

Skylines

South Skyline Association

<http://www.southskyline.org>

April 2005

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SSA Spring Quarterly General Meeting

Flying Jewelry Guest Speaker - John Steiner



Friday, April 22 at 7:00pm

The next South Skyline Association meeting will feature a presentation and slides on *Flying Jewelry* by John Steiner, the Executive Director of the Santa Clara Chapter of the Audubon Society. Learn how you can attract butterflies to your garden by providing the right plants for these beautiful creatures.

John Steiner retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1998, and since then has taught biology at Menlo College and College of Alameda. He received a master's degree from Cal State Hayward in 1990, having written a thesis on the distribution of Bay Area butterflies.

This event will be held at the charming Thomas Fogarty Winery. Fine Fogarty wines will be available. We request a donation of \$4.00 per glass. Soft drinks will be provided, and light hors d'oeuvres from Alice's Restaurant.



Thomas Fogarty Winery
19501 Skyline Boulevard
(2.7 miles north of Page Mill Road, across
from the entrance to Yerba Buena Nursery)



Many thanks to the friendly folks at Thomas Fogarty Winery for once again hosting our spring meeting. The Winery is now open for tasting Thursday through Sunday from 11am to 5pm at a cost of \$5.00 per person. The facilities are available for private parties, weddings, and corporate events.



Quarterly Report

Skyline Propane Users Group (SPUG) was formed as a benefit for SSA members. For information about joining the Skyline Propane Users Group (SPUG), or for members wishing to have correct information on the Amerigas contract with us, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request to Ruth Waldhauer, SSA Membership Chairperson, 22400 Skyline Boulevard, Box 35, La Honda, CA 94020. Information is also available on the SSA website at www.southskyline.org.

Recent SPUG prices are:

January	\$1.68/gallon
February	1.54
March	1.54

Prices are subject to changes as frequently as wholesale prices change. Reported here are usually prices for the first week of the month. Members 55 years of age or older qualify for a 5 cent/gallon discount on the SPUG group price. Our SPUG rate is based on automatic regular route deliveries on a keep-full basis, not "will call" service. If winter rainy weather makes access roads to your tank a problem, let Amerigas know. They will reschedule deliveries for times when your roads are dry, and insure that you will not run out of propane.



SSA Calendar

General Meeting – April 22,
Thomas Fogarty Winery

Business Meetings at 7:15 pm:

Thurs. April 14
Thurs. May 12
Thurs. June 9

(Call Bill Prince for location and directions)

President Bill Prince 650-917-9279
Editor Patti Begley 408-867-3973

What Is Your SSA Board Doing?

Actions Completed

- January General meeting presentation on 'Oil Bearing Rocks in the Santa Cruz Mountains' by Rich Stanley from the US Geological Survey.
- Amended the SSA bylaws to include Skylonda for full membership.
- South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization (SSEPO): 2nd CERT training held during February and March at Las Cumbres. We now have a 2nd set of CERT trained volunteers. A 2nd CERT was also held in La Honda, sponsored by South Coast Citizens Council. Another 'Calling All Hams' exercise was held by Roy Brixen. Fire prevention and Ham Communications write-ups were featured for the South Skyline's Newsletter insert.
- History project: 1st draft of the SSA history book completed.
- Elected Bill Prince as SSA President.

Work in Progress

- Meeting with the CHP from San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties to address motorcycle problems and potential alternatives in the SSA area.
- Possible decal for cars identifying mountain residents so locals can get home when Cal Trans closes a highway.
- Get Cal Trans approval on SSA's Adopt-a-Highway offer to clean up a section of Highway 35 near the Vista point below Russian Ridge. Currently on hold, due to the fatality of one of the Adopt-a-Highway volunteers, until Cal Trans reviews safety procedures.
- Sponsor pet vaccination clinics with certified veterinarians in various SSA areas. The main focus will be dogs and cats.
- Open a dialog with Dave Vincent to work out a better Good Neighbor Policy with Castle Rock.
- Investigate insurance needs of the organization—liability and Board member insurance.
- Publish April Skyline's newsletter.

General Meeting Topics - Coming Attractions

- General meeting in April at Fogarty's with presentation on 'Planting to Attract Butterflies' by John Steiner.
- General meeting in July will be the annual picnic. Speaker topic TBD.

Visitors are welcome at Board meetings. Please check the website for meeting dates.

