

# Berkeley's PATHS

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Winter 2002 Vol. 5 No. 1

*Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is a grassroots volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the City of Berkeley's pathways. BPWA hopes to accomplish this goal through volunteer-led path walks, identification and accurate mapping of Berkeley's complete path network, and eventual restoration of paths that have been blocked or obscured.*

**Meetings** Live Oak Park Rec. Center  
7-9 pm 1200 Shattuck Ave.

## Feb. 28 NEW DATE! General Meeting

Implementation of the General Plan and its impact on the Path Network  
Andrew Thomas, Berkeley Planning Department

## March 21 Board Meeting

## April 18 General Meeting

BPWA Into the Future  
The Path Map

## Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10 am (allow 2-3 hours)

Feb. 16 Claremont Triangle  
Helen Wynne 843-5738

Meet at Ashby and Domingo

March 16 Nut Hill  
Mardi Sinclair Martens 849-1142  
Marilyn Seagel 549-2908

Meet at west end of Rose Walk

April 20 Boundary Walk  
Paul Grunland 526-8001  
Meet at Grizzly Peak and Spruce, at the reservoir

May 11 Past Legacies and Future Hopes  
Mark Liolios 549-0818  
Meet at traffic circle at south end of Aquatic Park Pot Luck to follow.

June 1 Eastshore State Park  
Susan Schwartz 848-9358  
Meet at Sea Breeze Market, University and I-80 Frontage Rd.

## General Plan Discussed at Feb. 28 Meeting - NEW DATE!

Andrew Thomas, project manager for the city of Berkeley General Plan, will speak at the Feb. 28 (NOTE NEW DATE!) BPWA meeting on citizen and community participation in implementing the new plan, which will guide the city's growth and development in coming decades. He will address the

role of BPWA — and others interested in the restoration and preservation of Berkeley's pathways — in public decision-making, specifically regarding resource allocation, priorities, and general plan policy implementation. Questions from the audience will be welcome.

## Status Report on the BPWA Map



Over the past months, the BPWA map committee has worked hard to research and compile a comprehensive map of the Berkeley paths. Considering that Berkeley has 136 paths officially numbered by the city, not to mention those without city numbers, the project involved consolidating a large amount of data from disparate sources. Starting from a road map created by Hedberg (the mapmaker), with references to additional maps and

documents, the committee members each adopted portions of the map to personally investigate and cross-check. Key factors included verifying correct locations of paths, passability, and naming. The map is now nearing publication and data has been sent to the mapmaker; finished maps will include Berkeley and portions of Albany, Kensington, and Oakland, a comprehensive index, a descriptive history of Berkeley paths, and original artwork by Karen Kemp. The map, which is due in April 2002, will be an excellent guide for anyone interested in wandering the Berkeley paths.

### Spring Cleaning

Spring is not too far around the corner. Clean up your neighborhood's path! Spend an hour or two sweeping, weeding, and clearing overgrowth from a pathway, and see what a difference you can make! Let us know about your efforts.

BPWA  
1442 Walnut St., # 269  
Berkeley, CA 94709

### Board Members

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Visit our Web site: [www.berkeleypaths.org](http://www.berkeleypaths.org)

## New Pathway Possible on Santa Fe Right of Way

Due to some good luck and changed circumstances, it is much more likely that a pedestrian/bicycle greenway may be created along the Santa Fe Right of Way, from Strawberry Creek Park to Ohlone Greenway. The Santa Fe Right of Way, a former railroad line that runs from Sacramento and Oregon streets (near Ashby) to North Berkeley and the Ohlone Greenway, has been mostly abandoned and fenced off to the public for decades.

However, after purchasing the property currently leased by the Santa Fe Bar and Grill (on University Avenue), Berkeley Montessori School wrote to Berkeley Partners for Parks (BPFP) to



This section of the Santa Fe Right of Way could be transformed into a beautiful bike path/pedestrian greenway if the city decide to spend a \$1 million HIP grant to develop the path. Please contact the mayor and your councilmembers to support the expenditure.

express interest in creating a path through their property connecting the school to the Santa Fe Right of Way.

At the same time, the city of Berkeley has received a \$1 million HIP grant to fund pedestrian-related improvements as they see fit. Spending this money to fund a Santa Fe greenway would create a well-used bicycle/pedestrian trail, open up a greenway of open space, and provide links to central Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, and Richmond via the Ohlone Greenway. A well-designed and adequately funded greenway would become a treasured resource for all of Berkeley.

