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Photo by Shirley Radder



The "PIP"



Parque Independent Press

November 2011

Too Good to be True

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. That is a lesson I learned recently when I was bidding on a 6-needle Babylock Embroidery Machine on E-Bay. I placed my bid and then sent a question to the seller.

After several days, she responded and the item was removed from E-Bay. Her message stated she had to go out of town and that was why she removed the machine, but I could still purchase it for \$2700.00. This was a heck of a deal and I was drooling to buy that machine.

I did a wire transfer from my bank to an account in Spain...yes, SPAIN, (cost \$45 for the transfer) and a couple of days later the seller notified me that the money was deposited and she would soon ship my machine.

On Sept 29, she sent me an e-mail stating she shipped the machine the previous day and I should receive it on Monday.

Can you imagine my shock/surprise/disappointment when I received an e-mail from the Seller on Saturday saying she had stopped the shipment to me as she had received a bid from another E-Bay member for \$4,000 but felt it only fair that she offer the machine to me, at that price, first?

After thinking it over carefully, I told the Seller that my sewing was a hobby, not a business and I could not meet the price of \$4,000.00. Guess what? She sent another e-mail offering it to me for \$3700.00! (What happened to the other E-Bay member?)

I politely declined and requested a return of my money.... which I never received.

I have since spoken to a Deputy Sheriff and to an officer in the District Attorney's office who told me that sadly, he felt this was a scam and that I have more than likely lost my money.

Moral: If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is!

.....
Please say hello to the newest resident in Paradise Park. Harper Reed Felich arrived on Monday September 26th at 8:29am, weighing 8lbs. 7 1/2 ounces measuring 20 inches in length. He is the second son of Jamie and Elina Felich and Logan's little brother.



In the olden days, a common practice was for newlyweds to drink mead (honey wine) for one month (one phase of the moon) to assure the birth of a son. Thus the term "honeymoon."

Masonic Family Information



Youth Groups

DeMolay –	Nov 10 & 24	7 pm
Job's Daughters –	Nov 5	7 pm
	Nov 30	7 pm
Rainbow for Girls	Nov 3 & 17	7 pm

Masonic Lodges

Confidence	Nov 7	7:30 pm
Paideia	Nov 7 & 21	6 pm.
SCSLV	Nov 1 dinner	6:30 pm .
	Nov 15	3 rd Degree
	Derek Huckobey	

Eastern Star

SC Redwoods 7:30 meetings

Oct 19-22 –	Grand Chapter
Oct 24	Initiation – P. Piette
Oct 28	Electa Circle 11:30
Nov 14	Farewell, Dinner 6:30
Nov 19	Installation 2:00 p.m.

Wild Lily 7:30 meetings

Nov 5	Installation 2 p.m.–
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Birthday Night at #278

The October meeting of Santa Cruz Redwoods, #278, was the annual birthday night. Everyone gets a chance to celebrate their birthday because each month is “hosted” by a member with decorations and special food.

For example, March was decorated with a Mardi Gras theme with beads on the table and purple, blue and gold decorations. July was a picnic-type theme with rice krispy treats and jell-o shooters. October was decorated with Oktoberfest colors (blue and white) and a Costco chicken was served (I got the two wings) with a variety of beers. Yum. There was also baklava at another table, one hosted fresh fruit, turkey sandwiches for November and the contribution Darlene Stump and I co-hosted was a tea party in honor of April, which is the month Shakespeare was born. (as well as my husband Don).

We served 3 types of sandwiches, two dessert cookies and a plethora of tea with a tea party set up and decorations. No one went away hungry.

This is one meeting of the year not to be missed. Circle “birthday night” on the 2012 fold out from the Chapter. You will not regret it.

p.s. An announcement was made at Chapter....Howard Benfield has been appointed as Grand Representative to North Carolina for 2012 – 2014!



A Night at the Symphony

October 1, 2011 was opening night for the 54th season of the Santa Cruz County Symphony, held at the Civic Center Auditorium in downtown Santa Cruz. Fred and MaryJo Dunn-Ruiz, who are on vacation, graciously gave their tickets to Mable Coleman who invited me to attend.

Having never been to a symphony before, I didn't realize the formalities that were expected. For example, the conductor entered the room and gave a little welcome speech, left the room and then re-entered to a standing ovation and applause. Each time a piece was completed, he would exit the room and re-enter to applause and an ovation!

The maestro, John Larry Granger, has been in Santa Cruz for 20 years. He is retiring after this year and said he couldn't imagine finishing this last season without the theme from the Lone Ranger. (The first piece played was the William Tell Overture.)


The next piece was the Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op 64 by Felix Mendelssohn. The guest violinist was Sherl Staples, a member of the New York Philharmonic.

The final piece was Symphony no., 8 in G Major, Op 88 by Antonin Dvorak. With both Mable and me as novices to this Symphony business, we were confused when the piece ended and there was no applause. We looked around,...waited... then music started up again. This happened about three times and then, those in the know, knew when to cheer and applaud.

Fortunately we didn't jump out of our chairs at the end of the first movement!

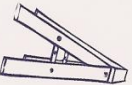
It was a wonderful experience, we were seated on the floor, and really enjoyed our evening.

The next performance of the Symphony will be on Saturday, November 12 at 8 p.m. Those pieces to be performed are Violin Concerto in D Major, Op 61 by Beethoven, Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor by Mozart and Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 in B- Flat Minor, Op. 23



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MEN'S CLUB "ADOPTS" FIRE BRIGADE

By Bob Morgan

About 20 members of the PPMC Men's Club gathered for their monthly meeting on October 5th, for a luncheon of smoked chicken and a green salad prepared by Jack Fisher. Our speaker for the day was Fire Brigade chief Butch Downing, who brought several of our PPMC Fire Brigade members with him.

Butch spoke with pride about the recently acquired fire truck, and described what equipment is needed for the new truck in order to make it as efficient as possible. In particular, a need exists for a professional ladder which can handle the needs of so many two story homes in the Park.

Our second fire truck ("Old-Yellow") is still serviceable, and would be the truck of choice if a need existed in Section Four, as it is light enough to cross the covered bridge. Although some repairs are needed to fix one of its pipes, our older truck is still quite capable of hooking up to hydrants and using its hoses to help knock-down a fire.

