



# Edgewood Explorer

PRESERVE • EDUCATE • RESTORE

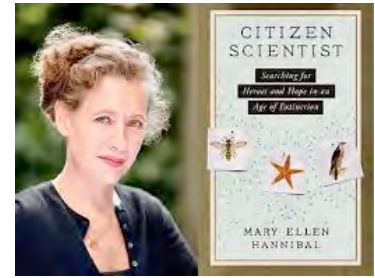
September 2018

Volume 25 Number 3

## Uniquely Edgewood - An Event You Don't Want to Miss!

by Kathy Korbholz

Replacing our typical annual general meeting this year will be our exciting 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration – Uniquely Edgewood. It will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup> at Casa de Flores in San Carlos. A special luncheon will be served, and our guest speaker will be Mary Ellen Hannibal, author of *Citizen Scientist: Searching for Heroes and Hope in an Age of Extinction*. Dr. Stuart Weiss and Bill Korbholz will then offer a brief look at how we can preserve and enhance Edgewood's ecosystems in the next 25 years.



Seating is limited, so we opened Eventbrite ticket sales to FoE members only on August 8<sup>th</sup>. If by chance you did not receive your invitation, go online to [Edgewood25th.Eventbrite.com](http://Edgewood25th.Eventbrite.com) to order your tickets. After September 15<sup>th</sup>, we will open the event to others, and we expect any remaining tickets to sell quickly. With a plated lunch and renowned speaker for just \$30 per ticket, this event is an exceptional value. Do not be disappointed; order your tickets today!

## Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve: How It Happened

Carolyn Curtis, founding president, Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve; volunteer coordinator and spokesperson, Save Edgewood Park Coalition



Image: Bumper decal, designed by Jean Struthers

### Part 3 of 3 Parts

By early 1992, three County Supervisors were running for Congress, joined by Assemblyman Ted Lempert, who had always been in favor of a natural Edgewood Park. A fourth Supervisor was running unopposed for reelection to the Board. The fifth Supervisor, the most virulent golf course supporter, was in his last term on the board.

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors had set up an “alternate sites task force” to find other places for the golf course they wanted on Edgewood. As long as this group was meeting, Edgewood was safe. However, something much more momentous occurred that April. In honor of Earth Day, Supervisor Anna Eshoo proposed making Edgewood a Natural Preserve. The Coalition

turned out the troops for this Board meeting. Eshoo’s proposal passed 4 to 1, the only holdout being the curmudgeonly pro-golf course Supervisor.

The Coalition thought the fight was over. We had a victory party at Edgewood.

In June 1992, Tom Huening won the Republican primary, and Anna Eshoo narrowly won the Democratic primary over Ted Lempert. *(continued on Page 2)*

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## Help Wanted: Bluebird Nest Box Monitors

Hungry to help? Interested in going off-trail at Edgewood legally? Wanna get up close and personal with baby bluebirds? Don't mind scraping a little bird poop from the inside of a nest box? Then, join the bluebird nest box monitors team! We need both regular and substitute monitors. No experience needed. Training provided. Monitoring the nest boxes is intense work for 4 months each season, but it is highly rewarding and fun! If you are interested in helping, please contact Frances Morse at: [info@FriendsofEdgewood.org](mailto:info@FriendsofEdgewood.org).



*(How It Happened - Part 3...continued from Page 1)*

The proposal to make Edgewood a preserve went to the Parks and Recreation Commission for approval. Instead of the rubber-stamping we expected, it barely passed, 3-0. When the proposal came back to the Board of Supervisors in August for final approval, a “compromise” was passed (3-2, thanks to two Supervisors switching from their earlier spare-Edgewood stance), declaring two-thirds of Edgewood a preserve and authorizing a \$25,000 constraints analysis for a golf course on the remaining third.