The greenway would be planned as part of a Parks and Recreation Commission process, with the participation of neighbors and others. Crosswalks, a pedestrian-activated traffic signal across University Avenue, curb cuts and paved trails would be needed.

Eleven organizations, including BPWA, sent a letter on Dec. 17 supporting a new path. You can help by writing a letter or e-mailing the council and mayor at [clerk@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:clerk@ci.berkeley.ca.us) or Mayor and Council, 2180 Milvia St., Berkeley CA 94704. Phone calls and e-mails to your individual councilmember would also be helpful.

Go to [www.bpfp.org](http://www.bpfp.org) or call 649-9874 for more information.

## Unimproved Paths Committee Formed

BPWA has begun work aimed at opening up the 40+ paths that are currently overgrown, not built, obstructed by fences, or otherwise impassable. Right now we are gathering detailed information about each of these paths. Then we will categorize and roughly prioritize them in terms of difficulty to build and importance for evacuation and access to parks, schools, and bus stops. After that, we will improve some of the easier paths ourselves with community participation,

and work with the city to improve steeper paths that need more sophisticated engineering. BPWA already has a track record of opening up several previously marginal paths, and installing wood-tie steps, mulch and wood chips, and we will soon install our first-ever bench. If you're interested in helping with the information-gathering phase, please contact Charlie Bowen at 540-7223. We would also love to receive any information you have about unbuilt paths.

## Path Improvements

In recent months, the city has made improvements to several of the paths on BPWA's "Ten Easy Fixes" list. Our thanks to Ken Emezium and the Public Works Department for making these paths safer and more beautiful.



Geneva's Path - new sign marks way to community gardens



Martinez Path - new handrails and repaired steps improve safety



Easter Way - repairs of cracks and tilting improve walking



Billie Jean Walk - new handrails improve safety on steep steps

If you have any questions about path issues, please call *Jacque* at 524-4715.

Annual membership in Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is \$5.00 per household due **January 1st** of each year. Additional donations are always welcome. Benefits include newsletter and BPWA mailings. Mail form with check or money order, payable to:

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(BPWA is member of Berkeley Partners for Parks, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.)

Time to renew your dues!

## BPWA Membership Form Please print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is an additional contribution to help carry on your work: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Berkeley's PATHS

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Spring 2002 Vol. 5 No. 2

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## Meetings

Live Oak Park Rec. Center  
7-9 pm 1200 Shattuck Ave.

### April 18 General Meeting

BPWA Into the Future  
The Path Map

### June 6 Board Meeting

## Pot Luck Lunch

Noon, May 11, following the path walk (see below). Bring something good to share. Meet at Aquatic Park, south of Dreamland for Kids. Come see and buy the new map.

## Path Walks

RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10 am (allow 2-3 hours)

April 20 walk was held April 13. Enjoy Earth Day activities.

May 11 Past Legacies and Future Hopes  
Mark Liolis 549-0818

Meet at traffic circle at south end of Aquatic Park. Pot luck to follow.

June 1 Eastshore State Park  
Susan Schwartz 848-9358

Meet at Sea Breeze Market, University and I-80 Frontage Rd.

July 27 Santa Fe Right of Way: New Path Opportunity

Steve Swanson 649-9874

Janet Byron 848-4008

Meet at Cedar/Rose Park, Ohlone greenway tennis courts at Cedar St.

August 24 Rose Walk Step by Step  
John Underhill 236-4807

Meet at Euclid end of Rose Walk

## Path dedicated to Anne Brower

On Saturday, April 6, 70 people joined Berkeley City Councilmember Betty Olds in dedicating a path commemorating the memory of avid path wanderer Anne Brower. Brower's children reminisced about how Anne inspired her husband David, a leading environmentalist of the 20th century.

"She was the conscience and editor of my father and played a big

unknown role in the environmental movement," son Ken Brower said. Anne died in 2001;

David passed away a year earlier.

Olds, Mayor Shirley Dean, BPWA members, the press and neighbors attended the celebration at the top of Stevenson Ave. north of Shasta Road, on a path formerly known as Twin Path (née Twain Path). Anne's 10-year-old granddaughter cut the ribbon on the renamed path.

Dean noted that BPWA is an inspiring aspect of life in Berkeley. "The paths are important for public

safety," she said. "They're also nice."