Butch also described the "turn-out" gear that they were able to obtain as a donation from other fire departments, with Andrew Almanza unpacking his case and displaying his personal set of gear.

Funding the costs of operating our Fire Brigade has been "spotty" over the years, and the ability of the Brigade to pay its costs has been dependent upon the attitude of each successive Board of Directors. In some years the Brigade has had the full support of the Board, while in other years some Directors have been heard to refer to our fire trucks as just being "boy-toys". Far from being toys, Allan Schattenburg described several instances wherein the use of our own equipment suppressed fires and kept them from spreading throughout the Park.

The Mens Club was quick to pick up on the fact that a need exists to raise money for the Brigade, to purchase the ladder and to acquire other equipment for them. Ideas were advanced towards holding a pancake breakfast, a "firemen's-ball", or plan some other type of fund raising activity. To get things started Andrew Almanza passed his fireman's helmet which was quickly filled with \$5, \$10, & \$20 bills. As a result, the seed money is now on hand for organizing a major fund-raising event.

If the Men's Club sounds like a group you'd like to become involved with, then please plan to attend our next function, which is on the first Wednesday of each month. Social time is 11:30; lunch and program begin at noon.

SIDEBAR

On July 2, 2011, a series of suggested Bylaws changes were submitted to the new Board of Directors for their consideration. One of the proposed changes would give the Fire Brigade permanent standing in our governing documents, such that all future Boards of Directors would be required to acknowledge the Fire Brigade as being a function that they cannot discontinue, abandon or temporarily inactivate without the approval of the majority of the membership. The suggested change is currently being studied by the Bylaws Committee, and it is expected that it will be ready for a vote of the membership at our next annual election. Your support of that proposal will help insure that we continue to have a viable Fire Brigade, not only for our own protection, but for the protection of future generations who live in the Park.

Bob Morgan

Colonel Sanders' finger-lickin' formula is locked away in a bank vault in Louisville, KY. In fact, the KFC people are so serious about keeping the ingredients under wraps that two separate companies are used to blend the spices, so neither possesses the complete recipe.

Propane Delivery Questions

By Martin Miller

We have choices and options from whom to buy our LP gas. I have come into a problem lately that has urged me to do some investigating. I have called some local LP companies and asked the following questions:

What is your cost of fuel?

They do vary in price, so you have to shop around and ask questions.

Do you do "will call", and if so what is the minimum purchase and time frame before delivery?

Some companies do not offer "will call" and only offer "route delivery", and what you are stuck with is a hazard and delivery fee every time they bring you LP to your home, if they have a fee. You have to ask.

What does "will call" do for you?

It allows you to be in control of the delivery. if there is a hazard, or delivery fee. The down side is you may have to purchase a minimum amount, and stay aware of how much LP you have in your tank, so you can call them when you are at 15-20% depending on the supplier, so you don't run out. I have found that "route delivery" leaves you more vulnerable to repeated hazard and delivery charges.

Tank fee is also a good question to ask. They do vary from supplier to supplier --you have to ask and weigh all parameters to include this in your final decision.

The choice you make on supplier is an important one. Customer service vs product cost seems to be the main factor upon which we are deciding. I have done my research and urge you to do yours also.

We as customers have the choice to make changes in our lives to suit our own needs. We must stay aware of the way we handle our households as to not go outside our budget constraints.

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Grammar-mania Use of "me" or "I"

"I" is the SUBJECTIVE form; "ME" is the OBJECTIVE form. "I" is used in the subject of a sentence and "me" is used as the "objective" of a sentence.

"Give it to ME..... "

You would not say "Give it to I".....

When using a plural subject, one would state: "We would like to see the movie. "

You would not say "Me and Shirley would like to see the movie." You would say "Shirley and I would like to see the movie...."

All too often these days, you hear the "younger folks" say something like.... "Me and her, or me and my friends, are going to the movies.... THIS IS SO WRONG..... this is just lazy speech. Shape up, people!

WINDOW COVERINGS



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Look how simple this is.....

What a great idea, no more twist ties or rubber bands. This method is water proof and air tight! The guy who first thought of the idea should be given an award for originality!!!



Cut up a disposable water bottle and keep the neck and top, as in photo.



Insert the plastic bag through the neck and screw the top to seal.

The bag is made to be air-tight, such that water will not leak, the secret lies with the top and screw cap!

This is a great idea to share. Good for us and the environment too.

Oomph Pah Pah

In last month's PIP, there was a large advertisement for the Oktoberfest to be held at Messiah Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 9. I missed it last year and was told that the food was good as well as the band so I bought a ticket for this year.

Many, many people from Paradise Park were there to support Darlene Stumpf and her church. Those who I saw included Katie Cease, Hap Holiday, Pat Herzog, Bill Lind, Sharon Simas, Don Simas, Charlotte, Ray, & Todd Hoffman, Dick, Sue, Becky and Danielle Lovelace, Marty & Debbie Miller, John, Arlene, Paul and Trish Mancini, Trevor and Logan Walters, Wilma Vinson, Myron Coleman and me.

Besides the entertainment from the Thirsty Nine oom pah pah band, the children gathered to sing "Eidelweiss" and "my hat it has 3 corners" while passing their little derbys from one to another.

Unfortunately, a 49ers game at one o'clock beckoned and I did not stay until the end but what I did see before leaving was a bounce house for the kids, a bake sale and a raffle. I gave my raffle tickets to DarleneI didn't win, but Arlene Mancini won a racquet ball racquet and balls.



Thank You!

To the many members of Paradise Park who supported my church by attending our annual Oktoberfest celebration. I was so pleased to see my neighbors and friends in attendance. Thank you so much!
Darlene Stumpf



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Sickness & Health

Recently Dorothy Jelsick fell and hurt herself really badly, but she didn't break anything...she was just black and blue. Those that responded were Sarah Laskey, Terry Feist, Paul and Cheryl Dangreau, Ray and Todd Hoffman and maybe some others. Stretch couldn't remember them all, but he was adamant that a thank you to those who responded be put into the PIP.

Two hours later Dorothy fell again and Sarah responded. Dorothy's daughter, Diane Woodruff reported that Stretch & Dorothy were most appreciative of all of the support they received and wanted everyone to know it was very much appreciated.