We had presumed the Parks and Recreation Commissioners would be knowledgeable about Edgewood and had neglected to educate them. (The other side had obviously worked behind the scenes.) So we did more organizing, expanding the Coalition to 43 organizations and 12 businesses. We wrote a 20-point objection to the constraints analysis. Mostly, we bided our time; two new Supervisors—Edgewood supporters Ted Lempert and Ruben Barrales—took their seats on the board in January 1993.

In July 1993, Thomas Reid Associates presented its constraints analysis to a packed Board of Supervisors' meeting, proving what we'd been saying for years (for free!): the parts of Edgewood flat enough to support a golf course were the very parts with protected species.

Following the unanimous adoption of the constraints analysis, Supervisor Ruben Barrales presented a change in the Joint Powers Agreement concerning Edgewood that the County had with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, giving MROSD equal decision-making power over Edgewood. The change also eliminated all references to structures and specifically declared Edgewood a Natural Preserve. We had achieved our goals of tying up Edgewood with overlapping jurisdictions and getting Edgewood's biological uniqueness officially recognized.

That September 1993, the Save Edgewood Park Coalition, mission accomplished, disbanded, and the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve was born.

## How Much Danger Was Edgewood In? What Strategies Worked?

Although Bay checkerspot butterfly habitat was covered by the Endangered Species Act after this insect was declared threatened in 1989, such protection is not automatic. The governing body (the county, and later also MROSD) must agree to abide by the Act, or be constrained to it; hence our vigorous community effort.

The golf course side included some of the most powerful figures in San Mateo County public life, including an internationally known golf course designer. This group had had its way with the Supervisors for years. The environmental community could mount a stalemate, chiefly with the CNPS lawsuit, but not prevail. On the other hand, it's quite possible that well-connected sympathizers, working behind the scenes and not coordinated with us, played a role in the victory.

The substitute site: Despite considerable effort researching an area with no special habitats or species and getting official support, this strategy was ultimately rejected by its own proponents. It raises the question: Is it conservation's role to research and justify a substitute site, or is our role to simply oppose where we see a threat to special habitats and species, thus keeping the research burden onto the side that wants development?

One critical decision was to go grassroots, knowing it would be labor-intensive. This strategy worked for Edgewood (and might not for other places) because of its enormous user base, then around 100,000 visits per year, mostly neighbors. Another choice, and a more universally pertinent strategy, was to broaden “our side” far beyond the usual conservation allies. This strategy showed Edgewood's great community support, a point we could underscore publicly every time we added new member organizations. Besides about 20 conservation organizations and nature-interest groups, we had three neighboring homeowners' organizations (very effective), garden clubs (well-connected?), user groups

*(continued on Page 9)*

## What's Happening with Junior Explorers?

by Susan Gross and DeeDee Stovel



Tiger Scouts investigate Lace Lichen with Docent Carol Hankermeyer.  
© 2015 Liam Fairbairn

The mission of the Junior Explorers (JE) Program is "To inspire in children attitudes of appreciation and caring for the natural environment."

To this end, the JE Program offers free Outdoor Education Field Trips for elementary through high

school students, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, and home-schooled or special children's groups. Edgewood's JE Program is very flexible in terms of hours and days of JE docent-led hikes.

The Junior Explorer docents have been a very loyal and hard working group, but because of our limited number of JE docents (nine JE docents in 2015 and 14 JE docents in 2016), not all requested hikes could be scheduled/accommodated. In 2016, the 14 JE docents led 18 field trips involving 276 students.

In 2017, due to Filoli putting their Nature Education Program on hold, many county and local parks benefitted from trained docents looking for other opportunities. Currently, Edgewood has 25 active Junior Explorer docents! In 2017, we hosted 32 field trips for 515 children. To date in 2018, we have led 18 field trips for 407 children, and the year is not over. The field trips hosted in 2018 have been primarily for school groups.