The Browsers lived in a simple wooden bungalow nearby. "This path was the one she would use for walking pleasure, rather than commuting on foot," daughter Barbara Brower said.

Anne Brower Path will be Path 70 on the city's pathway index and appear on BPWA's comprehensive

path map.

Local Boy Scouts played a major role in improving the sloping dirt path, which was dangerously

slippery during winter rains.

In fall 2001, Berkeley Troop 19 Eagle Scout Candidates Ian Saulsberg and Matt Seufferer regraded the path and installed simple wooden steps. The work was paid for with BPWA's Berkeley Parks Minigrant.

"Path Wanderers and Boy Scouts have done an amazing amount of work," Olds said.

"It shows you what positive things Berkeley residents can do."



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## Long-awaited I-80 “overpath” opens

Twin steel arches over Interstate 80 indicate the location of Berkeley’s newest pathway, the long-anticipated link for walkers and cyclists between the city and the San Francisco Bay shoreline. The landmark structure at the city’s western gateway, dedicated Feb. 27 by the city with a community celebration March 2, connects Berkeley’s largest municipal park with Eastshore State Park.

The eastern entrance to the bridge is at the northern end of Aquatic Park, easily reached from the foot of Addison Street. Bolivar Drive becomes a trail, which splits into two — one side hugs the water and the other gradually ascends a new hillock. Visitors immediately notice the generous width and gentle slope of the wheel-chair accessible path, which exceeds ADA regulations. A distinctive feature is the raised sidewalk, which effortlessly separates slower travelers from cyclists in the two striped lanes.

The pathway rises in a curvilinear alignment and even cantilevers out over the lagoon. A spacious viewing platform at the top provides magnificent vistas of the park and city. Crossing the straight span on a clear day, walkers are struck by the fact that the span is centered on the Golden Gate Bridge.

The completion of the bridge was the result of years of community input and effort, including by Friends of Aquatic Park and Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition. Design coordinator for the city was Berkeley architect and engineer Steven Grover, whose firm specializes in bicycle/pedestrian facilities. The structural design was by OPAC, founded by famed bridge designer T. Y. Lin. Local engineer Mark Ketchum led the team. Landscaping, including welcoming plazas for each side, is now being designed by Berkeley’s Wolfe Mason Associates.

This new bridge is merely the first piece of a network of trails to appear



Before the bridge opened, pedestrians and bikers had to go under I-80 to visit the Berkeley Marina.

soon along Berkeley’s shoreline. By September, Berkeley’s final portion of the 400-mile Bay Trail is expected to be open, providing a dedicated trail from Powell Street in Emeryville to Gilman Street. Beyond the racetrack the trail resumes, going through Pt. Isabel and on to the Richmond Marina. A spur trail to link the bridge and the Berkeley Marina is now being designed and the plan for the Eastshore State Park will be adopted within the coming year.

## Planning director speaks on general plan

Carol Barrett, Berkeley’s director of planning and development, spoke at BPWA’s general meeting Feb. 28 about community participation in implementing the new General Plan. Barrett graciously agreed to be a last-minute replacement for Andrew Thomas,

project director of the General Plan, who was ill and unable to attend.

Early in her remarks, Barrett commended BPWA for its “communitarian” goals to benefit all the people, as opposed to a specific “community” interest.

Barrett noted that although state law requires the city to develop a new General Plan, more importantly, it provides an opportunity for community input on the direction of city development and resource allocation for the next several decades. Also, groups such as BPWA can point to policies in the plan as support for implementing specific goals.

We are fortunate that the Planning Commission (primarily responsible for developing the General Plan) recog-

nized the value and importance of the pathways by specific reference in five elements: land use, transportation, disaster preparedness and safety, open space and recreation, and environmental management. The Planning Commission is directed to conduct a formal annual review to update, amend and track implementation of the plan; Barrett urged BPWA to “have a seat at the table” then. She also encouraged us to be involved with the Public Works Commission’s budget planning to ensure that capital improvement allocations include paths.

### Volunteers needed!

Two upcoming “only in Berkeley” events provide a fun opportunity for volunteers to promote and share their love of Berkeley paths with city residents. Volunteers are needed to staff a table at the Solano Stroll on Sept. 6, and to march in the “How Berkeley Can You Be” parade on Sept. 29. We also need two “super” volunteers to coordinate BPWA’s participation in both events. Contact Jacque Ensign, 524-4715.

