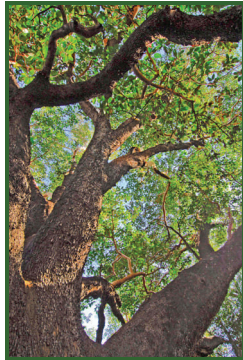


The Ponderosa

The Pine Ridge Association Newsletter
Henry W. Coe State Park



Coe's Charms

By Ron Erskine

Mother of all Madrones

With the possible exception of clouds, few common sights in nature can inspire more awe than a tree. At 12,000 feet, in the dry desolation of the White Mountains, bristlecone pines still grow that were 3,000 years old when Christ was born. The largest giant sequoia, the General Sherman tree in Sequoia National Park, weighs nearly 2,000 tons. It would be wise to pack a lunch if you plan to walk around its 104-foot base. Just imagine, it grew from a seed the size of an oatmeal flake from a cone the size of a walnut.

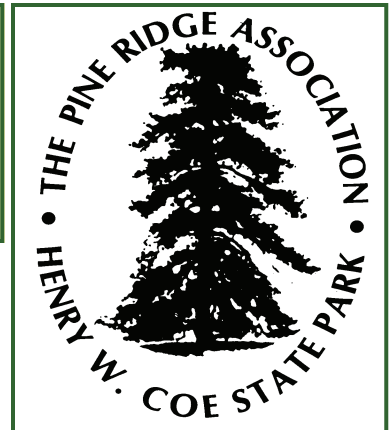
The trees in Coe Park do not generally have hall of fame stats, but there are many that can still dazzle us. It was the prospect of seeing such a tree that lured me on a recent holiday hike in the park.

Libby Vincent arranged a hike down Middle Ridge with two attractions in mind. We would have an opportunity to see the results of last October's prescribed burn that torched all of Middle Ridge. But for me, the main attraction was what Libby described as the "mother of all Madrones." During Barry Breckling's thirty years as ranger at Coe Park, he came to know every pine needle and pebble in the park. In his wanderings, he found this massive madrone tree on Middle Ridge. Libby knew its whereabouts and would guide us there.

We left a car at Poverty Flat and shuttled to our starting point where Hobbs Road intersects the Middle Ridge Trail. At Poverty Flat, it had been bitter cold and the creek was frozen, but up on the Middle Ridge Trail, it felt like a bright spring-like day, shorts and T-shirt weather.

Chris Weske, the mastermind of Coe's prescribed burns and a borderline pyromaniac (is somebody keeping an eye on him?), was with us and seemed pleased with the aftermath of the burn. The fire had done its work well. Some areas of chaparral were black and bare while others areas had burned cool underneath barely touched trees. The result was a healthy mosaic of different habitats.

Continued on page 2.....



Early Spring 2012

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New Coe Park website
coming very soon
www.coepark.org
See page 9 for more.....

Mother of all Madrones continued....

“There it is, over there!” Libby pointed to a tree barely visible in a clearing below the trail. We dropped down for a closer look.

It was quite a tree, perhaps 25 feet around at the base and 60 feet high. The large trunk split at head height, and the two parts shot skyward, each the size of a large tree in its own right. And what character! A long life in the forest left a record—twists and scars—of past battles the tree had survived.

If you walk the Middle Ridge Trail, it eventually leaves the ridge top and begins to descend toward the Middle Fork of Coyote Creek. After a quarter mile or so, keep an eye out for a wide, flat bench below the trail on your left. The tree is waiting for you on the edge of the bench.



Photo by Ron Erskine

Adapted from a recent column in the *Morgan Hill Times* and *Gilroy Dispatch*. Look for Ron’s columns (under “Sports”) online at www.GilroyDispatch.com and www.MorganHillTimes.com.

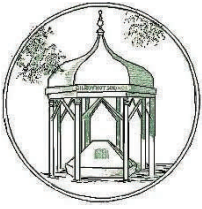
One of Those Days at the Visitor Center

By Libby Vincent

Friday 23 December was one of those cold, clear, and sunny winter days when the pools of water in China Hole are frozen, ice crackles in the East Fork as Ranger Jen drives down off Bear Mountain, and raptors float in the clear skies above Pine Ridge. As we arrived to staff the visitor center, two older gentlemen were getting ready to head out on a hike, tying their boots, putting stuff in their packs. After a while, they came in, paid (one was a senior, the other was not), and headed out to hike the Blue Ridge loop. They seemed to know what they were doing but you never know, so I asked if they needed any guidance on trails; they said nope, we’ve done it before.