Another limitation of having few docents was that schools could only bring one class a time. Being able to accommodate only one class is very limiting for a school that needs to transport the students via a bus, which can cost about \$300 per bus. With the increased number of new JE docents, the JE docent group agreed to try a pilot program in the spring of 2018 for 48 students to come at one time. The pilot program was coordinated with Foster City Elementary School, which has six second-grade classes. A total of 144 students visited Edgewood Park on field trips conducted over three days. This was a significant outcome, showing that with more docents to lead hikes and with good trail planning, we can accommodate schools that would like to bring more

students on a given day. The increased number and flexibility of the JE docents proved invaluable, and the six teachers all enjoyed the hikes tremendously. The JE docents involved in the pilot program also felt that the related scheduling and logistics activities were easier than similar tasks previously required at Filoli. On Mother's Day, one of our student visitors brought his mother back to Edgewood to teach her all about poison oak and what he had learned on his field trip. It is rewarding for the JE docents to be able to tell the students that they are welcome to return to Edgewood with their families anytime...for free!

In addition, communication with new and previous JE docents has been very positive. In March 2018, the Junior Explorers Program held a meeting led by Laurie Alexander, during which we discussed the positive aspects of the program and what could be done to improve it. This resulted in creating four working groups to address issues identified by the meeting participants. A second meeting for all JE docents was held on July 18th at the Edgewood Day Camp to report on the progress of each of the working groups.

- With the help of Huey-Shin Yuan, the Scheduling Group adopted a new scheduling system "[signup.com](http://signup.com)" making it easier for JE docents to sign up to lead hikes.
- Carol Hankermeyer and DeeDee Stovel reported on the Training Group, which has planned a tour of the Ed Center (BJLEC) on September 20<sup>th</sup>, during which the JE docents can learn about the diverse and wonderful resources the BJLEC has to offer.
- Laurie reported for the third working group, the County Parks Infrastructure Group
- Susan Gross reported for the Outreach Group, showing revised flyers by Martha Vercoutere and promotional materials for the JE Program that the group had developed.

Each JE docent took copies of the materials so that we can help provide outreach to the myriad area schools and community programs. We also have a flyer we can use to recruit new JE docents. In the June 2018 Edgewood Explorer, the JE article discussed meetings with the San Mateo Office of Education, which also helped get the word about our JE Program out to school districts.

We'll continue to work on the best ways to spread the word about our programs further; train new JE docents, especially those who don't have any background in leading hikes or nature education; and manage any other issues that come up. Efforts will also be made to connect with other programs in the area to possibly share resources. 📌

## Catching Up With Camera Trapping

by Lena Yasui with Laurie Alexander

The Friends of Edgewood's camera trapping program is blossoming, providing valuable data and eye-catching educational resources. Camera trapping volunteers collect, curate, and present information about Edgewood's wildlife to the public. The camera trapping program consists of two types of volunteers: field volunteers and camera trap reviewers. Both activities are vital to Edgewood's camera trapping success. Field volunteers are responsible for setting up camera traps and capturing images, while camera trap reviewers curate the findings for public education.

Kenny Hickman, a wildlife researcher and Friend of Edgewood, provided expert training to our camera trapping field volunteers. Hickman's expertise is evident from his blog, <http://natureofaman.blogspot.com/>, which is full of articles describing his personal camera trap findings. Hickman generously volunteered his time to kick off Edgewood's camera trapping program by recommending cameras and procedures. He then held a workshop explaining the history, importance, techniques, and protocol of camera trapping to our field volunteers. Friends of Edgewood is grateful to have such a generous and knowledgeable friend as Kenny Hickman.



Photo: Ken Seydel adjusts his camera trap, hoping to find a cougar © 2018 Lena Yasui

After Hickman's workshop, volunteers paired up to define their first 'set theory' – the objectives each pair would have for their camera setup in the preserve. Ken Seydel and Roger Humphrey were determined to find a cougar (mountain lion). Journalist Lena Yasui hiked

with Ken Seydel to their camera trapping site to learn more about camera trap field work. When asked how they decided on their site, Seydel says he asked himself, "If I were a cougar, where would I go?" Seydel first thought about the general area of the preserve that a cougar would be attracted to. Cougars need food and water, of course, and prefer to be far from human disturbances. Once they decided on a general area, Seydel and Humphrey ventured off-trail, facing hazards such as poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), ticks, and sock-destroyers (*Torilis* spp.)!