~Secretary, Judy Grote



Earth Day - Highway 9 Clean-up

We are looking for volunteers for Saturday, April 23. Meet at Waterman Gap (the intersection of Hwy. 9 and Hwy. 236) time: 9:30 a.m. We will be cleaning up along scenic Highway 9 and the San Lorenzo River adjacent to the new property addition to Castle Rock State Park. Bring leather gloves, sunscreen, insect repellent, long pants, long sleeved shirt, water and food. If you need more information, you can e-mail or call me at (650) 948-9098.

*~Holly Huenemann
Supervising Ranger*

West Valley Choral Group is Looking for New Members

I am a member of the Masterworks Chorale at West Valley College and would like to invite local singers with prior choral experience to consider joining this group.

Under the direction of Lou De La Rosa, Masterworks Chorale has performed Haydn's most challenging and final mass, the Harmoniemesse, and is preparing for a joint concert with choirs from San Jose State University to perform Carl Orff's Carmina Burana on May 6 & 7.

Mr. De La Rosa tries to keep things light while staying on-task learning new music and perfecting it for performance. He says, "It is a fun group. The group has grown from about 25 the first semester to about 40 now. My ideal would be about 65 experienced singers. We are steadily getting there. We have a nice mix of trained vocalists as well as ordinary people who sang in their high school or church choirs".

The ensemble is currently making plans for a concert tour during June and July 2006 to perform in Vienna, Salzburg, and Prague in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. This tour is raising the bar and getting the community excited.

In order to sing in the West Valley Masterworks Chorale, members do need to register and enroll in the course (MUS 60) each semester. Tuition is about \$55 per semester. Compared to Santa Clara Chorale and San Jose Symphonic Choir, this is a bargain; as they charge in the hundreds of dollars plus require members to purchase their own music. In Masterworks Chorale, music is provided for our singers free of charge. The music program at West Valley is one of the few in Northern California that offers applied lessons for credit and a specific major in music.

Interested signers with prior choral experience should contact

the West Valley College Choral Office for more information. WVC Choral Office: 408-741-4663 or email Lou De La Rosa, Director of Choral Activities at lou_delarosa@westvalley.edu.

West Valley College is located at 14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga, CA 95070.

~Fun-Lin Chen

Sequoia Century Bike Ride Sunday, June 5

Once again, hundreds of cyclists will be enjoying the redwoods and the beauty of skyline in the Western Wheelers Sequoia Century Bike Ride on Sunday, June 5. This annual event is for recreational cyclists from all over the state who come back year after year for our local hospitality and the beauty of our mountains.



The ride begins at the VA Hospital in Palo Alto, and then 5 routes, varying in length from 50 to 125 miles, take the riders over 3 counties. There will be several rest stops, all staffed by volunteers, in the Skyline Area to offer participants food and water. The routes are like last year, but the rest stop has been moved from Saratoga Gap to the nearby Fire Station. The organizers do whatever they can to make the ride safe and fun for participants and for people who live along the route. Extra attention will also be paid this year to leaving no trace after the event. Nothing would make a tired cyclist happier than to have a few locals cheering them on!

The ride benefits the VA and various bicycle advocacy groups. Usable extra food is contributed to the Palo Alto Food Closet. If you are interested in riding with us on this or on any of our club rides or if you have any other questions, call 408-257-6410 or check our website www.westernwheelers.org.

~Ricki McGlashan

Monkeys in the Mountains

There are monkeys in these mountains. Not the kind that swing from trees, of course, but those that bloom before our eyes. Viewed straight on, these flowers look to some like the grinning faces of monkeys.

Monkeyflowers (*Mimulus* sp.) are members of the figwort family - Scrophulariaceae. They have tubular flowers and opposite leaves. The flowers are two-lipped, with two fused petals (lobes) above and three fused petals below. The two common species in South Skyline occupy very different habitats.



Sticky monkeyflower

Sticky or bush monkey flower, (*M. aurantiacus*) is a perennial shrub growing 1-4 feet tall. The plants are found in warmer, drier locations including rocky slopes and cliffs, the edges of chaparral, and in open woodlands. Dark green leaves are 1-2 inches long, narrow with fine teeth, often leathery, and covered with a sticky resin to help hold in moisture. The resin also helps to repel insects. In warmest areas, plants are drought deciduous, losing some of their leaves in summer and growing them back in winter and spring. Flowers in our area are about one inch long

and yellow-orange or light to dark orange (*aurantiacus* means orange). Flowers can bloom almost anytime except winter, but the majority are found from April to July. Sticky monkeyflowers are found in the coastal mountains from southwest Oregon to Santa Barbara County, and in the western Sierra foothills.