### Unimproved paths

Anyone with information or questions about the paths should please contact Charlie Bowen at 540-7223.

If you have any questions about path issues, please call Jacque at 524-4715.

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# Berkeley's PATHS

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Summer 2002 Vol. 5 No. 3

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## Meetings

### Aug 29 Board Meeting

Note location: Berkeley Public Library community room, 7-9 pm

### September 19 Annual Meeting

#### SAVE THE DATE!

Learn about the history of the East Bay waterfront and exciting restoration plans. Hillside Club, 7-9 pm

## Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10 am (allow 2-3 hours)

**July 27** Santa Fe Right of Way: New Path Opportunity

Steve Swanson 649-9874

Meet at Cedar/Rose Park, Ohlone Greenway and Cedar Street

**August 24** Rose Walk Step by Step

John Underhill 236-4807

Meet at Euclid end of Rose Walk

**September 21** More Unimproved Paths

Charlie Bowen 540-7223

Meet at La Loma Park; some parts steep, bring walking sticks

**October 19** Naturalist's History Walk

Alan Kaplan 525-2233

Meet at Tilden Nature Area Visitor's Center

**November 16** My Favorite Paths

Pat Devito 527-2693

Meet at Indian Rock Park

**December 7** The Albany Bulb

Susan Schwartz 848-9358

Meet at end of Buchanan Street

## The Rose Walk Story: Step by Step

*Located between Euclid Street and Le Roy Avenue, Rose Walk is perhaps the most beautiful and storied path in Berkeley. John R. Underhill will lead a Rose Walk path walk on Saturday, Aug. 24 at 10 am. He compiled the following history.*



**1905-10:** The Oakland Traction Company extends its streetcar line up Euclid Avenue to the end of the line at Regal Road. The San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 accelerates Berkeley popula-

tion growth. Thus there is a need for more than a dirt footpath from Berryman-Rose streetcar stop on Euclid to Le Roy, and the homes in the Hopkins Terrace #4 and La

*(continued on back)*

Watercolor by  
Karen Kemp

## BPWA path map a big hit!

The first 2,000 copies of BPWA's *Berkeley Paths* map are nearly sold out, and plans are under way to quickly revise and print a second edition. The user-friendly map charts more than 136 city-designated recreational and evacuation routes on waterproof and tear-resistant paper. Six members of BPWA collaborated for more than a year to research, verify, and create the map, with the goal of creating a readable

and affordable map for anyone interested in exploring the Berkeley paths. Maps are available at local bookstores and on walks. To purchase a map, members can send \$3 and a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to 1442A Walnut St., Box 269, Berkeley, CA 94709. (One map per person, please.) Send corrections ASAP to BPWA or Karen Kemp at studio49@earthlink.net.

### BPWA

1442 Walnut St., #269  
Berkeley, CA 94709

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PAUL GRUNLAND  
KAREN KEMP  
SUSAN SCHWARTZ  
JIM SHARP  
HELEN WYNNE

Volunteers are needed for our table at the Solano Stroll on Sept. 8. Call Jacque at 524-4715.

Visit our Web site: [www.berkeleypaths.org](http://www.berkeleypaths.org)

(continued from front)

Loma Park tracts above.

**c 1910:** City engineer J.J. Jessup submits at least six different plans for a path on the Rose Street right of way bordering Peoples Water Company's Berryman Reservoir property, between Euclid and Le Roy. His plans are not acceptable to the Hillside Club and neighbors.

**1911:** A committee including Dr. William W. Underhill forms to oversee building the path, and architect Bernard Maybeck donates design services. His working titles include Rose Path and Rose Pass. His plans show that a large portion of the walk is on water company land. From the Jan. 9, 1911, minutes of the Hillside Club: "Dr. Underhill was called upon to tell of the winding walk which is to be constructed from Euclid Ave. to Le Roy along the Reservoir fence, to be constructed of concrete, bordered with hedges of roses and decorative trees." In 1908 Peoples Water Company leases the land surrounding the reservoir to the City and Hillside Club for 15 years at \$1.00 per year.

The committee raises money to build the path by subscription from the neighbors. Dr. Underhill must have been a contributor to the fund, giving rise to erroneous family lore that he "gave the land for the path to the city."

