

Berkeley's PATHS

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is a grass-roots 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. We hope the final outcome of the community effort will be the preservation and on-going maintenance of all the paths, lanes and steps throughout Berkeley.

A Newsletter of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, Spring 2000 Vol. 3 No. 1

Meetings

7-9 pm Live Oak Park Recreation Center

Apr. 20 General Meeting
Rose Walk talk
by John Underhill

May 13 Pot Luck Picnic

Sept. 16 General Meeting
The Hillside Club
by Gray Brechen, author of *Imperial San Francisco*, and *Farewell Promised Land: Waking from the California Dream*

Path Walks RAIN OR SHINE

Saturdays at 10:00 am (allow 2-3 hours)

April 22 New Keeler Path & Vicinity
Charlie Bowen, leader 540-7223
Meet at Spruce & Santa Barbara

May 27 Southside Paths
Helen Wynne, leader 843-5738
Meet at Domingo & Ashby

June 24 Panoramic Way
Maggie Hodge, Ron Sires, leaders 559-8107
Meet at International House, top of Bancroft

July 24 North Berkeley Paths
Erica St. John, leader 548-0129
Meet at Shasta & Keith

Aug. 26 Thousand Oaks Paths
Pat DeVito, leader 527-2693
Meet at Indian Rock Park

Rose Walk

John Underhill will give a slide show and commentary about Rose Walk, including: history; Family history; early plans; Maybeck plans; construction; after the 1923 Fire; City demolition of the Path's upper terminus; and more.

As a prologue, he'll present a brief look at Paths from his childhood. *John is a retired biological photographer with a degree in geography. His family history in the Rose Walk neighborhood dates back to 1904.*



Mini-grants, Scouts & Keeler Path Upgrade

Renovations to Keeler Avenue Pathway (between Sterling and Poppy Lane, #41 on City Index) were completed just before winter rains. Thanks go to Susan Schwartz for her organizing of the Scouts troupe 191 involvement after securing a City minigrant.

Troop 19 to the rescue.

Life Scout Warren Talbot led a team of Scouts in upgrading the path early this December, in so doing performed a civic project to complete the requirements for his Eagle Scout Award.

The Scouts placed stepping stones across a muddy stream bottom, covered the northern end of Keeler Path with

woodchips, and installed railroad-tie steps along the sloping section of the path parallel to Remillard Park.

The Scouts also dug drainage trenches and run-off areas to keep Keeler Path passable year-round.

Thanks Warren, and thanks Troop 19! Take a stroll along Keeler Path to see the Scouts' work and enjoy one of the more recently created paths in the Berkeley Hills.

Parking is easiest at the north end, alongside Remillard Park. The small park, located at the intersection of Poppy Lane and Keeler Avenue, features a small playground with swings and a slide; a playing field used for frisbie, badminton, and boules; and Remillard Rock, an impressive chunk of stone whose peak rewards adventurous climbers with a great view of the bay.

If you're looking for a slightly longer walk, you might start at Cragmont Park, walk a few blocks south down Regal and along Cragmont, and climb Sterling Path. Keeler Path starts diagonally

across the street. Walk Keeler Path to Remillard Park, then wander half a block down Poppy Lane and down Pinnacle Path back along Regal to Cragmont Park.

Cragmont Park offers great vistas of Cal, Oakland, Solano Avenue, the Golden Gate, and a house that resembles an ancient monastery. Brave souls sometimes sunbathe on the lawn. There's a basketball hoop at one end and picnic tables at the other.

Eagle project

Thanks to Paul Grunland, Jeff Golden of Berkeley Boy Scout Troop 6 is going to improve Mosswood Path as his Eagle project, completing it before summer vacation. This is a good development, as we promised the Parks Commission a southside path.

Oak Street

The next work project will be to repair the lower half of Oak Street — a huge grading project. The source for this project come from portions of the same minigrant which help fund Keeler path

Potluck

Join us May 13th for our second annual

Potluck picnic at Live Oak Park near the Art Center. Potluck begins at 1:30, preceded by a brief board meeting at 1 pm. Get together with like-minded path wandering enthusiasts.