As we were closing up the visitor center at 4:00pm, one of the gentlemen arrived back walking wearily in from the Corral Trail, and went inside to buy a couple of sodas. He was the older of the two and said sometimes he gets back first, sometimes his friend does. We talked a while and I finally, hesitantly, asked him how old he was. He smiled and said “I’m 75, and my friend and I hike Blue Ridge ten or twelve times a year.” I about fell over with amazement. Here was a 75 year old man hiking the Blue Ridge loop not only once but pretty much once a month, although he said they tend to do the hike more in the later months of the year so it may be twice a month for six months. And this man is 75 years old, and doing this hike with his friend just because they like to do it. He said the best part of the hike was getting back and getting into his car, a Lexus, to sit down; not pizza, not beer, just sitting in a soft, comfortable seat to drive home. He said he lives in the San Jose Area so he doesn’t have too far to drive. While we were talking, his younger friend arrived back also weary, sweating, and happy and swallowed in a couple of gulps one of the sodas his friend had bought. I wished them both merry Christmas and headed down the hill in the last of the golden light as the sun sank toward Loma Prieta and Umunhum on the western horizon.

For those who haven’t hiked or don’t plan to hike the Blue Ridge loop, it’s a very strenuous 14.7 mile hike with 3,870 feet of elevation gain. These two gentlemen did the hike in seven and a half hours, an average of two miles an hour, and they do this hike month after month, year after year. I’m still shaking my head in wonder.



Happy New Year from Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs

By Laura Dominguez-Yon

Thanks to the McDonald and Lundblade families, we have a photo of Christmas one hundred and three years ago to enjoy. The men, left to right, are W.E. Cunningham, George A. McDonald, Charles Coleman, and F.F. Smith, photo taken on December 25th, 1908. The signs behind them say "Credit on the Roof / Take the Elevator," and "Poker Rules / Straight Beats Threes / Flush Beat Straight / Six Shooter Beats Them All." All in favor of reinstating the Gilroy Hot Springs Coyote Club, raise your hands!



There have been questions about the flagpole near Gilroy Yamamoto Hot Springs

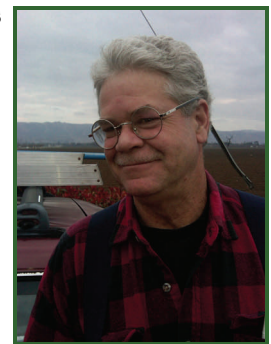
(GYHS), on the hilltop across Coyote Creek from the resort. We've heard stories of hikers in the 1960s and as late as the 1980s who read the ledger, and regret leaving it in place. Naturally, time, exposure, rodents, and insects have contributed to its disappearance. Did you pick it up? We have two references to the flagpole on "lookout ridge," the first erected on "July 18, 1872... on the highest peak, 2,659 feet above the level of the sea." (*60 Years of California Song*, by Margaret Blake Alverson, Chapter 7), and the second erected in 1901 by Will McDonald. Good news, and thanks again to the McDonald and Lundblade families, we have a photo and the actual ledger of the hikers who autographed and made comments between 1901 and 1911. You can see the pages online at: http://www.gilroyyamatohotsprings.com/GYHS_FlagPoleLog-1901-1919.htm.

What do you think about restoring the flagpole and flag? A battery or solar-powered LED would allow the flag to remain unfurled at night.

Meet our camp host, Steve Craig Thomas! Craig has a variety of experience that makes him the perfect person to welcome visitors and oversee the protection of the site. A consistent presence has proven to be the best deterrent to vandalism. While we do have the camp host, please understand that GYHS is still closed to the public except by guided tour and reservations are required. Please call 408-314-7185 or email info@FriendsOfGilroyHotSprings.org to arrange for tours and other events on site. And for everyone who asked: yes, there are surveillance cameras on site; they do work; sometimes they are moved to different locations.