**c 1912-13:** Construction of the path commences. Cost of three "Boulevard Lamp Posts" is quoted at \$29.50 each. Nine urns will cost \$12.00 each plus \$1.00 installation. The bill for the "cement work done on Rose Path" is \$180.98, with the cement foreman paid 75 cents an hour. Electrical work to hook up the three lamps is \$160.27.

**Jan. 4, 1913:** Dr. Will Underhill dies of a heart attack while at a Hillside Club dance. Dr. Underhill played an important role in the building of the walk. The quotes and invoices for supplies were

addressed to him on Tamalpais Road. The walk is a testimonial to his work as well as a Maybeck landmark. After his death, cousin Reuben L. Underhill, also on Tamalpais Road, acts in his behalf.

**July 3, 1913:** Certificates of payment are issued by Maybeck & White to J.J. Jessup, to be forwarded to the Oakland Paving Company. The path is finished! There must have been a dedication ceremony to mark the completion, but no newspaper reports or photographs of it have been found.

**Sept. 17, 1923:** Berkeley fire destroys over 600 homes, many in Rose Path area.

**c 1924:** Eleven years after completion of the path, Dr. Frank Gray and his wife Florence buy land between the path and the reservoir from EBMUD. The Grays build Codornices Road edging the reservoir and the beautiful Gutterson duplexes fronting on Rose Walk. The walk's layout is modified somewhat to accommodate their project. Houses by Winfield Scott Wellington and others are later built on the road. The Grays complete their project in the 1930s by building houses on the walk's south side.

**1947-48:** The Le Roy Avenue

entrance is demolished by the Berkeley Public Works Department. The city builds a massive traffic safety barrier in its place to stop runaway autos coming down Rose Street from leaving the roadway and crashing into houses.

**1959:** Rose Walk is declared a "Treasure of Civic Art" and a protected landmark by the newly formed Civic Art Commission.

**1960:** The commission raises money and carries out a restoration, including of the Renaissance Revival stairway facing Euclid Avenue.

**1975:** Berkeley passes its Landmarks Preservation Ordinance. Rose Walk is among the first 10 structures so designated.

**2002:** The walk's present condition is not good. Forty-two years after restoration and 89 years after it was built the walk is showing signs of aging. The retaining wall holding up the long, sloping walk leading to Le Roy is seriously cracked in two places and is tilting noticeably. The pavement and steps are developing small cracks and the tinted surface is wearing away. It's time for another restoration project!

**2013:** Berkeley residents celebrate a beautifully restored Rose Walk's Centennial.

## Boy Scouts fix paths

Sterling Path, right, was repaired by Owen McDougall and members of Berkeley Boy Scout Troop 19. They installed about 18 new steps on the path's lowest and steepest portion. Major improvements to Sterling Path, located between Cragmont and Sterling avenues, are aimed at improving walkability and safety, and will involve several Eagle Scout projects. In addition, steps on Atlas Path were repaired by Troop 19 Eagle Scout candidates Mason Delmer, Leo Maheu, and Theo Ziembra, with the help of UC Berkeley Cal Corps public service volunteers. A bench was also installed on Atlas Path, between Grizzly Peak and Hill Road. Many thanks to all who are contributing their time, energy, and enthusiasm to improving Berkeley's paths!



If you have any questions about path issues, please call Jacque at 524-4715.

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## Meetings

### September 19 Annual Meeting

Learn about the history of the East Bay waterfront and exciting restoration plans. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., 7-9 pm (see article, right)

### October 17 Board Meeting

(All members welcome!)

Note location: South Berkeley library branch, 1901 Russell St., 7-9 pm

### November 14 General Meeting

Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., 7-9 pm, subject TBA

## Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10 am (allow 2-3 hours)

**September 21** More Unimproved Paths  
Charlie Bowen 540-7223

Meet at La Loma Park. This is a difficult walk, with some very steep parts. Bring walking sticks. (difficult)

**October 19** Naturalist's History Walk  
Alan Kaplan 525-2233

Meet at Tilden Nature Area Visitor's Center (easy)

**November 16** Some Favorite Paths  
Pat De Vito 527-2693

NOTE NEW MEETING PLACE: Marin and Spruce (moderate)

**December 7** The Albany Bulb  
Susan Schwartz 848-9358

Meet at end of Buchanan Street (moderate)

BPWA has received a number of generous donations in memory of Jan Feldman. We offer our grateful thanks, as well as condolences to Jan's friends and family.