Myron Coleman had a torn meniscus in his right knee and had minor surgery. He's been walking around with an ice bag on his leg, and has been going to physical therapy twice a week. He's out and about walking to strengthen it now.

Bob Morgan, who was given a 50-50 chance to live a couple of weeks ago, is up and about and enjoying being home and out of the hospital. Carol reported he had a case of cabin fever so they drove to a flea market in Felton. Fresh air did him a world of good.

Buddy Ebsen, known for his portrayal of Jed Clampett on the Beverly Hillbillies, was originally cast as the Tin Man in the Wizard of Oz. However, he had to drop out of production when he discovered he was allergic to the silver make up required for the role.



Pam's Beagle

By Don Frosini

Charlie is a small 13" high, male Beagle with classic bedroom eyes and bow legs. His personality was a source of constant pleasure and laughter. He was also a companion for my ill wife. When Pam passed away, Charlie stayed at the dining room bay window that faced the garage waiting for her to come home--all day, except to go out through his doggie door to do his business or eat. He even stopped sleeping with me.

Four weeks later it was obvious that he was sick and hadn't been eating regularly. I took him to the vet and left him for three days of observation. When I returned, the vet explained that Charlie had one of the worse cases of depression that he had ever witnessed. He recommended that I immediately place him up for adoption.

The next few days I was torn up about losing my buddy. I already had my share of tragedy in my family. But faced with the reality that he was not getting better; my granddaughter found a Beagle home. The people had lost their Beagle eight months earlier. Their 21 year old son was handicapped, living at home, unable to work. The two of them became instant friends, Charlie recovered his strength over the following month. In the past four years I have received two letters and several photo's all about how great Charlie is doing and how happy they are.

I guess this story does prove that the greatest gift you can give is LOVE.

Grand Re-opening of Hoffman's Bistro & Patisserie

By Dick Lovelace

Sue and I are fans of the Food Network show 'Restaurant Impossible' with Chef Robert Irvine. The premise of the show is that Chef Robert comes to the aid of restaurants that are struggling economically. He reviews the food, décor, and management issues and then attempts to revitalize the restaurant in two days. He has a budget of \$ 10,000.00 and his years of experience as a restaurateur and chef to remodel the restaurant and to retrain the staff and management.

When we saw the article in the Sentinel that the show was coming to Santa Cruz to assist the Hoffman's restaurant on Pacific Avenue, Sue immediately called for reservations for the grand re-opening on Tuesday, October 11 and was successful. We learned that within minutes after we got our reservations, the place was fully booked. Some of our friends and neighbors tried to get reservations and were not able to do so.

The event turned out to be quite an adventure. Our reservations were for 6:30 PM. On the morning of the event, the restaurant called and changed our reservation to 6:45 PM. We knew that there would be quite a crowd, so we went early, arriving in the area at 6:15PM.

The parking lot behind the restaurant had been closed off because that is where the production and construction crews were set up for filming and remodeling. It was clear that parking would be a problem, and when we turned the corner onto Pacific we saw a large crowd already lined up in front of the place. We must live right, because we found an open parking space right on Pacific Ave. less than a block from the restaurant.

We stood in line with the rest of the crowd and immediately noticed that workmen were still frantically running in and out of the front door to a chop saw,

cutting pieces of molding to length and running back inside to install it. The windows were all covered with plastic to keep anyone from seeing what was going on inside. What was clear was that the remodel was running behind schedule. From watching the show we knew that it often gets right down to the wire for the re-opening.

Rumors were going through the crowd. One was that there would be a thirty minute delay; the other was that it would be 8:00 PM before the doors would open. The crowd was all pretty friendly, and everyone was making new friends, with everyone being fans of the show. Many passersby who didn't know what all the fuss was about were not shy about asking, and none of the fans were shy about explaining it to them.

At about 7:45 PM Chef Robert Irvine came out to address the crowd. He told us that things were running behind and that they would be opening in about a half hour. He stated that this was one of the most difficult transformations the show had ever undertaken, but he didn't give particulars. He did assure us that the wait would be well worth it, and that the 'new' Hoffman's would be the primo restaurant in the area. The crowd cheered and the Chef went back inside.

At about 8:30 PM the Production Manager addressed the crowd, advising that they really would be ready in about 30 more minutes. She also wanted us to know that Mr. Hoffman was actually in tears because he was so upset that his customers had to be kept waiting so long.

At 9:00 PM, the wall finally came down. Chef Robert escorted the Hoffman family owners into their new restaurant and unveiled it to them. They were thrilled and overwhelmed. The place was clean and modern looking. Where the old bakery displays had been stood a bright new wine bar.

The guests with reservations were then called in and seated. Sue and I were

apparently selected to sit outside on the front patio at the sidewalk. It was strange at first because everyone else was being seated inside, and our table was bare and had no place settings. No one else was being seated outside. I was about to go inside and ask if there had been some mistake, when our waitress came out along with a helper and began setting up our table, and others started being seated at other patio tables. A member of the production staff also came out and lit the portable patio heaters, which were very welcome by then.

The menu has been completely changed, with everything being fresh and light and very attractively presented. We had a glass of wine, which was quite pleasant, and ordered appetizers. I had halibut cheeks with a raspberry wine reduction sauce and brie. Quite tasty with a wonderful texture. Sue had scallops which were sliced paper thin with a wonderful sauce as well.

For our entrée, I had broiled halibut with a daikon slaw and a mango/habanera reduction and rice. It was delicious but I think a little too much habanera. Sue had the pork loin. The flavor was good, but it had been overcooked and was tough.

Our waitress said that she had been the bakery manager, but everyone had new assignments. She was very sweet and attentive. The busman kept our water glass filled at all times. The place was bedlam, with over 400 persons served. After the diners were all seated, the rest of the crowd was invited to come in and visit the new wine bar.

We decided to order dessert. We both opted for their featured bread pudding. We declined coffee, but within minutes a coffee appeared on the table in front of me. After waiting for thirty minutes with no sign of the dessert, our waitress confided that the kitchen was in panic mode and orders were stacking up. Every time she ordered the bread pudding for us, another server would pick it up for their table, and

confusion reigned. That is often the case where a restaurant has gone from virtually no dinner traffic to a full house in one evening.