Like many other figworts, sticky monkeyflowers are a host plant of the common checkerspot butterfly. Checkerspot eggs hatch in late spring or early summer. The black and spiny caterpillars feed for a short time until the plants begin to dry up in the warm weather. Although checkerspots are somewhat adapted, as the spring and summer progress, leaf resin levels increase, making the plants less digestible. On the other hand, the toxins in the resin make the caterpillars and adult butterflies less palatable to birds and other vertebrates. In summer, the caterpillars form silk nests and enter a diapause (hibernation) until the following late winter/early spring. They then become active, continue eating until full grown and form gray or lavender pupae. The pupae hatch into adult butterflies, which live on average only 9 to 10 days, mate and begin the cycle all over again.

Seep-spring or common monkeyflower (*M. guttatus*) is an annual or perennial herb, two inches to two feet tall. The plants are found in wet areas including seeps, springs, ponds, and

ditches. Light green leaves are rounded with irregular lobes and more noticeable toothed edges. Plants can spread by stolons – above ground runners similar to strawberries. Flowers, which vary greatly in size, are bright yellow with red, brown, or maroon spots (*guttatus* means spotted). They are found in terminal racemes, or singly from upper leaf axils. Flowers can bloom almost any time except late fall and early winter, but the majority are found from April to June. Seep-spring monkeyflowers are found from Alaska to northern Mexico and from the Pacific coast to the Rocky Mountains.



Seep-spring monkeyflower

California natives and early settlers used both sticky and seep-spring monkeyflowers medicinally and for food. Sticky monkeyflower roots were used to treat fever, diarrhea, and to curtail hemorrhaging, leaves were crushed to treat wounds, or a decoction was made to treat bloodshot eyes from smoke exposure. Seep-spring monkey flowers were made into a poultice to treat wounds, a decoction used in steam baths to treat sore chests or backs, or a tea to cure stomachaches. The leaves were also eaten raw or cooked.

Both plants can be grown horticulturally from tiny seeds; sticky monkeyflower can also be grown from cuttings in the spring. It is important to mimic their preferred growing conditions once established – wet and partial sun for seep-spring monkeyflower, and limited water, full sun, and mineral soil for sticky monkeyflower.

Although also visited by hummingbirds, monkeyflowers are designed to be pollinated by bees. Yellow – the color of seep-spring and also underlying the orange pigment of sticky monkeyflowers – is attractive to bees. The bees alight on the lower fused petals, which serve as a landing pad. The red dots on seep-spring, and sometimes orange or white streaks on sticky monkeyflower, help direct bees to the tubes opening. As it enters, the bee crosses a two-lobed stigma, depositing any pollen picked up from previous flowers and pollinating the plant. Within a few seconds, the stigma closes, preventing self-pollination. The bee continues on to eat the drop of nectar at the bottom of the flower tube. Between the nectar and the stigma are two pairs of pollen-laden anthers. The bee picks up some of the pollen and carries it to the next flower. If for any reason the bee was not successful at pollination, within a few hours the stigma reopens, waiting for the next visitor to arrive.

~Sarah Schoen

The 3rd Annual Gardens of the South Coast Garden Tour



Once again the La Honda Educational Foundation & Pescadero Education Foundation are joining together to present:

The 3rd annual Gardens of the South Coast Garden Tour, Plant Sale, and Wine & Cheese Tasting Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15.

The Garden Tour will begin at 10 am and continue to 4 pm both days, with the Wine & Cheese Tasting on Saturday from 4 - 6 pm at Harley Farms on North Street in Pescadero.

Imagine, what a wonderful Mother's day gift it would be...tickets to the Garden Tour (a week after Mother's Day!). Perhaps bring along a gourmet picnic lunch, a nice bottle of her favorite wine, and treat Mom to some of the best kept secret gardens she has ever experienced! Finish up Saturday's tour in Pescadero and enjoy the Wine and Cheese Tasting in the rustic old barn at Harley Goat Farm, included in the premium ticket price of only \$35. Maybe even attend an entertaining and informative lecture by Sunset Magazine's expert gardener Jack McKinnon. Just think, a day (or two) of quality time to enjoy and remember for a long time!