## Annual meeting at Hillside Club features East Bay waterfront

Please join BPWA for our annual meeting, in conjunction with the historic Hillside Club, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 19, at 2286 Cedar St. in Berkeley. In addition to BPWA board elections, a panel of thoughtful experts will discuss "The East Bay Waterfront: Visions for the Future." Sylvia McLaughlin, founder of Save the Bay, will introduce the following speakers:

- Hydrologist Jeff Haltiner, Philip Williams and Associates, on how physical factors like climate, currents, erosion, and siltation will change our waterfront.
- Paul Kamen, Berkeley Waterfront Commission, on exciting new opportunities for water-related and

waterfront recreation, including a possible kayak trail.

- Dave Lewis, executive director of Save the Bay, on what we have achieved and next steps for protecting and restoring the Bay's natural habitat.

Speakers will also discuss upcoming completion of Berkeley's section of the Bay Trail, and final plans for 8.5 miles of bayfront in the new Eastshore State Park (see article below).

There will be time for audience questions, and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Jacque Ensign at 524-4715, or go to [www.berkeleypaths.org](http://www.berkeleypaths.org).

## "Flatlands" trails in the works

BPWA has concentrated its efforts primarily on preserving and protecting Berkeley's historic hillside paths and steps. But we walkers seek to expand "flatland" paths as well.

A number of exciting flatland trail projects have recently been completed or are currently under construction or being planned. The most visible change is the beautiful

*(continued on back page)*



Path wanderers explore Codornices Creek, in Albany Village.

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HELEN WYNNE

Please visit us at our Solano Stroll booth, 1685 Solano Ave., on Sept. 8, and march with us in the "How Berkeley Can You Be" parade on Sept. 29! Call Helen at 843-5738 for more info.

Visit our Web site: [www.berkeleypaths.org](http://www.berkeleypaths.org)

(continued from front page)  
 new pedestrian bridge over the freeway, from Aquatic Park to the new Eastshore State Park. Landscaping and connections from the plazas on both sides of the bridge are being planned.

Completion of Berkeley's 1.8-mile gap in the Bay Trail itself is expected by the end of the year. Work on the segment from University Avenue north toward Gilman Street is well along, but the segment south of University has been delayed by design changes. When the segment is complete, walkers and bike riders will be able to easily travel from Powell Street in Emeryville to the Richmond Marina. (Although there is no official trail through Golden Gate Fields, it's easy and permissible to walk or cycle through the racetrack parking area.)

Berkeley has Coastal Conservancy and Bay Trail grants for a spur trail linking the future Bay Trail to the Berkeley Marina, and along the Marina's west shore from Hs Lordships restaurant to the Berkeley Yacht Club. The trail is expected to run along the south side of University, bridging the mouth of Strawberry Creek — now an ugly culvert. The first design workshop may be scheduled as early as September.

The preliminary general plan for the Eastshore State Park, scheduled to go to the State Parks Board in November, has trail plans that are proving controversial. The plan envisions a concrete, railed "urban promenade" above engineered bluffs along the entire west frontage of the Brickyard Peninsula, North Basin Strip, and Point Isabel/Battery Point. This plan is open for comment now: go to [www.eastshorestatepark.com](http://www.eastshorestatepark.com) for more information.

Berkeley's new General Plan includes the goal of a greenway along the Santa Fe Right of Way from North Berkeley BART to Strawberry Creek Park and farther

south. The city has set aside grant moneys for the segment from University Avenue to the Berkeley Way mini-park, including a safe crossing at University. Talks with Berkeley Montessori School, which plans to move to the old Santa Fe railroad station, are likely to result in an agreement for pedestrian access from University through to Strawberry Creek Park. Planning for more of the old rail right-of-way, under city ownership for some 30 years, may begin late this year.

To the north, trails are a requirement in proposals UC Berkeley has requested from several developers for University Village and the Gill Tract, west of San Pablo Avenue from the Berkeley border to Marin/Buchanan Street. The idea is to replace the World War II "temporary" housing and recreation center with new facilities, including ballfields on the Gill Tract. This is to be financed with commercial development along San Pablo. The

university has told developers that it wants creek-oriented development, restoration, and trails along Codornices and Village creeks, as well as a safe north-south pedestrian and bicycle corridor.