Soon our waitress brought out a very nice apple Danish to hold us until she could bring our bread pudding. Sue finally decided that since we were waiting anyway, she would have a decaf coffee, which was delivered without delay. At 10:30 PM our dessert arrived, it was one serving for us to share, which was fine as it was large. It was also absolutely delicious.

Chef Robert finally got a chance to socialize with the customers. He was very friendly and engaging. He was humble and sweet, a very pleasant person. Sue got to talk with him briefly, and even took a photo op with him.

The management removed charges from our bill for Sue's entrée, and for the coffees and for the dessert.

The restaurant normally closes at 9:00PM, but was still going strong when we left at 11:00PM. This was indeed an adventure. It was a fun evening, and I think we need to go back in a few weeks when things have settled down and see if the lessons taught by Chef Robert have a lasting effect.



Sue Lovelace and Chef Robert

Restaurant Impossible is shown on Wednesday nights at 10 p.m.

New Doggie Poo Stations

Notice the wooden boxes around the park with the cute little doggie on the front? Thanks are due to Eduardo who placed several of these units in areas where doggies feel more the urge to defecate. Now, owners, please take advantage of them!



Eduardo and his Doggie Station

Faith's Tea

Rainbow Girls will host a "Faith's Tea" at the social hall on Saturday, October, 22, starting at 6 p.m. Faith's Tea is the old name for a membership party. There will be food, drinks, games, etc.

The party is open to all girls. There will be Rainbow girls there as well as our newly started Pledge girls.

A sleepover for the older girls will follow here in the Park. It's the common stay up late talking, watch movies, and eat type of sleepover.

Concert in the Picnic Grounds

"An Afternoon of Water Music by the River" was the name of the concert held in the picnic grounds on Sunday, October 16 at 2 p.m. There were approximately 35 members of the San Lorenzo Valley Community Band who came to entertain the members of the Park.

Donations were gratefully accepted and all donations go to the San Lorenzo Valley Middle School and High School Band program. Michael S., a member of the band, playing the trumpet, suggested the Recreation Committee might like to sponsor the band's visit. They were happy to do so and refreshments of cookies and snacks were provided. Earlier in the day was an Eastern Star funeral service and some of the leftovers (sandwiches, fruit and fresh vegetables), were donated to the concert.

The band played for over an hour and some of the pieces included "Shenandoah", "Walking the Dog," Appalachian Spring," "Shall We Gather at the River" and the theme from the TV series, "Victory at Sea."

This was a delightful and relaxing way to spend a fall Sunday afternoon and we hope the Recreation Committee will consider engaging the band again for another concert..

(photo on page 17)



The split-fingered Vulcan salute from Star Trek is derived from an Orthodox Jewish ritual called the Blessing Hands

used to anoint congregations on holy days. Leonard Nimoy, whose grandfather was Orthodox, remembered the hand gesture from his childhood visits to the synagogue with his grandfather and borrowed it for his role as Mr. Spock.

WWW.PPMC-SC.ORG

That's the web address of the **new Paradise Park web site**. The site is divided into three distinct areas: Public, Membership Opportunities (which is for Masonic family members who are NOT members of PPMC) and PPMC Membership.

In order to use the member section, you must use a login name and a password. This can be obtained by calling me, Shirley Radder, at (831) 427-2165 or e-mailing me at radder@lemoorenet.com.

I will be at Grand Chapter from Oct-18 until Oct-22, but I will have my computer with me and will try to get your new user name and password to you as soon as possible.

When you receive your name and password, I will send an information sheet with the guidelines shown below:

The First Time users section below should be done the first time you log on to the web site, or at any time in the future when you may want to update your contact information. Otherwise it is not necessary.

First Time users:

1. Point your browser to the park website: www.ppmc-sc.org
2. Click on the sign in button in the upper right corner of the window.
 - a. A window will open asking for your user name and password. Use the information provided above. Capitals will be underlined and zero's will have a line through them. I's will dotted, one's and L's will have a foot on them
3. After you are logged in, click on your name again to open a menu: click on My Settings
4. A User Information window will open showing what little has been recorded for you.
5. Click on Edit Item in the menu bar under "User Information"
6. Update as much of the information as you are willing to share with your associates. This information is behind several screens (or firewalls) and is not accessible to the internet search engines so you do not need to be concerned about this becoming the source of

spam or other unwanted contact. It is accessible ONLY to members of the park and

the staff. It will provide an opportunity for other members of the park to contact you concerning issues in the park.

7. Note: you will not be able to save this screen without updating the last item on the screen which indicates your status: Member, Associate, Alternate Associate, or Staff member.

You are now ready to use the site. Thank you for joining the Paradise Park Masonic Club Web Site.

Where do I find help?

When you entered the site, you came to www.ppmc-sc.org. You can get back to this page at any time by clicking on HOME under the redwood sprig in the banner.

Once you are on the HOME page, you will find Help – Wiki listed under documents. Click on Help – Wiki. This will open a collection of help pages.

Where is the members area?

Again, from the home page, click on Members in the banner. If you don't see "Members" in the banner, then you may not be logged on. Is your name displayed in the upper right corner? If not, you are not logged in. Go back to item two (2) under first time users. You must log in before you will be given the opportunity to go to the Members, or Membership Opportunities areas of the site.

Where are member's opportunities?

Membership Opportunities are under the tab "Membership Opportunities" in the banner. You must log in first.



Minutes of October 15 BOD Meeting

Remember, these are not official, approved minutes. To read the Official minutes, see the latest Park Bulletin

A regular meeting of the PPMC Board of Directors was held on Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 9:35 in the small social hall. Those board members present were President, Sam Cannon, Sharon Simas, Diana Cook, and Gary Brandenburg. Shirley Radder was asked to take the minutes.

The invocation was given by Sharon Simas, followed by the flag salute led by Diana Cook.

2. Open Forum –

John Mancini – hope member outbursts are now under control

Marty Miller – staking committee appointment Chair did not ask if I would be interested in continuing my service....committees need to maintain a balance of the membership

Fred Dunn-Ruiz –Committee minutes are not being posted in Minutes book. January is the most recent entry for the Bylaws Committee and February is the recent entry for the Recreation Committee. Committees were asked to please have the minutes in the committee book up to date by next Board meeting.