Photo: Sock-Destroyer (*Torilis* spp.)  
© 2018 Laurie Alexander

On the edge of a woodland near an opening to grasslands, Seydel and Humphrey found clues which led them to the perfect spot. Under cover of a live oak, the camera trap captures a seasonal stream, which serves as both a water source and a popular wildlife trail. Nearby in the grasslands, patches of grass had been flattened by resting deer. Here, a cougar would be sure to have food from the deer in the grasslands or other animals that use the stream as a trail. With water from the seasonal stream and a quiet woodland, away from human activity, it is a cougar's paradise. Sure enough, they did not have to wait long before a cougar wandered into the camera trap. Furthermore, since they had strategically captured the stream, other wildlife also wandered into many of the shots.

For their first set, Bill and Kathy Korbholz were also hoping for a cougar shot. They positioned their camera near an old deer kill, close to mountain lion scat, and captured the first photographic evidence of a mountain lion at Edgewood. Leah Moffat and Sonny Mencher investigated the wildlife in a scurry zone, while Frances Morse and Jake Lowenstern captured life beneath the cover of chaparral. Andy and Kathy Goforth's studies of a Dusky-footed woodrat stick house reveals the intriguing nocturnal activities of both woodrats and California mice. (continued on Page 6)

(See the Junior Explorers Program's brightly colored 1/4-page inserts)  
**Help FoE spread the word about Junior Explorers' free nature walks....**  
please pass these colorful little flyers to a teacher or parent, or pin them  
on the bulletin board of your school, church, or local gathering spot.

# Junior Explorers Outdoor Education Field Trips

at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve

Our free nature discovery walks are:

- ✿ For ages 5 to 18 or K – 12
- ✿ Led by experienced docents
- ✿ Divided into small group sizes
- ✿ Hands-on and interactive
- ✿ Curriculum-oriented
- ✿ Customized to your group

For more information on our nature walks or to schedule Junior Explorers Field Trips go to:  
[www.FriendsofEdgewood.org/Field-trips](http://www.FriendsofEdgewood.org/Field-trips)



Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve is a San Mateo County Park, off I-280, near Redwood City.

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## 2018 Bluebird Monitoring Report

by Frances Morse and Whitney Mortimer

The 2018 western bluebird (WEBL) nest box monitoring season has ended, and our overall results are encouraging. We were aided this season by some new monitors – Carolyn Chaney, Andy Goforth, Sophie Borison, Emily Anderson, and Leslie Mooi. After two training sessions, we divided our 26 boxes (two new ones this year) into two routes and formed two three-person teams which checked the boxes weekly from early March until early July. We also want to give special recognition to substitute monitor par excellence, John Morse, and to Bret DuBois, who completed his Eagle Scout project by building us some new nest boxes, and with the help of Edgewood Park rangers, installing some of them for trial use this year.



Photo: Frances Morse and Whitney Mortimer train new monitor, Carolyn Chaney © 2018 Andy Goforth

This season followed a few years of disappointing results due to drought conditions, so we are excited that 2018 was a very good year. Overall, we had 17 nests in 16 of the 26 boxes, which produced 77 eggs, 67 hatchlings, and 66 fledglings for an 86% yield (fledging rate). We had 5 different species – western bluebird (WEBL), tree swallow (TRSW), violet green swallow (VGSW), ash-throated flycatcher (ATFL), and chestnut-backed chickadee (CBCH) – a new high species count for us. Here are our season results:

### 2018 Nest Box Data Summary (26 boxes)

Bird	Nests	Eggs	Hatched	Fledged
<b>WEBL</b>	9	43	42 (98%)	41 (95%)
<b>TRSW</b>	5	18	13 (72%)	13 (72%)
<b>ATFL</b>	1	3	2 (67%)	2 (67%)
<b>CBCH</b>	1	7	7 (100%)	7 (100%)
<b>VGSW</b>	1	6	3 (50%)	3 (50%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>67 (87%)</b>	<b>66 (86%)</b>

Tree swallows had fewer fledglings than last year (13 versus 17), but their yield (fledging rate) was higher (72% versus 49%). For the first time since we have been monitoring, we had a nest with seven chestnut-backed chickadee (CBCH) eggs – all of which fledged. After several lean years, our bluebirds had an especially good year. Forty-one WEBLs in 9 nests had 42 fledglings (95% yield), and we lost only one egg and one hatchling.