Making Buttons

Join Allen Stross in a workshop 10:00 am, May 6th at the Civic Plaza. We will learn how to reproduce an image on a button, postcard, refrigerator magnet or tee-shirt. Donation of \$5.00 is suggested. Call for a reservation — 524-4715 — maximum class size, ten people.

Festivals

April 22 is Berkeley Earth day at Civic Center Park, with speakers including Julia Butterfly and Ralph Nader. Look for BPWA's booth where you will find maps of paths and the latest restoration news and someone to answer questions.

April 29, 11:00-4:00 is Berkeley Bay Festival, on the waterfront. It would be great to participate with hands-on activities (map coloring, path-finding games, plotting routes for walks?). Friends of Five Creeks will have a booth; Perhaps we can share a table. For info or to volunteer call Patty at Shorebird Nature Center, 644 8623.



Designated Landmarks architect and construction Blisted

Sutcliffe/Picnic Rock prehistoric
550 Santa Rosa Ave.

Piedmont Avenue 1864
Frederick Law Olmstead
Public right-of-way between Gayley & Dwight Way

Claremont District 1905
Frederick Law Olmstead & John Galen Howard
The Uplands/Domingo Ave./Encina Plc./Eucalyptus Rd./Hillcrest Ct. & Rd./ Nogales St./ Parkside Dr./ The plaza Dr.

Northbrae 1907 John Galen Howard
bounded by Albany (west); Spruce (east); Solano & Indian Rock (north); Sonoma, Yolo & Eunice (south).

Daley's Scenic Tract 1909 Hillside Club
Hilgard Av./ LeRoy/ La Vereda/ Virginia

Orchard Lane 1909-10
Vickery, Atkins, Torrey Gallery

La Loma Steps 1913 unknown

Rose Walk 1910-16 Bernard Maybeck

Working with the Public Works Department

BPWA recently met with City officials, Ken Emeziem and Virginia Vafa of Public Works and Garth Keehan of Parks regarding maintenance, repair and encroachment issues affecting public paths.

Some noteworthy conclusions from this very productive meeting were:

1. The office of Ken Emeziem (Project Manager for Paths — telephone: 665 3444) is the City's designated recipient for notification on needed path repair, safety concerns and any observed path neighbor boundary encroachments.

2. Ken suggested, and we agreed, that the development and/or improvement of the Vistamont Path, Twin Path and Tamalpais Path would receive priority. Costs apparently would be funded from the \$50,000 of funds previously allocated for path improvement and restoration.

3. Our shared objective is to focus on the developed and developable paths in Berkeley. Although we retain as an objective the reclamation of City path property which has suffered encroachment, we recognize that due to limited resources it may not be the best activity to be pursued at this time.

4. It is desirable that undeveloped but developable paths should be identified with signage at an early date.

5. We undertook to assemble additions for BPWA's listing of "10 Easy Fixes" (a listing of path's requiring comparatively easy repair) which we would communicate to Ken.

6. Virginia Vafa is in charge of replacement of missing signs. Many new signs have gone up — 30% of those listed as missing.

www.InternetTime.com/path

Read more about the Berkeley Path Wanderer's Association. Learn more history and Berkeley lore, see maps, and read details such as path upkeep status at our website.

Lead a Walk

If you would like to lead a walk for the month of October '00 or beyond please call Jacque at 524-4715.

Adopt a Path

Call Tom for details at 525-4064.

Missing Signs

(or Awkwardly Placed Signs)

Call Pat at 527-2693.

DUES WERE DUE JANUARY 2000 *Renew your membership if you haven't already for the year 2000.*

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

Annual membership in Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is \$5.00 due January 1st of each year. Benefits include Path Inventory Index, maps of pathways, quarterly newsletter, and BPWA mailings. Mail form with check or money order, payable to:

**BPWA, Berkeley Partners for Parks
2371 Eunice St., Berkeley, CA 94708.**

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

BPWA Membership Form **Please print**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Email _____

Telephone _____