Pat Herzog – suggested certain procedures be following during the board meeting

Shirley Radder – Are youth groups being charged to use the social hall?

John Mancini – Usage of social hall policy clarification – Tim will address in his report
Kirk Sangeland – The U.S flags at the office should be retired and replaced. Interim Manger, Tim Heer, will look into this.

3.0 Board Admin Items

(a) Late Additions – proposed by S. Simas to discuss traffic on St. Albans and a letter be sent regarding the potholes on the Ocean Street extension.

(b) Report from closed board meeting – Based on requests from many members, the staking report was done in closed session with no decisions made.

(c) Closed Board meeting minutes read by Diana cook. A motion moved by Sharon Simas to approve September 17 Board minutes. M/S/P

Wondered if letters went out to committees that all funds are to be funneled through the Park's books. Interim Manger, Tim Heer, will check with bookkeeper to see if the letters have gone out

Picnic grounds – Amerigas Michael Bates will work on this. Slide has not been removed yet. Interim Manager, Tim Heer, says it is a costly activity to undergo and move. Interim Manager estimates a 40 hour job to move. Interim Manager Tim Heer recommends the board refer the idea to the Recreation Chairman?

Pat McDonald would like Accounts Doable letters and would like Pat Herzog to give them to her. Search was done with only two found. Needs to be started from scratch. Gary Brandenburg will work on this

Golf cart rules – rules and procedures have been updated and will be published in the Bulletin.

6.0 Reports

Manager's report – see attached

President's Report – Appreciate your patience while we are working on our goals Working on with Cal Trans regarding slides.(not playground!)

Grant money may be available for covered bridge

Working with fish and game on our dam issues

Treasurer – in pretty good shape Audit report – reviewed it twice....Some issues we want to take a look at. John Mancini, Pat McDonald and I intend to look at ways to invest our monies as we are only receiving .015 interest. when Pat returns. Sharon Simas moved we allocate \$20,000 to pay down the water loan? M/S/P

7.0 Committee reports – Building - M. Bates talked about what does and does not require a permit. Important to take permits to the office. M. Bates and Interim Manager, Tim Heer to devise a form to use when Members come into the office regarding permits.

Reminder in Bulletin to get approval with the Interim Manager, Tim Heer, before building or renovating

Staking done in closed session.

Recreation – distributed an orange flyer with fall activities...trying to broaden activities in the Park. Potluck this evening. Concert in the Park on Sunday by San Lorenzo Community Band...

Moved by Sharon Simas to allow youth groups to participate in the sales of goods to compliment not compete with Park fund raisers and further encourage that groups work together and each to be assessed on an individual basis. M/S/P

ERT – Seven 911 calls and one radio alert ERT meeting on November 5 at 10 a.m.

Bylaws Committee meeting on Saturday, Oct 22.

Staking committee chairman – John Densem spoke at our meeting against making stakings permanent after approved by the Board. Suggested bylaw changes should go to the Board first before being considered by the Bylaw committee. Should Bylaws Committee consider putting into Rules and Procedures that Board members not be a member of a Committee? Yes, consider it.

Picnic Grounds Sharon Simas moved that Karen Eneboe, Don Radder and Terry Fitzpatrick be on the picnic grounds committee. M/S/P Asked Board express regrets to Ted Keller who will no longer be on this committee. A motion was moved by Diana cook that \$5,640.50 be moved from the general fund to the restricted fund and \$375 be reimbursed to the restricted fund for electrical repairs. M/S/P

Dam Committee – Kurt Diesner is asking for information from Treasurer.....believe some of the monies have been charged

incorrectly Dam Committee asked that these things be clarified. There are unresolved issues on both sides. so far the Board has not done that yet. Dam committee has not been reconstituted and they still owe the Park money.

A motion was moved by Gary Brandenburg that the Chairman of each committee is the only person who can submit a check request for funds and it should be submitted to the Park Manager for secondary approval before going to the Park Bookkeeper for payment. M/P

Insurance Committee Jim Langford - Visited with Brit Thomas and there are three restrictions that may be of concern: athletic sports injuries, real estate deception and professional liability and liquor liability, which may be a problem. Huge liability in not being covered for these items.

Long Range Planning Committee – New Chairman is Jean Cook.

Blue Ribbon – Washington parkway (see attached)

Dog Park – written report would like additional bids on fencing

Other sites suggested, Shrine Way has been going for 2 months. Try it for 6 months.

Communications Committee – Shirley Radder will distribute passwords. M. Sawley listed some suggestions for the webmaster.

Bulletin Policy Sharon Simas moved to accept the Paradise Park Bulletin Policy as presented and recommended.....M/P Unanimously approved to move forward with the new website by consensus.

A motion was moved by Sharon Simas to spend, from the \$4,346 made on the flea market that the monies be spent as follows: \$ 250 outside shower at large tennis courts; \$200 for outside basin; repairs inside the bathroom; send some money to dog park for fencing and balance to picnic grounds.

New Business

Letter to the county on behalf of Paradise Park to upgrade ocean extension. Letter needs to specify the road be fixed up to our gate. Mike Bates offered to meet with the county regarding this situation. Speeding on St. Alban. Discussed putting signs up for "Resident's Only." Social hall –. Mike Bates will look into getting sheer walls, permit processes and donated labor regarding seismic upgrading.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15

Paradise Park's Got Talent!

Everyone has some sort of talent...be it dancing, singing, flipping rubber bands, reciting a poem, playing chop sticks on the piano, showing a picture you have drawn or painted, doing a card trick...whatever. Wouldn't it be nice to showcase that talent in a variety show in the Social Hall? What about getting a group together and doing a skit?

This idea was bandied back and forth during the flea market and we all asked WHY NOT?

In the summer of 2012, if there is enough interest, expect a talent/variety show. Put your thinking caps on, create a group or a solo act and show off! PPMC DOES have Talent....Let's see it!



Herbert Hoover learned Mandarin as a young mining engineer in China. He and his wife would speak it when they didn't want to be overheard in the White House.