We find it helpful to look at our results over time. For bluebirds, as you can see in the next table, this year's 95% yield was their highest ever, especially compared to last year's drought-prone season rate (39%). However, the number of fledglings (41) was not as high as in the years 2013 to 2015 (50, 52, and 54, respectively).

### Six-Year Results: WEBL (bluebirds)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Nests	9	11	9	17	15	17
Eggs	43	41	40	74	74	79
Hatchlings	42 (98%)	28 (68%)	34 (85%)	59 (80%)	63 (85%)	64 (81%)
Fledglings	41 (95%)	16 (39%)	28 (70%)	54 (73%)	52 (70%)	50 (63%)

Long-term across all species, we see similar results. As the following table shows, our 86% yield was the highest since we have been monitoring, but, with the exception of 2015, we are seeing fewer birds.

### Six-Year Results: All Species

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Nests	17	22	17	24	19	21
Eggs	77	81	81	106	93	95
Hatchlings	67 (87%)	67 (83%)	59 (72%)	80 (75%)	77 (83%)	77 (81%)
Fledglings	66 (86%)	37 (46%)	53 (65%)	70 (66%)	61 (66%)	63 (66%)

A fun and unexpected event happened this season. For practice last fall, future Eagle Scout Bret DuBois installed one of his new boxes in a very unlikely bluebird spot on the approach to the Sylvan Trail – an area we don't monitor. But in showing that box to a visitor in April, we discovered a chestnut-backed chickadee mom sitting on eight eggs. All eight eventually fledged! We will definitely add this box to our official route next season.



Photo: Mama chestnut-backed chickadee on nest © 2018 Frances Morse

As we usually do, we will report our results to the California Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP) (<http://www.cbrp.org>), which monitors the bluebird population statewide, to see if the trends we experienced this season were present across our state and San Mateo County. It is nice to participate in this citizen science endeavor which has been tracking results since 1996. *(continued on Page 8)*

(Camera Trapping, continued from Page 4)



Photo: A cougar prowls right in front of the camera  
© 2017 Bill and Kathy Korbholz



Photo: Seydel and Humphrey's shot captured other animals  
using the seasonal spring as a trail  
© 2017 Ken Seydel and Roger Humphrey

Camera traps, however, can do much more than just capture fascinating images. Camera trap images include timestamps which document the date, time of day, and temperature. Seasonal habits and daily routines of Edgewood's wildlife can therefore be documented and better understood. Additionally, camera trapping allows us to monitor the general health of wildlife at Edgewood. Visible conditions, such as mange, can be spotted on camera trap images and inspire more research into the causes of such conditions. Edgewood's camera trap volunteers keep track of important findings and send annual reports to the County of San Mateo Parks Department. With data compiled from many years of camera trapping, we can monitor changes in Edgewood's wildlife over time. These changes can also inspire research and focused conservation efforts.

To further FoE's strategic priority "Inspire stewardship of Edgewood by offering educational and interpretive natural history programs for people of all ages," the camera trapping program seeks to reach out and educate the public with its findings. Camera trap reviewers sort through the myriad of images, collect data, and refine images to make them suitable for public interpretation. Their projects may include educational videos and slideshows presenting camera trap findings. Keep an eye out for these new projects to appear in the Education Center and on FoE's website.