Mark your calendars!

Our Fourth Annual Walk Through History will expand to two days, May 19-20, 2012. We already have several bluegrass entertainers signed up, and there's a lot more planning in the works. Want to get involved? Yes, we'll have guided tours. Absolutely, we'll have food vendors and other exhibitors. Your help and talents are welcome.



March through September, full moon campouts are scheduled during the full moon weekends. Most of the campouts take place the first weekend of the month; October's is the last weekend of the month and the last of the campouts. Monthly tours are scheduled the first Saturday of each month. *Reservations are required for the tours* by the Wednesday prior to the event. While we may be on site for the campouts anyway, we won't know if anyone is at the gate unless we have advance notice, and we don't get phone or email at the resort. Maybe if we install a doorbell with a mile-long wire? Nope! Docent volunteers are welcome. If you're already trained, let us know your preferences for dates. Want to give tours? Just give us a call or drop us an email and we'll arrange for you to be trained and scheduled.

Remote Automated Weather Station

By Chris Weske

On December 22, 2011 data from the Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS) located on Cordoza Ridge in Coe Park became available online.

We began actively exploring the feasibility of a RAWS in 2003 looking at possible locations, funding sources, and sources for equipment. We weren't able to make much progress. In January 2009 Dave Stocks, a Coe volunteer from 1985 and retired fire captain from the Santa Clara County Fire Department, assembled an inter-agency group to look at the need for additional weather data across Santa Clara County. The first meeting consisted of staff from the Santa Clara County Parks Department, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, State Parks, and San Jose State University (SJSU) Meteorology and Climate Science Department. In April 2009 we added members from the Santa Clara Valley Water District, San Jose Fire Department, Cal Fire, and the California Emergency Management Agency. Also in April 2009 a small group toured Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District lands in the Santa Cruz Mountains to look at possible weather station sites.



Installation almost complete
Photo by Dr. Craig Clements

In May 2009, a few of us boarded a Cal Fire helicopter and flew over Coe Park looking at possible sites for the first weather station. There was no good location in the immediate visitor center area where the sloping terrain, buildings, and trees would all influence the wind and rainfall readings. But conditions on Cordoza Ridge across Soda Springs Canyon from the visitor center area at an elevation of 2,331 feet would closely resemble those at the visitor center.

In February 2011, State Park Sector Superintendent Eddie Guaracha, Cal Fire Battalion Chief Dave McLean, Dr. Craig Clements of SJSU's Meteorology and Climate Science Department, and I met in Morgan Hill to come to final agreement about a station to be installed on Cordoza Ridge. The \$12,000 needed would come from SJSU and Cal Fire. The pending station was announced at the April Bay Area Fire Weather Cooperators Meeting.

If you look carefully to the southeast from the visitor center area at an open, grassy meadow on top of Cordoza Ridge you can see the station; it's an open lattice, twenty foot tower. The tower base is staked in place and the tower is secured by three guy lines. No excavation was needed for the installation. The station is powered by a solar panel and records temperature, dew point, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, solar radiation, rainfall, fuel temperature, and ten-hour fuel moisture. The instruments (with the exception of rainfall and fuel moisture) are mounted on the tower; the rain gauge and fuel moisture gauge are installed on the ground adjacent to the tower. Prior to being installed on Cordoza Ridge, all instruments were tested in the lab at SJSU.

Craig Clements has been a critical player in the venture to install a RAWS at Coe Park. He is active in supporting local prescribed burns with weather instruments and sits on the National Interagency Fire Center subcommittee for Fire Weather Standards. Craig handled purchasing the station components, coordinating with the state and national agencies involved, and installing the equipment. SJSU will take responsibility for the maintenance and calibration of the station per standards specified by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

Data is transmitted hourly to a Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) which is operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The data is then distributed to the Bureau of Land Management, Weather Information Management System, the Western Regional Climate Center and others. We can access the data through MesoWest (<http://mesowest.utah.edu>) or ROMAN (Real-Time Observation Monitor and Analysis Network at <http://raws.wrh.noaa.gov/roman/>). At this time, we are exploring a radio link between the station and the visitor center that would enable the display of conditions to be updated every ten minutes.