Shirley Radder

427-2165

Notary to the Stars

Notarial Fees:

\$10.00 per signature



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Town Hall Meeting
Fridays prior to the
Monthly Board Meeting
Small Social Hall
6:30 ;p.m

WASHINGTON PATHWAY RESTORATION REPORT 10/15/2011

Malcolm Kirby and Claude Lindquist

Cost Estimates of Soils Engineering Services

Six companies have provided cost estimates for performing their soils engineering work. All have different scopes of work so the estimates cannot be compared directly. Lower (or higher) costs may indicate a more limited (or less limited) amount of work. Generally their estimated costs are in the \$5000-7000 range.

Shared Opinions of Soils Engineers

There are several common opinions shared by two or more of the soils engineers. These comments are all good news for PPMC. These include:

- ❑ Creek Bank Stability. Both banks above the path are stable
- ❑ Drain Bank Stability. Sloughing is significant if we intended to put in a pipe, but not significant if we intend to bridge the channel
- ❑ Overall Bank Stability. No action at this time except monitoring. This opinion is very significant, in that it seems to eliminate the need for expensive creek bank stabilization in the foreseeable future with significant savings of money.
- ❑ Paving the path. The county would never allow this. The importance of this conclusion is that what few drainage facilities we already have should be treated as precious, for they may not be augmented by paved surfaces like berms or swales.
- ❑ Hydrologist. Recommended we hire an engineer to do hydrologic calculations for the stream flow and the rock requirements to hold it in place.
- ❑ Washout where logs hold the path. They suggest another "foot-bridge" as a remedy. And they agreed to include this spot in their scope of work since it would be a minor addition and convenient to drill 2 or 3 extra borings at the time they do the other borings for the creek bridge.

Further Work

A representative from the county planning department has been assigned to walk the project. About four structural engineering companies will also walk the project, make comments about the streambed stabilization and two bridges (one spans the restored creek and the other spans the eroded path edge close by), and submit their cost estimates.

It is anticipated that this will conclude the collection of information regarding the Pathway. This information will be compiled with our recommendations and presented to the Board. We hope this will be at the November meeting. The material should assist them in selecting the soils engineer, structural engineer, and other considerations regarding the project.

Calendar of Events

Oct

Oct 18	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Oct 19	Bingo	6:30	Social Hall
Oct 21	Quilts of Valor	10:30	Sue Lovelace, 501 Amaranth
Oct 22	Bylaws Meeting	10:00	SSH
Oct 22	Faith's Tea	6 p.m.	Social Hall
Oct 25	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Oct 28	Shriner's Dinner	6:30	Social Hall
Oct 29	Pumpkin Carving		Picnic Grounds
Oct 29`	Haunted House	5:30	Social Hall
Oct 30	Family Party Heer	12:00	Picnic Grounds
Oct 31	Safe House Trick or Treat		

Nov

Nov 1	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Nov 2 `	Men's Club	11:30	SSH
Nov 4	Quilts of Valor	10:30 `	Sue Lovelace, 501 Amaranth
Nov 7	Knittin' Kittens	11:30	SSH
Nov 8	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Nov 12	Fire Brigade Training	9:00	Firehouse
Nov 15	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Nov 16	Bingo	6:30	Social Hall
Nov 18	Quilts of Valor	10:30	Sue Lovelace, 501 Amaranth
Nov 18	Open Forum	6:30	SSH
Nov 19	BOD meeting	9:30	SSH
Nov 19	Potluck	6:30	Social Hall
Nov 22	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH
Nov 24	Thanksgiving		Office Closed
Nov 29	Tuesday Coffee	9:00 – 11:00	SSH



San Lorenzo Valley Band performs in the Picnic Grounds

TUESDAY COFFEE

I try to write a reasonably accurate description of what is discussed at coffee. Any and all opinions expressed are those of the writer.

Two of the following reports were written and placed on the Member's Section of the new website. Board President, Sam Canon, asked the Interim Manager to remove them.

October 4, 2011

Charlotte and Ray provided individually wrapped sweet rolls for the 20 people that showed up today...first thing we did was sing Happy Birthday to Bob Morgan who was 76 years young.

Anyone experience a power outage last night? The grid I'm on (including Hoffmans, Mancini, and I believe, Myron) was off for over 2 hours. Florence said she had two flickers, but nothing of substance.

Sharon Simas was in attendance today. She has taken the week off from work. She talked about the ppmc-sc.org website and how it is up to the committee to establish the criteria for it. The Board has no preconceived notions, or vision so it's up to us, the members, to let the committee (Myron, Marty, Mike Sawley, Kirk Sangeland, Shirley Radder) know what you want. Give us input!

The first to say something was Wilma who said "simple!" The next committee meeting will be on Thursday at 2 p.m. at Todd Williams' house. Enter via the south side, down the stairs, to the conference room.

So far, 49 applications for manager have been received. We want Cyndy back!!! She has been the most dedicated and active manager we have had in years. We are begging the Board to reinstate her as she was wrongfully terminated. We are doggone lucky she has not sued the Park for wrongful termination as she would win!

We asked why the Interim Manager is posting to the old (Karla) website instead of the new one (ppmc-sc.org). He has been instructed to do so, but it does not appear that he is doing so. A recent e-mail of 30 Sept shows a blog from Paul Dangreau

about the weather which was placed on the Karla website.

Back to the Manager position...we want a Manager on duty on Saturdays. The thought was to have a "back up" Manager for when the Manager is out of the Park. Our Manager was not around on Labor Day weekend, nor did anyone see hide nor hair of him last night when the power was out. We are hoping the criteria for the position will insist a person be on call.

Carol wanted to know the difference between the words "submerge" and "immerse."

Ted wandered in around then and spoke about his pet project...Long Range Planning Committee. He said someone should step up to the plate and take his position as he and Shari are moving to Hawaii on January 5. Mike Sawley stated he did not intend to give any more money for the Board to handle until they can prove to be responsible...then an argument ensued.....yikes! (no, wait, not an "argument"...but a "lively discussion")

I told about standing in line behind a woman with a peacock tattoo on her neck...with a banner with her two sons names on it. The peacock eye was a jewel. I asked her about it and whether or not she had to change the jewel...no, she doesn't as it is embedded with a type of molly screw.

