Tips**

- Download a few different charger apps before leaving on a long trip. You don't want to be trying to download the app and set up an account in a remote area with weak Wi-Fi.
- 2. Take into account temperature, wind, elevation, speed, and AC usage. While the ABRP route takes elevation into account, if you are speeding and blasting the AC, your mileage will go down. (Of course, same is true with gas vehicles.) Range will also go down in freezing temperatures (around 30%) and temps over 95% (around 15%).



Charging at the very comfy Park City, Utah Visitor Center.

- 3. Bring a cooler with some nice picnic fare, especially if you want to grab a bite while charging and you are not a fan of fast food.
- 4. Use charging stops to take bathroom breaks, check out local towns, have a snack, and chat with other chargers!
- 5. Carry an extension cord and a plug adapter so that you can use a wall socket in an emergency, or use (with permission) at your lodging. We never needed it, but still.
- 6. Remember that your mileage will look bad as you climb a mountain, but will recover as you go down the other side. Use a planning app, such as ABRP, so that you don't have to stress out or do math!
- Remember to check the charger situation at your destination for the day. You need enough to get back out of town to the next charger.

#### **Pleasant Surprises**

- 1. More charging stations than we expected. Even trying to use Electrify America chargers exclusively, we found coverage was well-spaced. Some small towns, such as Mojave, CA, population 3.8K, had tons of chargers.
- 2. Free EV charging at some Best Westerns and other hotel chains with on-site chargers.
- 3. Free EV chargers in Flagstaff, AZ.
- 4. Little to no wait time for chargers.

**Most Challenging Leg:** Mojave, CA, to Desert Oasis in Fenner, CA. Our mistakes were: skipping a charge because we didn't think we needed it, taking a wrong turn,

speeding, and blasting the AC with temps over 100 degrees. After realizing that our mileage was dropping faster than expected, we slowed down (prudent) and turned off the AC for 15 minutes (overreaction). In the end, we rolled into the charge station with 8% charge. Lesson learned: when conditions are extreme, just make the extra stop.

Most Challenging State: Wyoming (Actually, this was the only remotely challenging state!)

**Favorite Charging Site:** Park City, Utah Visitor Center. Comfy seating areas, cute cafe, tables to plug in and work, Wi-Fi, clean bathrooms.

To see what day-to-day EV travel life looked like, go to <u>350siliconvalley.org/post/the-ev-roadmap-unpacked</u> and then scroll down to section entitled **Detailed Trip Report.** 

#### Barron Park Association Fall Newsletter Deadline: Monday, September 1, 2025

Please submit articles (in Word if possible) for the Fall 2025 issue of the BPA Newsletter, with photos/images separate from text, by **Monday, September 1, 2025** (*i.e.*, during the first week of September ©)

Myrna Rochester at: mbrbpa@sonic.net

Find out if your BPA membership is current at <a href="mailto:bpapaloalto.org">bpapaloalto.org</a> or write to <a href="mailto:barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com">barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com</a> Also, you may wish to send a query in advance with your ideas – for an article, story, report, update, interview, profile, announcement, review, anecdote, or artist's page – to

mbrbpa@sonic.net

Announcements for activities should be for events scheduled *after* **October 15, 2025.**The Fall issue will be available in October 2025 by U.S. mail and online.

# BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS Summer 2025

President, John W. King Secretary, Jaya Pandey

Treasurer, John W. King

Doug Burns

**Todd Collins** 

Richard Elder

Maurice Green

Christian Kalar

John W. King

Lisa Berkowitz Landers

Jaya Pandey

Myrna Rochester

Paul Yang

#### Committee /Activity Chairs

Business Liaison: Paul Yang Communications: Myrna Rochester Email Lists: Richard Elder Environment: Jaya Pandey

Events: Vacant

Barron Park History: Douglas L. Graham Membership: Lisa Berkowitz Landers Neighborhood Safety & Emergency Preparedness: Maurice Green Parks & Creeks: Christian Kalar Native Habitat: Richard Elder

Shared Pathway: Doug Burns Schools Liaison: Todd Collins

Senior Connections: Jaya Pandey
Traffic & Streets: Doug Burns

Webmaster: Maurice Green

Welcoming: Vacant
Zoning & Land Use: Vacant

P.A. Neighborhood (PAN) Liaison:

Doug Burns

**BPA Board Meetings** are held the 2nd Tuesday of most months at 7:00 p.m. All neighbors are welcome.

For schedule and location write to: johnwadeking@gmail.com

bpapaloalto.org

#### Perry's memorial, continued from page 4



Shrek's "Donkey" was inspired by Perry. Photo from <u>freeiconspng.com</u>



Close up of the flower arrangement at Perry's memorial. Photo by Myrna Rochester.