Furthermore, Albany is nearing completion on plans for a pedestrian trail from San Pablo to Kains, along a restored Codornices Creek. Funding for the actual restoration and trail building still must be sought. This would be one link in the ridge-to-Bay "urban trail" along Codornices Creek envisioned by BPWA and Friends of Five Creeks.

Still farther north, on the Albany-El Cerrito border, public meetings to plan a trail along Cerrito Creek from the Ohlone Greenway (BART right of way) to the Bay Trail are expected to begin in late September or October. And up in Richmond, completion is expected soon on the Bay Trail connecting the Richmond Marina with Miller-Knox Regional Park.

## Responding to overwhelming demand, BPWA prints 5,000 more maps

Thanks to strong public interest and the hard work of the BPWA Map Committee, the first 2,000 Berkeley Pathways maps sold out in just two months. Articles about the map appeared in the Berkeley Voice, the Contra Costa Times, and the Berkeley Daily Planet, culminating in the map's inclusion on the East Bay Express monthly best-seller list for July. Orders for maps have continued to roll in. In preparation for the Solano Stroll, BPWA printed an additional 5,000 maps. The new map, which includes some minor revisions and updates, is now available in retail stores and at the Solano Stroll on Sept. 8 (our booth is at 1685 Solano) for \$4.95, or \$3.95 for BPWA members. Or send your check and a SASE (business-sized) with \$0.60 for postage to BPWA, 1442A Walnut St., #269, Berkeley, CA 94709.

## Volunteers open another path

BPWA volunteers Jacquie Ensign and Ron Ross helped neighbor Maria Sakovich to remove flammable leaves and clear a walkway on upper Columbia Path (#88) in August. Path wanderers can now walk downhill from the end of Columbia Circle, west of Fairlawn, and then use Maria's driveway down to Queens, avoiding the path's steep drop-off on the path right-of-way. In addition, a neighborhood group has met to discuss improvements to Vistamont Trail.



If you have any questions about path issues, please call Jacquie at 524-4715.

Annual membership in Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is \$5.00 per household due January 1st of each year. Additional donations are always welcome. Benefits include newsletter and BPWA mailings. Mail form with check or money order, payable to:

BPWA, Berkeley Partners for Parks  
 1442A Walnut St., #269  
 Berkeley, CA 94709

(BPWA is member of Berkeley Partners for Parks, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.)

## BPWA Membership Form Please print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is an additional contribution to help carry on your work: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



*Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is a grassroots volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the City of Berkeley's pathways. BPWA hopes to accomplish this goal through volunteer-led path walks; identification and accurate mapping of Berkeley's complete path network; restoration of paths that are unsafe, blocked, or obscured; and creation of new pathways.*

# Berkeley's PATHS

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Winter 2002-3 Vol. 5 No. 5

## Meetings

### January 16 General Meeting

Review progress BPWA has made in restoring and improving paths, as well as future plans. City officials and scout leaders will share perspectives and ideas. Your feedback welcome.  
7-9 pm South Berkeley library  
(1901 Russell, at MLK)

### February 20 Board Meeting

7-9 pm South Berkeley library  
(1901 Russell, at MLK)

### March 20 General Meeting

Details to be announced.

## Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10 am (allow 2-3 hours)

January 18 Paths of Northeast Berkeley  
Paul Grunland 526-8001

Meet at Euclid and Grizzly Peak

February 8 Rock Parks  
Marty Mertens 849-1142  
Marilyn Siegel 549-2908

Meet at bottom of Indian Rock Path,  
Solano and the Alameda

March 1 Exploring Southside paths  
Helen Wynne 843-5738  
Meet at Ashby and Domingo

### Time to renew your membership!

Annual dues of \$5 for BPWA membership are due on January 1. Please use the form on the reverse side to continue your support of vital efforts to restore and upgrade Berkeley paths!

## Join Path Wanderers to work on unimproved paths

Did you know that there are more than 40 public pathways in Berkeley that are still "unimproved"? The city's hilly areas were designed with pedestrians in mind, and public paths owned by the city were set aside when streets and lots were laid out. However, many were never developed. Likewise, when there are no signs, steps or handrails on the steep parts, the pathways get overgrown and obstructed and cannot serve the public.

BPWA is committed to restoring and improving public pathways for safe and enjoyable use. Our Unimproved Paths Committee is now doing a thorough survey to find out the current condition, and in some cases the actual location, of all these neglected pathways. We are working with Berkeley's Public Works Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and Transportation Commission to make faster progress on restoring these paths. We are also obtaining city assistance with the steepest and most dangerous path sections, typically at the tops and bottoms where paths meet the road.

The wonderful path improvement projects carried out each year by many hard-working Boy Scouts are also continuing, and they are inspiring us to plan some community



Recent reconstruction of retaining walls parallel to Summit Path, above, provided the opportunity to open up this path to better public access. BPWA has requested that the city leave the path surface in good walking condition after reburying gas and sewer lines. BPWA is grateful to the Public Works Department, which also resurfaced The Crossways.

work-party days so that more people can participate. It's rewarding work because you really see a difference after 2 or 3 hours, and you continue to enjoy the results year after year as you walk on paths that you helped to create! BPWA will be hosting monthly work parties in the future.

Upcoming work parties (bring gloves, and clippers, loppers or pruning saws if you have them):

Saturday, Jan. 4, 10 a.m.:  
Path #99 - Rose Glen Alley. Meet on Glen Avenue near Spruce. Contact: Jerry Keller, 548-9543.

Saturday, Feb. 1, 10 a.m.:  
Path #99 - Wilson Path. Meet at the top of the path, on Olympus by Wilson Circle. Contact: Charlie Bowen, 540-7223.

## Paths and art on Albany Bulb



More than 40 wanderers explored the Albany Bulb on Saturday, Dec. 7. Led by Susan Schwartz, the group explored Albany's sandy beach and the grasslands of the Albany Plateau, with rafts of canvasbacks and other ducks nearby.

Trails of the rubble-built peninsula led to the fennel hut, palm grove, Mad Mark's Castle, rebar

sculptures in the bicycle graveyard, and lagoons. *Above*, artists worked on new paintings and repaired a Styrofoam arch. The walk took place one day after the State Parks Commission approved plans for the Eastshore State Park, which would remove much of the impromptu art that has become a hallmark of the Albany Bulb.

### *Trail-blazing on unimproved paths*

A spirited group assembled in September for a walk on several unimproved paths in the neighborhoods north of Lawrence Hall of Science, including Glendale, Wilson, and Harding paths. The wanderers all agreed that we would like to take this walk again someday when we don't have to occasionally form a human chain to make sure everyone makes it up or down certain sections of these "paths." Still, the fact that we could make it through was exciting. On Wilson Path, we got a firsthand view of just how much a group of people with clippers can accomplish to improve the passage. This walk/work party was inspired by participants on a previous walk, who urged BPWA to organize them as volunteers to clear brush on Wilson Path's upper half.

### **BPWA member's New Year's Resolutions:**

1. Renew my membership in Berkeley Path Wanderers Association. Only \$5! (Annual dues due Jan. 1; use form below.)
2. Gather neighbors to clean up our local path.
3. Walk a path on Berkeley's "Everybody Walks Day," first Wednesday of each month.

### *Get your Berkeley paths map!*

Orders for BPWA's new, improved path map continue to roll in. This is the only complete map of Berkeley's paths and is a must for all path wanderers. The beautiful map is available in retail stores or directly from BPWA for \$4.95, or \$3.95 for members. Send check and a SASE (business-sized) with \$0.60 for postage to BPWA, 1442A Walnut St., #269, Berkeley, CA 94709.

## *Walkers Only*

by Virginia K. Anderson

*Here's to*

*Fred Herbert Path*

*Fountain Walk South Crossway*

*Indian Rock Path Laurel Lane*

*Rose Walk!*

*And there's*

*La Loma Steps*

*Tunbridge Lane Easter Way*

*Cut-Off Path El Paseo Path*

*been there?*

*Shortcuts*

*from street to street*

*up this slope, down those steps*

*past quiet houses, leafy spots,*

*low walls.*

*Only*

*Hardy walkers*

*Know these hidden byways —*

*shady, sunny, bloom-and-tree hedged  
solace.*

*Go climb*

*Billie Jean Path*

*Sunset Trail Oak Street Path*

*Pedestrian Path Willow Walk*

*Vine Lane...*

*clip and save*

### **Path Resources**

**Missing path signs, Tom Edwards:**

**525-4064, twedwards@juno.com**

**Encroachments, Diana Achenhead:**

**981-7500**

**Plant pickup for work parties, Garth**

**Keehan: 644-6566**

**Graffiti removal, sewer leaks: 644-6620**