Sharon was thanked for attending Tuesday Coffee and for her work on the Board. She said that people need to speak up when they have something that is important to them...i.e. getting Cyndy back, how the website should be run, etc. She was given a round of applause.

Someone asked if the Park intended to do anything regarding the expulsion from Masons of Billy Uber. Grand Lodge has sent letters to Billy's two lodges, Texas and Confidence, letting them know that Billy has been expelled, but since Paradise Park Masonic Club has no official recognition with Grand Lodge, we have not any written word. It was suggested that the secretaries of the two lodges be contacted asking for proof of membership.

We talked some more about Amerigas and how they seem to fill our tanks when

the gas is not so low There is \$17.00 charge each time the tank is filled up. One can get on a "will call" list instead of an automatic fill list The price should remain the same. Don't let them tell you differently.

Since some people showed up later in the morning, so we sang Happy Birthday to Bob Morgan a second time.

Sharon was thanked, with a hearty round of applause, for her work on the Board and for taking the time to come to Tuesday Coffee and answer our questions. Myron and I are hosts next week and he always brings great treats.....come and join us!

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Wow! Twenty six people! That's how many we served today. Haven't had a crowd like that since the "expel Myron" fiasco and the wrongful termination of Cyndy Crogan. Don't know why all were there.....but it was a really nice thing because it was Stretch and Dorothy's last Tuesday Coffee. They will be so missed. When they left the room, we sang "for they're a jolly good couple."

I brought some cupcakes that Patsy Benfield brought to Chapter last night for Birthday Night and since Dorothy's birthday is in early November, Marty was able to find a match and light the candle for her on her cupcake. We all sang happy birthday.

As a member of the Website Committee, I asked people to contact the office, get their password for the new "official" website (ppmc-sc.org) and check it out. Our committee is meeting on Friday morning at the small social hall and we would like input from the members. Mark Z mentioned that he is on the committee and has not been notified of any meetings....so... presto! He's on the committee and hopefully will be at the meeting on Friday.

Diane, Dorothy's daughter, thanked all those who responded to Dorothy's fall. She was grateful and commented on what a supportive community we live in.

A memorial service for Gayle Chesney will be Saturday, Oct 15 in the social hall at 11:30. Afterwards is the band concert in the

picnic grounds. Light refreshments will be served.

John Mancini invited one and all to a "staking" party at his house tomorrow morning. Apparently the Staking Committee, as well as the Interim Manager and some Board members will be present. Perhaps coffee might be served?

Regarding the Staking Committee, it was noted that it appears to be a one-man committee....no meetings are ever held, the work is all done by John and the paperwork is also done by John. That does not sound like a "committee." He is very conscientious, but others need to give their input.

John Mancini has offered to pay \$1,000.00 to have a certified/licensed person come out to the Park, walk the Park and determine where permanent survey markers should be placed and for that same person to give a presentation to the membership. Sounds like a good deal.

Dick Lovelace retires on Friday. He didn't know whether to celebrate Friday afternoon, or Monday morning when he does NOT have to go to work.

Ted told the saga of the "two dogs" and how he and Shari have to take separate flights to Hawaii as only one animal at a time is allowed on an airplane. People were surprised and thought that Ted had received incorrect information...but he insists that he talked to several airlines and that is the story. He is to fly out one day and Shari on another...each with a dog.

Now you know that Ted could not get the floor without discussing his favorite topic, Long Range Planning Committee. (a side story..when Ted, Shari, Don and I were in Egypt, Shari and I bought necklaces with our name in hieroglyphics on it. I told Ted that I was going to get him one with L R P C on it in!) That led to another "lively" discussion of whether or not to trust the Board when it came to the money. Ted is disagreeing with the people who spoke by shaking his head "no"...but...so many feel the Board can and will do whatever they want. Once bit (the water project fiasco and wasting of \$400,000) twice shy as they say.

Carol told a joke about “why”...(why does a kamikaze pilot wear a helmet? Why do you always touch when the sign says “wet paint?”)

The new doggie signs that Eduardo created and distributed throughout the Park were discussed. They are great! I believe it was Mark Z who commented on the fact that this is a Recreation Committee expense and you should have seen Shirley Moore fly out of her chair! She insists this is NOT a recreation committee project. Maybe, people thought, this was recreation for the dogs?

Interim Manager, Tim Heer, was in the kitchen messing with the stove, so I asked him to come into Tuesday coffee and answer some questions about the new website. He explained the 3 levels to the site (member, Masonic family, but not a member, and public). He was asked about getting a password and I believe he said the website had not been approved by the Board yet, so he was not distributing them. He gave them to members of the Website Committee (and I believe to the Board), but not to the general membership.

Stretch and Dorothy left a little early as she was tired. It was a bittersweet moment as they will both be sorely missed.

Myron and I served cupcakes, a variety of cookies, biscotti, pecans, baklava...all kinds of stuff. Carol and Bob are up to the plate next week.

September 27

There were pottery birds all over the table.....must have been in for decorations by Char Reynolds as she was busy pouring coffee and arranging trays with Betty Gladding and Marty Miller. They were waiting for the goodies from Arlene Mancini and were they ever worth the wait! Arlene brought in some kind of home baked nut bread, cookies and a drop dead delicious cake. There were grapes and “cuties” served, too, to 16 people.

We were anxious for an update on Bob as he said on the phone at last Tuesday coffee that he would be here. Well, he wasn't. He had a setback due to the kidney

stone. The shock/blast treatment didn't work and he was in incredible pain...the worst he has ever experienced. Now it looks like he will be home on Wednesday or Thursday. Nothing is for sure.

People noticed the ice pack on Myron's knee. He had a torn meniscus repaired. He's limping along...not in too much pain, but has to treat it tenderly for a few weeks.

We talked about Annie and that she is in Montana visiting her parents. Apparently her father is not doing well and she flew up there to give a helping hand to her mother. She should be back in the office on Thursday.

It was mentioned that it appears that only two members of the Board are doing any work....Sharon and Pat. John Mancini said he was “stonewalled” by the lack of response from the Board as to his permanent markers. He sent a letter to them yesterday and gave them two weeks to get John Densem over to approve and if John D doesn't show, the markers will remain. This is ridiculous! John D doesn't want to do anything without Board approval (sounds logical) but the Board doesn't seem to be able to send John D any direction. Well, we'll see what happens in two weeks.