Although the station was installed to meet the needs of wildland fire interests, anyone can go to the links above and check out the current weather conditions. Planning a trip to the park? Check out the weather station to see if you should pack a warm jacket, or perhaps a couple of extra water bottles.

The PRA Calendar

Coe Activity Calendar <http://www.coepark.org/calendar.html>

Mark your calendars—important dates

Saturday February 25, *Trail work day*, meeting at Hunting Hollow entrance, 8.30am. Bring water and lunch. For more information call Chere Bargar at 408-683-2247.

Saturday March 10, *Spring at Coe Park*. This weekend marks the beginning of the interpretive programs at Coe Park. There are guided hikes on Saturdays, an evening program at the visitor center on Saturday evenings, and wildflower walks on Sundays. There are also activities starting out of the Hunting Hollow entrance. The schedule of the spring programs will be posted on www.coepark.org, the Coe Activity Calendar at <http://www.coepark.org/calendar.html>, or call the visitor center at 408-779-2728 to find out more.

Saturday March 24, *Trail work day*, meeting at Hunting Hollow entrance, 8.30am. Bring water and lunch. For more information call Chere Bargar at 408-683-2247.

Saturday March 31, *Ranch Day* (April 14 rain date). Hunting Hollow entrance, 10am until 3pm. See www.coepark.org for more information or call Chere Bargar at 408-683-2247.

Saturday April 14, *Spring trail day*, meeting at Hunting Hollow entrance, 9am. Contact Rob Glover at wrglover@yahoo.com for more information and to sign up. Visit www.coepark.org to find out more.

Upcoming horse-related events

March 31, Ranch Day, Hunting Hollow
 April 14, Ranch Day (rain date)
 April 22, Wildflower ride, Hunting Hollow (Sunday)

For more information regarding any of the horse-related events, please contact Chere Bargar at 408-683-2247.

Annual park events coming up

Friday April 27 through Sunday April 29 is the *Coe Backcountry Weekend*. This event is always very popular and fills up quickly; admission is by a lottery system. Applications need to be postmarked by **February 29**. Once again, this year's event will be starting earlier, allowing backpackers and campers entry at 1.00pm on the Friday. For additional information please visit www.coepark.org or call the visitor center at 408-779-2728.

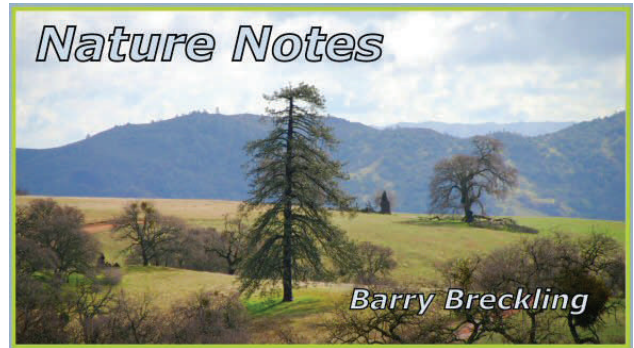
Sunday May 13, *Mother's Day Breakfast*. Once again this event will take place at Ridgeview campsite. Tickets for this event will go on sale online mid-April. **Information regarding ordering tickets will be posted on the website www.coepark.org in early April.** The event sells out very quickly, so get your tickets early! For more information visit www.coepark.org or call the visitor center at 408-779-2728.

Saturday June 9, *Hunting Hollow 5K/10K walk and fun run*. You can register for this fun event at www.coepark.org and download an entry form. For more information email kfhowell@pacbell.net

Look for an article about the PRA annual meeting in the next issue of The Ponderosa

Awareness

Have you had the experience of driving down a familiar road, say going home from work, and arriving home realizing that you couldn't actually recall much of any part of your trip? Maybe there are five stoplights along your route. Had the lights been red or green? Did you actually stop for any red lights? You have no clue. These episodes occur when we are deep in thought, and it seems amazing that we can manage life while in such a state of unawareness.