Are you interested in joining FoE's camera trapping team? Discover the habits of Edgewood's wildlife and help educate the public! Visit [www.FriendsofEdgewood.org/camera-trap](http://www.FriendsofEdgewood.org/camera-trap) for more information. 📷





**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**CELEBRATING 20 YEARS**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 9, 2018 | HUDDART COUNTY PARK**

**PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE**

**Honored Guests:** Julia Bott, Linda Dyson-Weaver and Linda Liebes

**Guest Speaker:** Doug McConnell

**Emcees:** Kathy and Bill Korbholz









**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE**  
Contact Michele at 650.321.5812 or [michele@supportparks.org](mailto:michele@supportparks.org)

## It Was So Hot...

A recap of FoE's 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event  
by Kathy Korbholz



Photo: FoE's 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event; several volunteers raise a hand to indicate that they rate themselves as friendly and enthusiastic about Edgewood and who, in Laurie's estimation, would be perfect EC hosts!

© 2018 Kathy Korbholz

Despite blistering 90-degree heat on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, nearly fifty volunteers attended our second annual volunteer recognition event. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to reunite with long-time friends and chat with new people from across all Friends of Edgewood programs. A generous spread of wine, cheese, fruit, and crackers greeted guests as they arrived. However, because of the heat, the most popular offering of the day was ice-cold water. Spray misters were provided on each table for those who wanted to use evaporation to cool off. It was so hot...we had to retrieve the carpet squares from the EC storage closet so we could sit on the cement benches. A couple of canopies provided much-appreciated shade, but, by the end of the day, everyone felt completely melted.



Photo: Volunteer recognition planning team; (L to R) Lara Fox, Frank Peale, Sandy Bernhard (asking, "What's with this heat?"), Gina Barton. Not pictured: Bill Korbholz, behind the podium, and Kathy Korbholz, behind the camera.

© 2018 Kathy Korbholz

After a bit of food and conversation, Bill Korbholz asked the coordinators of each of our **26 different** programs/projects/initiatives/activities to say a few words about their efforts. All of the efforts are 100% managed and staffed by volunteers. Some of the endeavors are quite big and ambitious, requiring hours of volunteer time every month; other endeavors are much smaller. Each one, however, is an instance of one or more people offering their time, effort, and energy to support the park they love.

This year, we again formed a circle of all volunteers, ordered clockwise from most years of Edgewood service to our newest volunteer who joined just one month prior. That arrangement placed Stuart Weiss, who began studying Edgewood before it was named a preserve, next to Lena Yasui, who had recently become an EC host. Moving counterclockwise, each volunteer introduced the person to their right by name and corresponding years of service. Bill added up the years represented by all those present. Earlier in the event, guests had entered their guesses for the total number of years of service. Dee Himes submitted this year's closest guess - 540 years! She won a beautiful potted plant arrangement created by green thumb, Frank Peale.



Photo: Lena Yasui, our newest volunteer, next to Stuart Weiss. Bob Young, another very long-term volunteer, appears behind Stuart.

© 2018 Kathy Korbholz

At the close of the event, as a "thank you gift" to our fabulous volunteers, each guest received a Friends of Edgewood notebook. Its small size and pockets make it perfect for a trail pack or taking notes in enrichment classes. Edgewood is eternally grateful to all those who devote their time and talents to supporting the park we all love. Because of you, Edgewood offers spectacular programs to our community and is admired by many other Friends groups. ♦





## Amazing Tardigrades

by Kathy Korbholz

Picture a wrinkly russet potato. Now add eight stubby, whimsical, clawed legs and a cartoon face - thus, you have a tardigrade. Never heard of a tardigrade? They are actually everywhere in nature, including Edgewood. Most of us have never seen or heard of these incredible creatures because they are very, very small...microscopic in fact. Despite their size, tardigrades reached celebrity status last year after a Washington Post article extolling their survival skills labeled them water bears or moss piglets. Still never heard of them? Well, neither had we, until we arranged a volunteer enrichment in May 2018 given by Stanford researcher Ricky Cordova.



