# The Ponderosa

The Pine Ridge Association Newsletter Henry W. Coe State Park

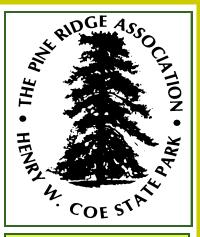


# **Coast Range Newt**

If you've hiked the trails of Coe right after or during a rain, chances are you've come across a newt. Because it lacked scales and moved at a snail's pace you knew it wasn't a lizard. You probably concluded, correctly, that it was some kind of salamander. Maybe you recognized it immediately as a newt. If so, you may have found yourself wondering what, exactly, is a newt, and how are newts different from salamanders?

Newts are salamanders, but they differ from other types of salamanders by lacking both grooves lining the body (costal grooves) and grooves between the nostrils and mouth (nasolabial grooves). There are also skeletal and dental differences that only a physiologist could appreciate. Other traits found in newts but not uniformly found in salamanders include breeding in water, drier skin, a body full of toxins, bright warning colors (typically red or orange) to advertise those poisons, and lungs, which some salamanders lack.

Although the Old World boasts 53 newt species, North America has only seven, three in the eastern U.S. (genus *Notophthalmus*) and four in the west (genus *Taricha*), concentrated along the Pacific Coast. Those four red-bellied newts, rough-skinned newts, Coast Range newts, and Sierra newts—are all closely related, so close that they're interfertile. They very rarely hybridize, however, for where they coexist they've adopted different breeding strategies that keep them from mixing.



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#### Coast Range Newt continued....



Coast Range newt. Photo by Joseph Belli

The Coast Range newt (*Taricha torosa*) is endemic to California, found west of the Central Valley from Mendocino County to San Diego County. It is the only newt species in Coe. Adults range from 5-8 inches long, are solid brown on top with goosebumptextured skin, and orange beneath. They are nearly indistinguishable from rough-skinned newts (Taricha granulosa) and Sierra newts (Taricha sierra). In fact, early researchers classified all three as one species, and it was not until 1935 that science recognized rough-skinned newts as separate. Meanwhile, Coast Range newts and Sierra newts were considered subspecies of California newt, until recent (2007) DNA research revealed enough difference to classify each as a separate species. Despite their relatedness, the two do not coexist. Sierra newts are found east of the Central Valley in the foothills and lower elevations of the Sierra Nevada from Lassen County to Kern County. Rough-skinned newts inhabit the coast from Santa Cruz County to southern Alaska, and coexist with Coast Range newts in the Santa Cruz Mountains, north of the San Francisco Bay, and the vicinity of Mt. Diablo. Rough-skinned newts are generally found in wetter, cooler, more coastal climates rather than inland and are not found south or east of the Santa Cruz Mountains. Coast Range newts are also found on the coast but are more tolerant of drier climes, although they are absent from arid regions and treeless habitats. Telling the two apart can be tricky; rough-skinned newts have dark lower eyelids and eyes that don't extend to the margin of the head when viewed from above, while Coast Range newts have light lower eyelids and eyes that extend beyond the margin of the head.

A further difference exists between the two, that of toxicity. While both possess tetrodotoxin, a neurotoxin, rough-skinned newts are the most poisonous newts known, with poison ten times as strong as Coast Range newts. Supposedly, a single rough-skinned newt has enough poison to kill 25,000 mice, compared to 2,500 for Coast Range newts. I don't want to know how they arrived at such figures, but I am interested in converting those numbers to another scale: what's the human equivalent of 25,000 mice? I haven't found the answer vet, but it's at least one, for there is a record of a person succumbing after eating a newt. Fortunately, newts pose little danger to people not intent on ingesting them, although it would be wise to wash your hands after handling one because their skin secretions are toxic and could enter the body through a cut or wound.

Poison might well be the reason that newts are willing to venture abroad during daylight, while other salamanders remain nocturnal. With their bright bellies to serve as warning, newts are left unmolested by most predators, yet garter snakes seem to have developed some immunity, and some researchers speculate that this, and the high toxicity of newts, are the result of an evolutionary "arms race" between newts and garter snakes.

Those newts you see out on the trail might simply be foraging for insects, arthropods, and other small prey, but they may also be heading toward breeding sites. Newts breed in both ponds and streams. Those breeding in ponds arrive soon after the first heavy rains, while newts breeding in creeks arrive towards the end of the rainy season when the threat of flooding is reduced. Newts tend to use the same sites over and over, and sometimes travel impressive distances to do so, in excess of two miles. How they find their way back to such sites remains unknown, but it's thought that newts may rely on chemical cues through scent or even celestial navigation, using the stars at night. Males arrive earlier and remain longer than females. They also undergo physiological changes during the breeding season: their skin becomes smooth, the vent becomes swollen, their toes develop pads (for grasping females) and the tail becomes rounded and fin-like, for better propulsion under water. Females experience no such changes, nor do they breed every year. A female may breed every other year, or even every third year. Since males try to breed every year, breeding sites are heavy with males and light on females, resulting in

## Coast Range Newt continued....

much competition. It's not unusual to see a mass of newts entangled just below the surface of the water, numerous males vying for a female. Both sexes return upland after breeding, and retreat underground in burrows or beneath logs and become dormant once the dry season arrives, reemerging when the rains return. In large ponds with permanent water, however, newts may remain most or even all year.



Jelly-like egg masses. Photo by Joseph Belli

After mating, females deposit jelly-like egg masses about one inch in diameter on vegetation in shallow water. Each egg mass contains 7-40 eggs. The emerging larvae are half an inch long and, unlike tadpoles, hatch with all four limbs present. Unlike adults, they're pale colored, with a pair of thin, dark stripes running down each side of the back and red gill rakers protruding from the sides of the neck. Larvae are especially vulnerable, for they do not acquire their toxin until they transform and leave water. As a result, they are preved upon by a whole host of aquatic predators such as dragonfly nymphs, giant water bugs, frogs, toads, adult newts, garter snakes, and fish. Larvae remain in water for at least several months, growing to lengths of two inches or so before transforming and heading upland. Having done so, they may not return to water until they are old enough to breed, which may be five years. If all goes well, they may live beyond 20 years.

The Coast Range newt is common throughout most of its range, but has declined markedly in Southern California. As a result, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has classified it as a Species of Special Concern from Monterey County south. Primary reasons for the decline swirl around various types of habitat loss: loss of breeding sites, loss of upland/aestivation habitat, and loss of migration routes. In areas of increasing traffic, newts have declined due to road kill. Non-native predators such as mosquitofish, bullfrogs, crayfish, and sport fish have eliminated newts from many breeding sites.

In Coe, thankfully, they face few threats, and their future seems secure. Habitat loss is a non-issue in the park, and road kill is likely minimal. Bullfrogs are a concern and should continue to be controlled, but so far they don't seem to be hampering Coe's newt population. Fish prevent newts from breeding in some of Coe's larger ponds, but fish occupy only about 20 of the park's 100-plus ponds and, unlike bullfrogs, they cannot spread and colonize new ponds. As a result, Coast Range newts remain plentiful throughout the park, from the oak woodlands of Hunting Hollow to the chaparral-covered slopes of the Orestimba Wilderness, from Coyote Creek to Robison Creek, where they persist as one of the park's most prominent and interesting amphibians.



Coast Range newt. Photo by Joseph Belli

Eds. We're delighted that long-time Coe Park volunteer Joe Belli will be writing an article about the creatures of Coe Park for each issue of The Ponderosa. Joe has the deepest and broadest knowledge of the creatures of the Coast Range (and beyond) of anyone we know.

# After the Fire—Survival of the Cleverest Plants

### By Winslow Briggs

The Lick Fire of 2007 burned through about half of Coe Park's magnificent landscape, creating a pall of acrid smoke that made breathing an unpleasant task for the park's neighbors in Morgan Hill and elsewhere. However, a few smart plants have found ways to use the smoke that allows them to capture their day in the sun after the fire: something in that smoke induces their seeds to germinate. The consequence is often an incredible display of wildflowers, some of them seen only after a fire. However, they are not the only ones. Several other players contribute to the wildflower display: these are the plants that grow from bulbs or fleshy

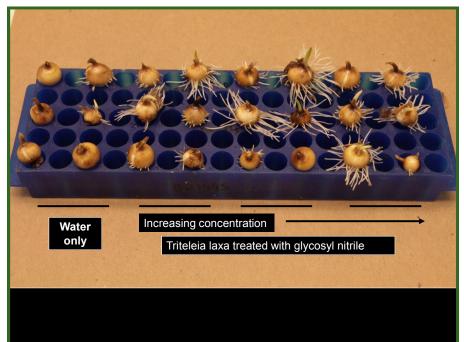


Ithuriel's spear. Photo by Winslow Briggs

structures called corms. Among those in Coe Park are Ithuriel's spear (*Triteleia laxa*), soap plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*), Fremont's star lily (formerly *Zigadenus*, now *Toxicocodion fremontii*— taxonomists mean well but sometimes confuse us!), white globe lily or fairy lantern (*Calochortus alba*), and *Calochortus venustus* (white mariposa lily). The sprouting of bulbs and corms is quite distinct from the germination of seeds. Could similar mechanisms wake them out of dormancy?

Not too many years ago a research group at the University of Western Australia in Perth identified two very different chemicals that induce seed germination in sensitive species—the species we call fire followers. One of these chemicals has an almost endless chemical name to describe a molecule that looks a bit like a slightly tangled piece of chicken wire. It is called karrikin after an Australian aboriginal word for smoke. The other chemical is completely different. Its chemical name is slightly easier to remember: glyceryl nitrile. Does either of these chemicals kick off the dramatic flowering response from the bulb- or corm-based plants? Or is something else responsible?

As part of a much broader study of vegetation recovery following the Lick fire—strongly supported by a group of wonderful dedicated volunteers-we decided to test these two chemicals on corms of Triteleia laxa, as adequate corms were readily available from native plant nurseries. Coe Park volunteer Dan Straus and a student of his in the chemistry department at San Jose State University successfully undertook to synthesize karrikin for us and we tried it out on the corms. We first soaked them in different concentrations of karrikin, planted them out, and supplemented them with karrikin along with watering them from time to time. The results were brilliantly negative. The water-treated



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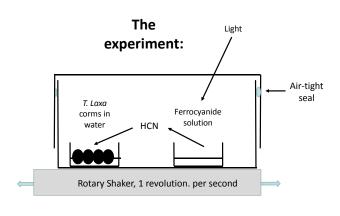
## After the Fire-Survival of the Cleverest Plants continued....

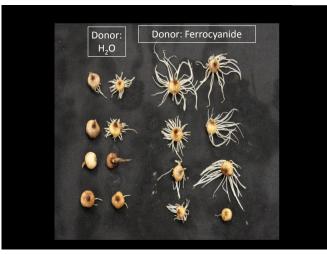
corms sprouted at exactly the same time as those treated with karrikin; they grew just as fast; and they flowered at the same time—in equal numbers. We blew away altogether too many of our precious corms trying different regimes and concentrations but never detected the slightest differences. What's more, it took many months to build our corm supply back up.

We couldn't get commercially available glyceryl nitrile but our Australian colleagues told us to use a relative, glycosyl nitrile, as it had the same important chemical property: it was stable under acidic conditions (such as the soil after a fire), but broke down extremely slowly when the environment was less acid—to be expected in the soil as rains wash the acid away. We thus repeated the experiments but used glycosyl nitrile instead of karrikin. To our astonishment, the result was an explosion of roots from the glycosyl nitrile-treated corms! What was going on? A product of the very slow breakdown of both glyceryl nitrile and glycosyl nitrile is an extremely low yield of cyanide. Cyanide in extremely low concentrations has been known for decades to induce seed germination in sensitive species. Could cyanide be inducing our spectacular rooting response? How could we test this hypothesis?

Grocery stores sell plastic sandwich boxes that can be sealed tightly to keep the sandwiches inside from drying out. We purchased a bunch of these boxes and then bought a chemical with the name potassium ferrocyanide. The experiment was a very simple one: we placed a couple of small dishes inside a sandwich box. In one we placed a collection of *Triteleia laxa* corms in water and in the other we placed either water or an extremely dilute solution of potassium ferrocyanide. Potassium ferrocyanide comes in an opaque bottle for a good reason: light degrades it and causes it to release minute quantities of gaseous cyanide. Hence we put our loaded sandwich boxes out in the light (the tops were transparent plastic) and waited to see what might happen. Maybe the gaseous cyanide would waft over and kick off the rooting response. (My laboratory colleagues thought I was completely nuts.) Bingo: we didn't need glyceryl nitrile or glycosyl nitrile at all. The treated corms exploded with roots! Cyanide in truly minute concentrations did the trick.

We're out of corms now and a long way from determining whether cyanide is also responsible for the dramatic flowering response seen after a wildfire. It will be September before we have a new supply. However, maybe we have a foot in the door to solving what causes the profuse flowering response, so stay tuned. In the meantime, if you should happen to have a few stray *Triteleia* corms you don't need....





# **New Directions**

### By Libby Vincent

I signed up for new volunteer training at Coe Park in 1991, graduated in 1992, never imagined I would still be as active and committed a volunteer as I am now, in 2015. But I'm a youngster compared to the many volunteers who came before me, including Lee Sims, Teddy Goodrich, and Gary Keller who were in the very first class of volunteers in 1980 and are still park regulars.

I've learned heaps over the years about the environments of the park, from high, forested ridges on the west side to lower, hotter hills on the east side, green hillsides covered with wildflowers in spring after sufficient rains, and every shade of brown and gold on bare fall hillsides. I've experienced quiet nights in the heart of the park listening to coyotes bark and yip, watched sunrise illuminating ranges of peaks receding into the distance to the east, south, and west. I've seen mountain lion prints in thick dust at Poverty Flat and near the Orestimba Corral, I've admired Mt. Hamilton Jewel Flower (*Streptanthus callistus*) in the Thomas Addition and a veritable forest of Purple Mouse Ears (*Mimulus douglasii*) on a gravely, south-facing slope in the Orestimba. I scrambled down into Barry's Bathtub in the middle of a hot, dry summer when there was hardly any water left, and have seen both upper and lower pools filled with clear, cold, flowing water. I've scrambled, sometimes on all fours, up and down slippery hillsides and along boulder-strewn creek beds and probably done damage to my knees that I'm suffering from now. I don't regret a moment of it.

More adventures than I can count and on each of them I learned more and more and more about Coe Park, its environments, its plant communities, and its inhabitants. Most of all, I've enjoyed the dickens out of helping visitors and volunteers to enjoy the park and learn about its trails, plant communities, and special places. I've become part of the community of volunteers and friends of the park who are family now after all these years. That sense of community is precious to me.

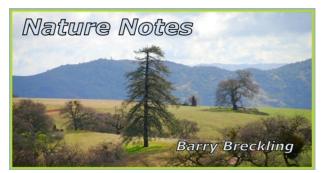
I've just retired and am leaving the area soon to live in the high desert of the Indian Wells Valley where there are completely different landscapes and ecosystems to learn about, explore, enjoy, and share. Think the Eastern Sierras, the Owens Valley, the White Mountains, Death Valley, the Mojave, and petroglyphs in the Coso Range. I'll be a long drive from Coe Park and all my friends, but that's why I have four trusty wheels and have learned the best places to stop for gas. I'll be back from time to time to enjoy major events at Coe Park and will stay connected in other ways and active as a volunteer for as long as I can. I've made lifetime friends here and my heart will always be happiest in Coe Park.



A shady break at Poverty Flat. Photo by Heather Ambler.

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# **Violets of Coe Park**

Violets are blue, roses are red, but violets at Coe are yellow instead (sorry) (not really).

The word violet comes from the Latin word viola, the ancient name for this group of plants, which are in the genus *Viola*. The color violet got its name from the purple-blue color of the petals of many violet species, but Coe Park has

no violet violets; instead, it has three violet species with yellow petals and one with white petals.

The most common Coe violet is the perky Johnny-Jump-Up (*Viola pedunculata*), which grows in open grasslands; some years these popular flowers paint the meadows almost solid yellow. You can take an early morning stroll out to Manzanita Point with the sun in your face and not see many Johnny-Jump-Ups, but if you return early enough, with the sun at your back, you'll be surprised by how numerous they are. The bright yelloworange faces of these flowers face the sun and follow its "movement." The backs of the petals are mostly a dull dark purplish color. As it follows the sun, the flower keeps its face brightly lit up and as visible as possible to pollinating insects. The flower's lower petal provides a landing strip for insects; the dark lines on the lower petal point the way to the nectar and are appropriately called nectar guides.



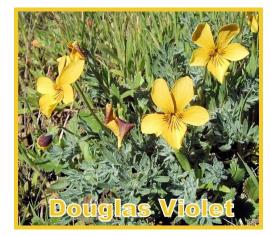


Another yellow violet, the Oak Violet (*Viola purpurea* ssp. *quercetorum*), grows mostly in shady places (the subspecies name "*quercetorum*" means "growing in oak woods"). Oak Violet's lemon-yellow colored petals are noticeably paler than those of John-Jump-Ups, and the flowers are 3/4 of an inch across or less (Johnny -Jump-Ups are 3/4 of an inch across or more). The Monument area is a good place to find Oak Violets.

Yet another yellow violet, the Douglas Violet (*Viola douglasii*), is more common on the east side of the park but it also grows on Middle Ridge north of Frog Lake. Its petals are deep golden yellow. Unlike most violets, which have oval or heartshaped leaves, Douglas Violets have distinctly divided leaves (picture parsley leaves).

The white-petaled Two-Eyed Violet (*Viola ocellata*) grows mostly in shady canyon bottoms. The species name *ocellata* means "with an eye," and its two side petals have purple spots that could be said to resemble a pair of eyes. This distinctive violet, also called Western Heart's Ease, grows in areas along the Middle Fork of Coyote Creek, especially along the road beyond the Skeels' Meadow campsite.





# Henry Coe State Park Community Outreach Event

A great group of Coe Park's Pine Ridge Association (PRA) volunteers worked at the PRA outreach booth at the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority's Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast in September 2014. The volunteers and all the visitors to the event enjoyed a gorgeous day.

We set up two popup tents and filled them with picture displays, park maps, a Tarantula Fest table, and a table featuring animal skulls, hides, and scat samples. We also had a table of handouts that provided information about mountain lions, the uniformed volunteer program, scheduled PRA events, and more, together with park maps. More than 2,300 people attended the Fami-

ly Harvest Feast and PRA volunteers talked to hundreds of them, handing out brochures and providing information. We were very



Open Space Authority's Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast September 2014. Photo by Mike Hundt.

busy all day and our booth was nearly always full of people enjoying our displays and asking questions about Coe Park. The main attraction was the two kiddies bubble pools in front of the booth that were continuously ringed by gleeful children. Kids of all ages loved playing in the water and making bubbles.

Volunteers Bev VanderWeide, Ann Briggs, Winslow Briggs, John Thatcher, and Bill Frazer staffed the morning shift. In the afternoon, volunteers Linda and Jodie Keahey, Ken Hulick, and David Cartwright staffed the booth and then helped with tear-down and cleanup. State Parks interpretive specialist Kaela Henricksen participated all day. The volunteers loved talking to visitors about Coe Park, their favorite State Park, and their excitement was infectious.

The objective of this outreach event was to talk to as many people as possible from all over the South Bay and Coyote Valley and get them excited about visiting Coe Park. We hope to continue these outreach events in 2015 and would love to have more Coe Park evangelists join us. Interested? Email Mike Hunt, <u>mdmhundt@pacbell.net</u>. For more information about visiting Coe Park, visit: www.coepark.net.



Kiddies bubble pools. Photo by Mike Hundt.

Henry W. Coe State Park booth. Photo by Mike Hundt.

# **Park Events and Information**

Mark your calendars-important dates and other announcements

Also visit <u>www.coepark.org</u> for more information about all activities.

## **Trail Work Days**

Meet at Hunting Hollow, 8.30am, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 21 Saturday, March 21

For more information, please call Chere at 408-683-2247 or visit www.coepark.net.

### **Rain Coats and Rubber Boots**

Saturday, March 7, 10.00am at the Hunting Hollow entrance, rain or shine. We'll hike down the creek, scavenger hunt, perhaps enjoy a boat race (toy boats furnished) or a duck race. Bring a picnic lunch. For more information, please call Chere at 408-683-2247 or Kitty at 408-842-6215, or visit www.coepark.net.

### Wildflower Ride (bring your own horse)

Saturday, April 11, Hunting Hollow entrance, 10.00am. Contact Chere at 408-683-2247 or Kitty at 408-842-6215, or visit www.coepark.net.

## **Coe Backcountry Weekend**

Friday, April 24 through Sunday April 26. See the park website, www.coepark.net, now!

## **Ranch Day**

Saturday, May 16, 10:00am-3:00pm at Hunting Hollow. (Rain date June 6). For more information, please call Chere at 408-683-2247, or Kitty at 408-842-6215 or visit www.coepark.net.

# Coe Campout for Equestrians and Hikers

Friday, May 29 through Sunday May 31 at Coit Camp. For more details visit www.coepark.net or call Chere 408-683-2247.

## Hunting Hollow 10k/5k Fun Run

Saturday June 13.

Another year has started. It is time for new changes in your life. A time for better health and a time to get in shape for another 5K or 10K in beautiful Hunting Hollow. So dig your dusty running shoes out of the closet and get outdoors to enjoy spring flowers and be ready for the Henry Coe 5K or 10K on Saturday June 13 at 9:00am. Hunting Hollow is a lovely place; there are ridges along both sides. Oak, sycamore, and bay trees are scattered throughout the canyon floor. And the sound of Hunting Hollow creek may be heard while you run or walk.

There is a group discount this year. Groups are eight or more and all save money in addition to enjoying the beauty all around you. Because of strong demand there will be a new age group for those 70 years old and more. Also, children 10 years and below have a rate of only \$10. Children in strollers are free.

Registration and details can be found at: <a href="mailto:coepark.net/hh-10k">coepark.net/hh-10k</a>

## More Trail Work Days

Lend a hand every second Saturday at 9.00am for trail work. Venues will be posted on the Coe Park website, www.coepark.net.

# A Burn at Coe Park

#### By Susan Ferry

On Thursday February 5, 2015 just before the wind and rain started, the Coe Park Natural Resources team, with a little help from our friends, burned several piles of brush at Ridge View, just north of Manzanita Point Road. Local fire expert Chris Weske organized and timed the burn just right and the weather was absolutely perfect.

Along with the California State Parks Monterey District team of Susan Ferry, Dan Bonanfant, Mason Hyland, and Todd Robnett, two burn team members from Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area also came to Coe Park to help. Pine Ridge Association volunteers Sue Dekalb, Dan Healy, David Waldrop, David Cartwright, and Adam Escoto all pitched in to move the brush piles before they were lit. Doing this allows any critters that have made those piles their homes in the last few months to relocate. Numerous newts, lizards, and mice were convinced to find new homes. The volunteers then stood watch in the gray pines nearby to make sure no stray embers drifted that way.

The burn was a success and, if the weather cooperates, we hope to burn more brush piles at Hoover Lake and Mississippi Lake. Thanks to everyone for all your help!



Photos by Sue Dekalb.



# **PRA New Members**

# We are pleased to welcome the new members listed below. Thank you for your support.

We need your help to keep our membership list current and accurate. If you have any questions regarding your membership or to let us know of any change of address, please contact us. If you have chosen to receive *The Ponderosa* electronically and, for some reason, it is undeliverable, we will send the next issue via USPS.

Jeanne Anson, Brandon SD Margo Barnett, San Martin Nancy Beckman, San Jose Dennis & Karen Bettencourt, Morgan Hill Peter M Carlotto, San Jose Daniel Delwiche, Gilroy Michael Dimitruk, San Francisco Mira Geffner, Mountain View Paul Goss, San Jose Jo Guerrero, Castroville Lenore Johnson, Morgan Hill Kevin Kelly, Gilroy Phill Laursen, Gilroy Gary & Karen Luke, Morgan Hill Franz J Mayrhofer, Morgan Hill Daniel Peterson, Los Gatos Bill Schloetter, Morgan Hill Gerald J Shuba, Belmont Michael Souza, Vacaville Eric Whedon, Gilroy

Email:membership@coepark.netUS mail:9100 East Dunne Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037Phone:408-779-2728

#### Early Spring 2015



## News from Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs By Laura Domínguez-Yon

Let's look at the accomplishments of a man who works quietly behind the scenes. You may see him from time to time and wonder who he is. Or you may have met him, heard him speak at an event, and perhaps forgotten his name: Matt Bischoff, Historian III, California State Parks Monterey District. Matt's persistence and diligence have resulted in many building restoration projects at Gilroy Yamoto Hot Springs (GYHS): new roofs over nine cabins, cement dome protecting the mineral well, and Minnesota Cabin.

And now the Texas Cabin restoration. Matt procured \$350,000 to fund this work. The foundation is complete, and work is expected to be completed within six months. When the restoration is complete, the cabin will feature three rentable units.



Matt Bischoff

Captain Kitaji's Cabin: stabilization and roofing work is in progress. You can see a virtual reconstruction by CyArk.org at: http://www.cyark.org/news/scanning-of-cabin-at-the-gilroy-hot-springs.

Matt's article about GYHS, "New Life for a Historic Place of New Beginnings," appears in Preservation Matters, the newsletter of the California Office of Historic Preservation, 2015 Volume 8 Issuel pages 7-9. The focus of this issue is "preserving diversity: recognizing the multi-cultural connections between California's people and historic resources." See http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page\_id=24985.

Matt is seeking funds for other projects at GYHS:

Completing a utility master plan, approximately \$30,000 Installing the septic system at Texas Cabin, \$37,000 Installing a water system for Texas Cabin Replacing the water line from the hot springs Reroofing the Pennsylvania Cabin, \$40,000

And many others. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

The following items are needed to protect these restoration projects:

Additional surveillance cameras (\$1,500 will purchase several) A camp host living on site

These items will be increasingly important when work on the Texas Cabin is finished. See more at http://GilroyYamatoHotSprings.org/wishlist.htm.

GYHS 2014 financial summary:

Income, \$10,061 Expenses, -\$5648 Balance, \$4,413 Russ Mabery Memorial Fund Balance, \$1,855

2014 details:

Tours and events income, \$2,489 Book sales, \$3,572 Dues from 50 new or renewing PRA members Office costs, -\$806 Fees, -\$126 California State Parks Foundation grant of \$5,000 purchased popup canopies, folding picnic tables, and new brochures



Texas Cabin



Pine Ridge Association Henry W. Coe State Park 9100 East Dunne Avenue Morgan Hill, CA 95037

408 - 779 - 2728

### **PRA Board of Directors**

Dan Benefiel, President Ron Erskine, Vice President Diana Goodwin Steve McHenry, Secretary Ken Howell Peter Verbica Stuart Organo, Supervising Ranger Cynthia Leeder, Treasurer

#### **PRA Volunteer Committee**

Manny Pitta, Chair Liz Brinkman Ken Howell Mike Hundt John Thatcher John Verhoeven, Ranger Nonprofit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Morgan Hill, CA Permit No. 160

#### **Contributors for this issue**

Heather Ambler, publisher and photographer Libby Vincent, editor and author Joseph Belli, author and photographer Barry Breckling, author and photographer Winslow Briggs, author and photographer Sue Dekalb, photographer Laura Dominguez-Yon, author Susan Ferry, author Mike Hundt, author and photographer

#### **Mailing & Distribution**

Jodie Keahey Linda Keahey Diane Scariot Pat Sharfe Martie Sinclaire Carolyn Straub John Thatcher Heather Ambler, e-distribution

*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 Manny Pitta, mannypitta@gmail.com.

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

#### Deadline for the next issue: April 30, 2015

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