We often spend time in nature with the same level of unawareness and we miss a lot. Sherlock Holmes in "A Study in Scarlet" said to Watson, "No doubt to you it appeared a mere trampling line of slush, but to my trained eyes every mark upon its surface had a meaning." There are so many things to see and learn in nature, and by heightening your awareness you can see more and learn more.

Thoughts can cloud the windows of perception. I saw it happen so often in search tracking classes I've taken and given. You're following the tracks of a person in difficult terrain and suddenly you can't see any trace of the next track. You think, well maybe it's over there. You think, has that pebble been pushed into the ground? You think, maybe that twig was moved by the step. And therein lies the problem: your thoughts have clouded your ability to perceive. As the noted tracker Ab Taylor would say, "You have cheating eyes." Ab would make you stop, turn away from the tracks. No looking over your shoulder at the path. No talking about the tracks. Then when you go back to the tracks a minute or two later, magically that next track will be obvious.

Here are a couple exercises you can do when you're out in nature to heighten your ability to perceive. Just stop and stand still, or maybe go sit at the base of a tree, or on top of a rock. Close your eyes. Breathe slowly through your nose and concentrate on your breathing. After a bit, try to feel your pulse beating in your hands or in your neck and concentrate on the beat. Slowly open your eyes. When I do this, I suddenly hear birds all around me. I hadn't noticed them before.

You can try wide-angle vision. Look ahead and then widen your view. Notice what you can see to the far left and far right without moving your eyes. In this state, your vision will become a bit blurry, but your awareness will improve. The cone cells in our eyes, which perceive color, are concentrated in the center of the retina. The rod cells, which perceive black and white, are found farther out on the retina. When you use wide-angle vision, you are using more of the rod cells which are 20 times more numerous and much more sensitive to light than cone cells. That will allow you catch movement that normal tunnel vision misses.

Reap the rewards of awareness.



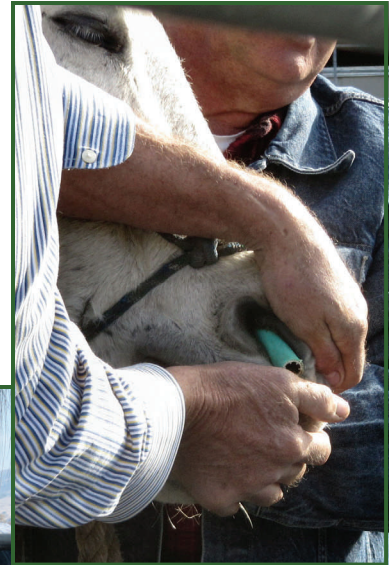
Mounted Assistance Unit Happenings

By Chere Bargar

On January 15, 2012 Dr. Bill Seals of Tri-County Veterinary Clinic gave a clinic on “Emergencies on the Trail” to Coe Park mounted assistance unit (MAU) members and Santa Clara County equestrian patrol volunteers. He covered topics such as the proper way to examine a horse, colic (abdominal pain), wound care, choke, lameness, eye injuries, tying up (muscle inflammation), dehydration, and snakebite.

Rebel was the most patient demonstration horse. His presence was invaluable in that we got to see first hand how to check for dehydration and how to insert a piece of hose into a nostril in case of a rattlesnake bite to the face. Doing this can be life saving as horses cannot breathe through their mouths and the nose can swell up and close.

Dr. Seals also gave out information on equine first-aid kits. He stressed safety and patience in taking time to assess the situation. His generous contribution of time and knowledge will help the equestrian volunteers to better serve the public and their horses. Many thanks, Bill.



How to keep an airway open after a rattlesnake bite
Photo by Sue Dekalb



Photo by Colleen Coombs



Best place to listen to a heartbeat
Photo by Sue Dekalb

Collecting Surveys for Henry Coe’s Master Interpretive Plan

By Ranger Jen Naber

Just a reminder: we are still collecting surveys from visitors as part of the information-gathering section of the interpretive master plan. You’ll find surveys with self-addressed return envelopes next to the maps on the counter at the visitor center. Please remember to pass out these surveys to all park visitors when you’re staffing the visitor center.