Featured on the tour are an array of 14 privately owned and artfully designed gardens ranging from shady redwood knolls, sunny hillsides, and wonderful ocean-swept flower gardens along the coast of San Mateo County. A Garden Tour Booklet with locations and descriptions of each garden with gardening tips and other resources will be provided to all ticket holders for this self-paced tour, which will include gardens from La Honda & Loma Mar (Sunday tour); Pescadero and as far south as

Ano Nuevo (Saturday tour). Be prepared to enjoy a gorgeous couple of days of fresh air, flowers, aromatic and medicinal herbal gardens, and more.

Ticket prices range from \$20 for a one-day Garden Tour pass; \$35 for one-day premium pass (includes one day Garden Tour plus Wine Tasting Reception Saturday); \$35 for two-day Garden Tour pass; or \$50 for two-day premium pass (includes 2 days Garden Tour plus Saturday's Wine Tasting Reception). A group discount of 20% is offered for Garden Clubs, students, realtors, or others who purchase lots of 20 or more regular Garden Tour tickets in a single order; no premium ticket discounts.

All proceeds will benefit La Honda-Pescadero Unified Schools to prevent overcrowding in the classrooms as well as help fund music and other educational enrichment programs that the district no longer has a budget for. We feel fortunate to enjoy the exquisite beauty of this rural coast side community, though with it comes a smaller tax base and a lot less commercial support than what may be available to schools in more metropolitan areas. Our small schools depend on community pledge drives, donations and fundraisers such as this to supplement the shortfalls of the State and local school district budgets.

To order tickets in advance, please call 650-747-9514 or visit <http://www.pescaderoschools.org/gardentour.html> for more information.

Tickets will also be available on the day of event near the La Honda and Pescadero Post Offices.

Advertisers may call 650-879-9033 before 4/1/05 to place an ad in the Garden Tour Booklet.

~Karen Shaff

The California Native Plant Society Presents:

Wildflower Show

April 23 & 24

10am-4pm both days

Hospitality Center at
Mission College, Santa Clara

Native Plant Sale

April 16, 2005

members: 10am – Noon
General Public: Noon – 4:00pm
UC Santa Cruz Arboretum

Native Plant Sale

May 14, 2005

10am – 4pm

Hidden Villa Ranch
26870 Moody Rd.
2 miles west of Foothill College

"Go out & see the wildflowers!" (Carl W. Sharsmith)

Take a Hike . . .



Skyline Blvd. / Highway 9 Double Loop Hike

Try this hike on a weekday and you might be surprised how nice it is. Having driven these roads so much in my vehicles, I was surprised how different the experience could be walking on trails just yards from the roadway. You will see marked changes in the ridge top ecosystem by simply crossing the road on Skyline from east-to-west. Later in the hike, as you walk adjacent to Highway 9, you first view canyons which are part of the Pescadero Creek drainage system. Then, after crossing the highway, you view canyons that create the headwaters of the San Lorenzo River. You will walk through oak woodlands on the edge of a douglas fir forest; you will walk along grassy ridge tops, through chaparral, into a canyon with redwoods at the bottom and have great views at many opportune times. The hike is a double-loop of 8.5 miles and is considered moderate because it is relatively flat by Skyline standards. I would judge the total elevation gain to be slightly under 1000 feet. The hike is mainly in the shade but you will need water and a lunch. Binoculars would be enjoyed. Please be careful during the numerous highway crossings!

Park at the Saratoga Gap Vista Point at the junction of Highways 9 & 35. Listen for vehicles as you cross Highway 9 and enter the Saratoga Gap Open Space Preserve. A map of the South Skyline Region Open Space Preserves is available here. Take the Saratoga Gap Trail and wind up the hill. Take note of the giant madrone tree before you enter the forest canopy. After a short distance, the trail begins to parallel Highway 35 on its east side as you walk in a northerly direction. You pass the Saratoga Summit CDF Station and after about 2 miles you reach Charcoal Road. If you look around, maybe you will find the nearby grinding rock used by early Native-American inhabitants of our region. (Hint: it's in the shade.) Go across the dirt road and take the 0.3-mile connector trail to the Hickory Oaks trailhead. Cross Highway 35 and follow the trail up the hill. