BPWA Newsletter

September, 2018

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Follow Our News



South Crossways has signs indicating both its name and its cross street, but vandals have damaged both.

Thanks To All Our Volunteer Path Inspectors!

Our Great Path Survey was an overwhelming success thanks to the 75 volunteers who took part *and* the incredible way BPWA Board Member Alina Constantinescu, who planned and orchestrated the multisited July 22 event.

Buy Our Map



The best map of Berkeley's paths and streets just got even better! Order your copy of the fresh-off-the-presses 8th edition of *Berkeley and Its Pathways.* <u>Get your copy.</u>

Join or Renew



Did you forget to pay your \$5 dues for 2018? We do not

We had three starting spots — Monkey Island, Codornices, and Great Stoneface Parks — with BPWA board members coordinating each one. Teams of four to ten people had signed up in advance to evaluate the condition of paths along routes of one to four miles. Armed with detailed checklists, inspectors noted such problems as loose handrails, broken steps, and missing or damaged signs.

Alina now has tabulated the detailed results, so we can begin addressing the problems that we found to make the paths safer, both for everyday use and for escape routes in emergencies.

"We have our work cut out for us," she said, adding that a "dirty dozen" paths will be our first priority for work parties in the next few months. Those particular paths had multiple issues, including rotted timber steps, protruding rebar, and weeds, shrubs or overarching branches obscuring them. <u>Read more.</u>



Our survey even got coverage on KPIX TV!

Upcoming Events

want to lose you. <u>Please</u> renew today.

Support BPWA



Your generosity enables us to build more paths and continue to offer our path-oriented events. Donate now.

Shop Online



We sell Path Wanderer shirts, hats, and tote bags as well as guidebooks, posters, and note cards. <u>Visit our store.</u>

Get to Know Us



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a grassroots organization of people who treasure the public



BPWA President Colleen Neff and her husband Helmut Kapczynski show off their new Path Wanderer tee shirts, which will be on sale at the Solano Stroll.

Come See Us at the 43rd Annual Solano Stroll Sunday, Sept. 9 , from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Solano Stroll is always one of our favorite events of the year. Please stop by our booth to chat and learn more about our activities and volunteer opportunities. Also be sure to check out our new BPWA tee shirts — kids' sizes, too!—plus our maps, hats, books, and posters. You can join or renew your membership at the Stroll. Our booth will be near the intersection of <u>Solano and Ensenada</u> <u>Avenues</u>. pathways that crisscross our city. <u>Read more.</u>

Meet Our Friends

You'll find links to many other organizations that promote walking, pedestrian safety, protecting the environment, and more on our website.



The two speakers at our annual meeting will open your eyes to new delights to watch for on your path walks.

BPWA Annual Meeting October 18 To Focus on the Facts of (Outdoor) Life

Who doesn't want to learn more about the Birds and the Bees? You'll get your chance at our Annual Meeting on October 18 at 7 p.m. at the Hillside Club (2286 Cedar St.)

Our keynote speakers will be Oliver James, author and illustrator of <u>Birds of Berkeley</u>; and Prof. Gordon Frankie, a co-author of <u>Common Bees in California Gardens</u>.

The evening will open with a very brief business meeting to elect board members, followed by path builder Steve Glaeser's ever-popular slideshow that reviews all the amazing work our dedicated volunteers have accomplished in the last year. <u>Read more.</u>

Walk With Us

Join us on our terrific guided walks, which are free and open to all. Unless otherwise noted, they last 2-3 hours and proceed at a moderate, conversational pace. We're sorry, but we can't accommodate your dogs except on walks specified as dog friendly. Please check our <u>home</u> <u>page</u> for last-minute weather cancellations. Questions about a walk? Write <u>walks@berkeleypaths.org</u>



Residents of Panoramic Hill have signs to direct them to emergency escape routes.

Preparing for Emergencies: Three Paths-to-Safety Walks

In partnership with BPWA, three Berkeley neighborhoods will practice routes — including key paths — that would lead residents to safety in case of a fire or other disaster. These walks will combine business (emergency planning) with pleasure (hiking) and are part of the citywide events in October that focus on emergency preparedness. Even if you don't live in one of these areas, you can come see how they are preparing and consider how your neighborhood might plan a similar drill.

Or just come to enjoy one of these three hikes in different sections of the beautiful Berkeley Hills. Each walk will last about two hours and include stairs and hilly streets.

Northeast Berkeley Hills

Sunday, October 7 @ 11 a.m.

Start:<u>Terrace View Park</u> (1421 Queens Rd. near Fairlawn Dr.)

Leaders: Alina Constantinescu (BPWA) and Victoria Legg (Terrace View Alliance)

We will walk down to Euclid Ave near the Rose Garden and then head back up on a different route.

Panoramic Hill

Sunday, October 21 @ 10 a.m.

Start: Entrance to the Upper and Lower Jordan trails (near 367 Panoramic Way)

Leader: Colleen Neff and Jacob Lehmann Duke (BPWA) and Steve Chainey (Panoramic Hill Association) We will walk down to Memorial Stadium using the paths and return a different way. Please note: Public parking is limited on Panoramic Hill, so carpool or walk to the meeting point if at all possible.

East Berkeley Hills

Sunday, October 28 @ 10 a.m.

Start: Grizzly Peak Blvd & Muir Way

Leader: Alina Constantinescu (BPWA) and Bob Flasher (Grizzly Peak Neighborhood Watch) We will walk down to Euclid Ave. and then climb back up on an alternative route.



In addition to interesting geology, Sibley offers panoramic views, like this one of Mt. Diablo.

Round Top Ramble at Sibley Regional Volcanic Preserve

Saturday, September 15 @ 10 a.m. Leader: Ron Sipherd Start: <u>Visitor Center at Sibley Staging Area on Skyline</u> Boulevard

Join us on a three-mile loop through Sibley Regional Volcanic Preserve. We will pass former rock quarries and several stone labyrinths and descend to the east end of the 1903 tunnel that preceded the Caldecott. The pavement for the old approach road is still visible today. <u>Read more.</u>



Emeryville recently updated its whimsical utility boxes — just in time for our next kids' Bingo walk!

Utility Box Bingo

Sunday, September 23 @ 10 a.m. Leader: Sandy Friedland Start: Courtyard of Emery Station 1 @ <u>5858 Horton St.</u> Bring your four-to-eight-year olds on another of Sandy's walking Bingo games, this one along Emeryville's art-filled streets. Each child will receive a bingo card with photos of the whimsical <u>utility boxes</u> and other eye candy that we'll spot along the way. Everyone wins! <u>Read more</u>.



Lynn Derogowski and Figgy are half of the enthusiastic quartet that leads our terrific Pooches on the Paths walks.

Wagging in West Berkeley

Sunday, Oct. 28 @ 10 a.m.

Leaders: Wally & Figgy

Start: Lower Codornices Path near 1101 8th St.

Continuing our quest to visit every park in Berkeley, this installment of Pooches on the Paths will take us through West Berkeley. An eclectic neighborhood of houses, artist studios, and commercial enterprises, this area does not disappoint when it comes to diversity. <u>Read more</u>.

Join Our Work Parties



Weeds on Miller Path East don't stand a chance against Jill McIntire (front) and Janis Pearson, who are making sure the steps are clear.

Help us Keep our Paths Clear for Emergencies Monday, September 10 @ 11 a.m.

Help us transform a weed-obscured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email <u>Mary Lynch</u> if you can come to the work party, and she will send you the location. We'll supply refreshments and gloves and tools, but feel free to bring your own.