Since it is important to receive input from all of Coe Park’s visitors, I need a few volunteers who would be willing to pass out surveys at Hunting Hollow. Even if you have only an hour to spare on a spring weekend to help, it will make a big difference. You can also carry a few while you’re on patrol in the park and hand them out to people you meet on the trail.

These surveys are vital because they will help us understand who our park visitors are and why they come to Coe Park. In addition, these surveys show we care about our visitors’ opinions. Isn’t caring an important part of building community relationships?

If you’d like to help pass out surveys, please contact Ranger Jen at jnaber@parks.ca.gov or 831-901-6101.

News from Coe Park

By Paul Nam

2012 does not mean the end of the world for Henry W. Coe State Park. Two major milestones have been achieved by the Coe Park Preservation Fund (CPPF):

- On December 6, 2011 the California Department of Parks and Recreation signed an agreement with the CPPF to keep the park open through June 30, 2015.
- On January 20, 2012, the CPPF received the determination letter from the U.S. Treasury Department about its 501(c)(3) status. The CPPF is officially a tax-exempt organization effective May 25, 2011.

Per a unanimous Pine Ridge Association (PRA) board resolution, \$156,000 in contributions tagged for the CPPF will be transferred from the PRA to the CPPF.

Two new Pine Ridge Association members, Cynthia Leeder and Paul Liebenberg, were elected to serve on the board of the PRA. Cynthia and Paul replace Ann and Winslow Briggs who have served on the board for fifteen years in different capacities. Special thanks to Ann and Winslow for their long service on the board and congratulations on their “retirement”! Board member Steve McHenry takes Winslow’s place as secretary.

Cynthia Leeder is a hiker who values “the serenity of the hills.” In her candidate statement, Cynthia wrote, “I want the park to be protected and preserved, as the jewel it is—wild nature right next door to our urban life. A sanctuary we can all go to, to get away from it all without having to go far, to see nature, smell the aromas, and hear the quiet sounds that are otherwise crowded out of our noisy civilized lives. I would also like to see ideas continually being fostered that would further promote visitation while enhancing the experience of being in the park, but without sacrificing the “quiet hills” vision Sada Coe had for the park. I would like to give back to the park, to help further the cause of promoting the park to the public while protecting and preserving its heritage.”

Paul Liebenberg’s family owns several horses, so Paul’s wife and daughter ride horses while Paul accompanies them on a mountain bike when they visit the park together. In his candidate statement Paul wrote: “To improve visitor experiences, Coe needs more “user friendly” trails like the recently commissioned makeover of the Jim Donnelly Trail out of Hunting Hollow. We need to stop maintaining unsustainable trails and build new and revised routes with a focus on sustainability and multi-user compatibility. To improve park revenue, Coe needs to attract more user groups and schedule special events on a more regular basis. We need to partner with other organizations and streamline the navigation of the Department of Parks and Recreation’s policies.”

Check back for the new Coe Park website which will go live in coming weeks.. The new site will become the major portal to the park. Expect continual improvements and high quality content on this fabulous new site.

Volunteers and friends of the park continue to build out the Jim Donnelly Trail out of Hunting Hollow. Though the dry winter has hampered productivity with less than optimal soil conditions, continual progress is being made. A special weekend trailwork event is anticipated on April 14-15 with Volunteers for Outdoor California providing over 100 volunteers, tools, and leadership to push through construction of the upper half of the trail.

The SWECO trail building machine is staged at Willson Camp and ready for work on the Bowl Trail between Willson Camp and Lyman-Willson Trail. A small pond on that hillside slumped down the hill last winter, which made the trail unsafe so it had to be closed. The SWECO will be operated by Eric Griggs, Coe Park’s maintenance staffer, to level the trail route, create drainage relief, and groom the tread.

An important objective of the PRA this year is to increase the membership threefold. It would be great if you would identify and recruit at least three new members. I’ve already done it so I know you can too. If you’re comfortable doing this, don’t stop at three! You can start by pointing people at the park’s website and to the CPPF website (www.coeparkfund.org) so the CPPF can continue to raise funds to keep the park open beyond July 2015. Talk to visitors you interact with about how and why the PRA matters. Have membership forms available. Let’s have a big and beautiful Henry W. Coe State Park 2012!

Coe Park Preservation Fund Update

By Winslow Briggs

Some time in May, 2011: Coe Park on the closure list??? That's impossible! They can't close it! We'll have off-road vehicles, pot farms, poachers, trespassing cattle, members of the public in serious trouble, illegal campfires. Or can they? What can we do? a) wring hands; b) write legislators; c) write State Parks Director Ruth Coleman; d) write Governor Brown; e) attend a rally in Sacramento; f) wring hands again. Given the state budget situation and the Sacramento mantra that every program should share the pain, these measures were all destined for failure.

Flashback to February, 2011: Bob Patrie, a founder of the Pine Ridge Association and long-term Coe Park supporter, assembled a small group of people to undertake a twofold mission—first, to raise sufficient funds to support park personnel for three years; second, start an endowment for the park to protect it from threats of closure in the future. The group deliberately took the conservative position that the state budget situation would likely not improve in time to restore full state funding by 2015, if then.

The group (Ann Briggs, Minjung Kwok, Dan McCranie, Winslow Briggs, Bob Patrie, and Ron Fischler, later joined by Libby Vincent) then put together what is now the Coe Park Preservation Fund or CPPF. Our mission is solely to raise funds to keep Coe Park open in perpetuity. We decided to be independent of the PRA because the mission of the PRA is different: education and interpretation, not major fund raising.

When one starts a new nonprofit foundation, Bureaucracy Rules: 1) get an Employee Identification Number (EIN); 2) draw up Articles of Organization; 3) write bylaws; 4) obtain 501(c)(3) status from the IRS so that gifts are tax deductible. All four of these requirements have now been met. The PRA was willing to carry the CPPF as a committee under its auspices until such time as we achieved our own tax-exempt status.

As we had no qualifications to operate the park ourselves, our initial plan was to raise sufficient funds to pay salaries and benefits for two rangers, two seasonal aides, and a maintenance person for three years. We will donate the funds directly to the state with stringent restrictions (support for Coe Park and for Coe Park only); all revenue collected at the park will be returned to the park for operating expenses. State Parks will thus continue to operate the park just as it does now.

When the Governor formally announced that Coe Park was on the closure list, we were ready. Bob Patrie had set up a website (www.coeparkfund.org), the board had produced a fund-raising brochure, and we had a bank account. Donations large and small soon began pouring in. Thanks to the incredible generosity of especially Dan McCranie and colleagues, and also many others, CPPF now has full access to adequate funds for the entire three years. On December 6th 2011, we signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the state that met all our conditions. Especially gratifying, the state is now using our MOU as a model for other nonprofit organizations fighting to keep their parks open.

CPPF will continue fund raising for direct support and the development of an endowment. The board is determined to keep the park open for the public in perpetuity. We will settle for no less.

New Coe Park website coming very soon

A new website for Coe Park and the Pine Ridge Association will be up and running soon. The new site will have improved navigation, connect visitors with events in the park, provide more information about park history, and show more of the park's many delights. The information on the new site will help you plan your visits better.

Check the same URL, www.coepark.org, from time to time and when you see the new site, visit the Contact Us page or Facebook page and let us know what you think. We're constantly striving for new and improved ways to connect with park visitors, friends, and supporters.



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Contributors to this issue

Heather Ambler, publisher
Libby Vincent, editor, author
Chere Bargar, author
Barry Breckling, author
Winslow Briggs, author
Colleen Combes, photographer
Craig Clements, photographer
Sue Dekalb, photographer
Laura Dominguez-Yon, author
Jen Naber, author
Paul Nam, author
Chris Weske, author

PRA Volunteer Committee

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Liz Brinkman
Ken Howell
Cynthia Leeder
Mike Meyer
John Thatcher
John Verhoeven, Ranger

The Ponderosa is a quarterly publication of the Pine Ridge Association. The PRA's mission is to enhance and enrich the public's experience at Henry W. Coe State Park through education and interpretation. Articles and artwork relating to the natural history, history, and management of the park are welcome. Also, interested in volunteering? Email Jim Wright, jimtina@yahoo.com

Please send submissions and ideas to the editor at: PRAnewsletter@wildblue.net.

Deadline for the next issue: April 30, 2012

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