Photo via [bbc.com](http://bbc.com): *Paramacrobiotus craterlaki*  
(Credit: Eye of Science/Science Photo Library)

Ricky's lecture, entitled: ***Tardigrades: Shedding light on the world's most resilient creatures through citizen science***, opened this minuscule world to our exploration. Tardigrades normally live in the moist environment of mosses and lichens. Seasonally, as these environments dry up, tardigrades are able to slow their metabolism to less than 0.01% of normal and to drop their water content to 1% of normal. In this cryptobiotic state, a tardigrade is known as a tun. When moisture returns, years or even decades later, the tardigrades can reanimate.

Tardigrades, with over 1,000 known species, are an amazing group of animals. Various species have demonstrated the ability to live in incredibly harsh conditions that would instantly kill all other known life forms. Researchers have pushed them to the limits and been consistently surprised with their ability to withstand extreme temperatures (both high and low), extreme pressure (from the deepest part of the Mariana Trench to the vacuum of space), air deprivation, radiation, dehydration, and starvation. Scientists have reported tardigrades in hot springs, from on top of the Himalayas (20,000 ft. above sea level) to the deep sea (-13,000 ft.), and from the polar regions to the equator, under layers of solid ice and in ocean sediments. There are tardigrade fossils dating from the Cambrian Period, 530 million years ago. This fossil record indicates that tardigrades have survived Earth's five mass extinctions. New species are still being discovered - recently living in a bit of moss in a Tokyo parking lot!

Our lecturer, Ricky Cordova, loves to share his fascination and enthusiasm for tardigrades. He has created a detailed video guide on collecting, storing, rehydrating, and viewing these amazing critters through the use of an inexpensive Foldscope and the camera on your cell phone. His video can be found at <https://microcosmos.foldscope.com/?p=17901>. The Foldscope site includes many beautiful electron microscope images of tardigrades in action; you will be amazed. ♥



Photo: Ricky Cordova gives an enrichment presentation in the Ed Center.  
© 2018 Kathy Korbholz

(Bluebird Monitoring, continued from Page 5)



Photo: Mama bluebird sitting on eggs  
© 2018 Whitney Mortimer

Going forward, we will be reviewing our nest box placements since we had 10 empty boxes this year (a high for unoccupied boxes). We will be exploring placing more boxes nearer to the Bay checkerspot habitat areas, which are well maintained in terms of non-native grasses. As habitat management expands in the park, we will also investigate mowing on some of

the grassland areas where we have nest boxes.

We are looking for more volunteers to help with the nest box monitoring next year. This is a fun and rewarding

citizen science endeavor. Please see our recruiting ad on Page 2 of this newsletter.

In the meantime, enjoy the 66 new birdies that are enhancing our enjoyment of Edgewood Park. And keep an eye out for some of those cute little chestnut-backed chickadees in the meadow in the Day Camp area!



Photo: Bluebird eggs  
© 2018 Whitney Mortimer

Paul Anderson passed away on May 31, 2018, from complications of lung cancer. We are very sorry for this loss in our community.



Paul was a big fan of Friends of Edgewood and the Weed Warriors. He was an ardent warrior against invasive non-natives, especially at Edgewood and at Arguello Park in San Carlos. He took FoE's docent training a few years ago and lamented that his leg ailment never allowed him to lead wildflower walks. In 2016, Paul reached out to help with FoE's Junior Explorers Program, where he made valuable contacts with the San Mateo County Office of Education as they investigated how to launch California's Environmental Literacy initiative in San Mateo County.

(How It Happened - Part 3...continued from Page 2)

(runners, equestrians, hikers, photographers), and more, as well as twelve local small businesses. This breadth was not lost on elected officials.

Also, the petition, our regular presence at the park, Susan Sommers' spectacular and very visible (size matters) pictures at meetings, colorful badges to show our numbers, cost-spreading—all these were effective. The most important principle: Never giving up. We knew we were doing the right thing.

We had fun with this. It was exciting to see people get involved, and the first intimations of victory were sweet. The final triumph was something none of us will ever forget.