A sketch of Perry the donkey taken from one of his memorial photos. By Gaebe R. Harper.



Barron Park Historian Doug Graham walks Jeralyn Moran through some of the key historical events of the Barron Park neighborhood. Photo by Maury Green.



Longtime donkey handler Doug Moran helps children learn more about donkeys and how to keep the donkeys safe. Photo by Serena Martin.



Members of the BPA ready to greet old and new members, sell raffle tickets, and cheer on the kids guessing the marbles in the jar! Photo by Serena Martin.

#### **BPA EMAIL LISTS**

The Barron Park Association offers three Email Lists for any resident to post: (1) bpa-news for news, information, and announcements; (2) bpa-misc for neighbor requests, queries, recommendations, free-bies, etc.; and (3) bpa-issues to express opinions or initiate discussion on topics of interest. They are hosted on Google Groups. To join a list, go to: bpapaloalto.org/bpa-email-lists/
The link provides information about each list and an easy way to subscribe to one or more of them.

#### BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025

#### **Barron Park Association**

724 Barron Avenue Palo Alto, California 94306

#### **EDITOR**

Myrna Rochester

#### **LAYOUT**

Hilary Glann

#### **PROOFREADER**

Christina Luce

#### **CONTRIBUTORS**

Andrea Gara, Douglas L. Graham, John W. King, Jenny Kiratli, Linda Elder, Lisa Berkowitz Landers, Star Teachout

#### PHOTO/ILLUSTRATION CREDITS

The Borja family, David Coale, Peter Cross, The Donkey Project, Richard Elder, Claire Elliott,

#### <u>freeiconspng.com</u>

Andrea Gara, Douglas L. Graham, Maury Green, Gaebe R. Harper, Serena Martin, The Pellizzari family, Shelley Pneh, Myrna Rochester

#### PRINTER

**Prodigy Press** 

BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION 724 Barron Avenue Palo Alto, California 94306 bpapaloalto.org

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PALO ALTO, CA PERMIT NO. 143

#### Barron Park Nursery, Florist & Market

3876 El Camino Real (650) 424-9466 or (650) 493-2700

Serving you since 1987. We value your support!

10% off floral purchases with this ad







DESKTOP PUBLISHING • LARGE FORMAT SELF SERVICE ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Professional • Friendly • Reliable
Affordable • Convenient



650.856.2020 • copyfactory.com 3929 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

**B&W** • COLOR COPIES • FULL BINDERY

#### Driftwood Deli & Market

Gourmet sandwiches, homemade soups & salads, Espresso bar, ice cream bar & milk shakes, Beer & wine, indoor & patio seating, kids & dogs friendly!

3450 El Camino Real, Palo Alto 650-493-4162 Business Hours: Mon - Fri 8-7, Sat 9-6

Website: driftwooddeliandmarket.com Email: driftwooddeli@yahoo.com Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

Serving Barron Park & surrounding communities since 1987!!

# GEDDES ULINSKAS ARCHITECTS Local Architects Serving the Silicon Valley Community for 20 Years. www.ularch.com 415.904.0483

#### Great American Framing Company



Custom Picture Framing & Mirrors 650/327-4521

3866 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306

#### **GREENMAIL**

- Packing and Shipping: UPS, FedEx, USPS
  - U-Haul Rental
  - Notary Public
  - Live Scan Fingerprinting
  - Copying Services: Color and B/W
- Mailbox Rental
  - Finger Printing
- Mailbox Rental
   Certifix Live Scan
  - Greeting Cards
- Passport Photos
   Pubbor Stamps
- Fax: Sending & Receiving
- Rubber StampsKey Copying
- Postal StampsSecure Shredding

3790 El Camino Real, Palo Alto Phone: (650) 494-2660 Fax: (650) 494-3539

packing and shipping in paloal to ca.com



3rdthursday.fun

Join your friends and neighbors for music and fun at 3rdThursday on Cal Ave from 6 pm to 9 pm!

- July 17: Summer Fun & Games
- August 21: Foodie Walk
- September 18: Let's Dance