The Friday night prior to the Board meeting was discussed. Are they to continue? Two Board members, I believe it was Gary and Sam, felt these meetings were not necessary, but the people today said as long as the members want to meet, why not?

John Mancini was adamant that people who burst out with comments at the Board meeting should be told they get to do it once and the next time it happens, they are removed from the room. Then Char went on to talk about how she was sitting in between John and Gayle when the explosion happened at the last Board meeting. Char said something about John saying something “under his breath.” He was quick

to correct Char and let her know that all he did was smile. Then GAYLE asked why he was smiling? John replied, "that comment is funny coming from you." That's when all Hades broke out with Gayle demanding a written apology! SHE asks HIM what he's smiling about and when he tells her, SHE wants an apology. Love it.

We discussed the Bylaws Committee meeting of last Saturday and John Densem's take on permanent staking...which got around to the staking committee and Marty Miller, who is on the Staking Committee (at least he has not been told he is no longer on it), said he has never been told of any staking issues.

Mark Z had us all interested with his discussion of dyslexic functions and how he was able to get special teachers for one of his children.

Ray and Charlotte have the duty next week. Hope to see you then!

September 20

Myron and I served 22 people brownie bites, Costco muffins, biscotti and raisins. It has been 3 weeks since I've been to coffee and I missed it

The most important question was, "How is Bob doing?" Carol gave a glowing report about Bob and that he is out of ICU, walking every day...but the doctor still needs to remove the kidney stone. The best case scenario would be for him to come home on Friday, as he is itching to do so...but probably won't. A card was passed around today that everyone signed.

The Board Meeting was discussed...especially Gayle Logan Silva's rude behavior. I wasn't there, so was interested in what others had to say. I think it went something along the lines of Gayle discussing the website and ensuring that libelous items were not put up and John Mancini smiled at that. Gayle then asked

what he was smiling about and John replied that he thought the comment was funny "...coming from you." I guess at that point all "hades" broke out and Gayle demanded a formal apology with John responding that she should not hold her breath.

We then started talking about the markers on the Mancini allotment when Bob Morgan himself called. He told us he would be at Tuesday Coffee next week. Yippee!

Mark Z announced that Bryan Cupps received an excellent job offer in Palo Alto...whew! What a relief for his family.

We talked about committees and how the monies from the committees were handled. Someone brought up the dam committee and the fact that the loan had not been paid back to the office. Again, I wasn't at the board meeting so I'm only reporting what was talked about at coffee.

Char read the lyrics to the song, Reach out and Touch....very poignant.

Talking about Bob, we discussed the cleanliness of the hospital. I think it was Allen Shattenberger who told the story of him hurting his toe, while in the military, so he was told by the dentist to put his foot on the chair and the dentist, who was drilling on the tooth of a patient, turned, used the drill to put a hole in Allen's toe nail, and then used the SAME DRILL to finish the job on his patient. 'Course, now a days we use hand sterilizer, gloves, suits, etc.

Mark Z announced a Bylaws meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturday in the small social hall.

I told the story of my fabulous \$5.00 buy of jackets in Alaska...Don and I bought 13 of them...heck of a deal...as Don says, you could use the jackets to wash your car!...for only \$5.00 each. They are going to be given as Christmas gifts

None of us could seem to understand what was wrong with permanent markers...back to the Mancini saga. John told the story of how his came to be....you would not believe the gullibility/stupidity of

the Board.....at least, that's what it sounded like to me. You'll have to ask John to explain it...or maybe he will write an article about it to be put into the PIP.

Mike Sawley walked in about then and told us how he was asked for a \$250 deposit to use the picnic grounds and a \$50 fee for the October 16 concert in the Park. Now, get this....Mike and his band are coming to entertain US....a concert for the membership..... sure don't understand that one. Shirley Moore stated it was a Recreation Committee function and that no fee should be paid.

Mark Z spoke about what he saw on the blackboard in the conference room and one of the items was about hiring a Manager. He wondered about it....we didn't know what that came from, but guessed it was part of the Board Meeting held on Saturday. Then he wondered aloud why there was so much animosity regarding Tim and did the hands ever shoot up into the air for those to tell of the way they have been treated. Sorta answered Mark's question.

Myron then received a phone call from Mable telling him that Chuck Stiefelmaier had passed away.

I discussed the websites of Mike Sawley (ourparkinfo.weebly.com) and Kirk Stangeland (undertheparadisebridge.com) and how we (Michael, Kirk, Myron and I) hope to combine them. I also spoke about how Sharon Simas would like just one website for the entire membership. Many people felt the "official" website is an organ of the Board, but Sharon didn't visualize it that way. Mike said we could have our own website with a "link" from the official site to our site. That might work. People are leery of anything that has the Board connected to it. Char Reynolds is expecting company in the form of a 1 year old, a 2 1/2 year old and a 3/12 year old and would like to borrow some high chairs...if anyone knows of any.

Bingo is tomorrow night. Our gathering lasted until 11:10. Char, Betty and Arlene will do the honors next week with Marty helping out.

The following story is a "filler" from www.undertheparadisebridge.com

Today Myron picked me up from the Honda dealer and we were early for our Monday morning meeting of the amateur radio guys at McDonalds, so we ate breakfast out at I Hop. We had been there before, and were not impressed, but decided to give it another try.

We found the senior menu and ordered the 2+2+2 which was 2 pancakes, 2 eggs and 2 slices of bacon. The cost was \$6.99. The food was good, hot, served quickly...all in all a good experience.

The waitress brought the bill and lo and behold, the cost for the 2+2+2 was \$7.29. No big deal, but we wondered about it.

When we paid, I asked the waitress if the prices had changed because we thought the menu showed the price to be \$6.99. She then said now get this....."Oh, I didn't know you wanted to order off of the "senior" menu." (There is also a 2+2+2 on the regular menu.)

Now I know that Myron and I take a lot of effort in our appearance...but there is NO WAY either one of us would pass for under the age of 55!

And.....do the math...the "senior" menu saves a person all of 30 cents!!!! Well, I Hop made 60 cents on us today.