Note: These articles are excerpted from "Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve: How It Happened," Fremontia, Winter 2008, with permission from the California Native Plant Society. ❖

## Support the Park You Love!

### Third Saturday Nature Walks

by Todd Reimche

These nature walks cover many diverse topics regarding Edgewood flora and fauna.



**September 15, 2018** – Goodbye Summer, Hello Fall: Celebrate the arrival of fall as we discuss the autumnal equinox, its significance, and its relationship to the development of the calendar, with Bill Korbholz

**October 20, 2018** – TBA

**November 17, 2018** - Creature Feature: Dusky-Footed Woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*), with Kathryn Strachota

**December 15, 2018** - Habitats from the Ground Up: How the Geology of Edgewood determines plant communities above ground and the creatures that inhabit them, with Erika DeMonner

Please join us on one or more of this season's Nature Walks.

# Yes, I'd like to become a Friend of Edgewood!

Here's my membership donation to support preservation, education, and restoration:

Join or renew online at [FriendsOfEdgewood.org](http://FriendsOfEdgewood.org)

- \$25 Friend
- \$50 Advocate \*
- \$100 Steward \*
- Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Donors of \$50 or more receive a set of six Edgewood greeting cards; donors of \$100 or more also receive a one-year subscription to *Bay Nature Magazine*.

I'd like to get the newsletter by  email  mail.

- Please keep my thank-you gifts.
- Please keep my donation anonymous.

Make checks payable to **Friends of Edgewood**, and mail to:

Friends of Edgewood  
PO Box 3422  
Redwood City, CA 94064-3422

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

For volunteer opportunities, visit [www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org/Get-Involved](http://www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org/Get-Involved)



Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Calling  
 all Friends to the**  
 ANNUAL MEETING and 25th  
 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
 Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018; 11:30 AM  
 Food - Fun - Festivities  
 Get your ticket now!



*Mission Statement of The Friends of Edgewood — To protect and celebrate Edgewood as a unique treasure by promoting exemplary stewardship, and by reaching out with informative public programs. [www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org](http://www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org)*

PRESERVE • EDUCATE • RESTORE

**Bill and Jean Lane  
 Education Center -  
 Autumn Hours and By  
 Appointment\***

Wed	9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Sat	9:30 am to 4 pm
Sun	9:30 am to 4 pm

\*Subject to volunteer staffing.

**2018  
 Board of  
 Directors**

Laurie Alexander  
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 Kathy Goforth  
 Bill Korbholz  
 Kathy Korbholz  
 Linda Leong  
 Angela Mallett  
 John Morse  
 Todd Reimche  
 Howie Smith



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Adopt-A-Highway**

Next Sessions: 9/9, 10/6, 11/4, 12/1

To volunteer or get more information, contact Dave

Hershey at [adoptahighway-](mailto:adoptahighway-coordinator@FriendsOfEdgewood.org)

[coordinator@FriendsOfEdgewood.org](mailto:coordinator@FriendsOfEdgewood.org)

**Second Sunday Bird Walks**

9/9, 10/14, 11/11 - 8 AM @ BJLEC

NO walk in December

**Third Saturday Nature Hikes**

9/15, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15; 10 AM @ BJLEC

**SM County Parks Foundation**

Celebrating 20 Years - 9/9/18

**FoE 25th Anniversary Event**

10/14/18 - San Carlos

**For more event info, see**

[www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org/events](http://www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org/events)

The Edgewood Explorer is published quarterly by the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and restoring Edgewood and to educating the public about its treasures. The newsletter is edited by Linda Leong and is supported by contributions from many Friends. For more information about the Friends of Edgewood, visit our website at [www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org](http://www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org), mail us at PO Box 3422, Redwood City, CA 94064-3422, leave a message or fax us toll-free at (1-866) GO-EDGEWOOD (1-866-463-3439), or email us at [info@FriendsOfEdgewood.org](mailto:info@FriendsOfEdgewood.org).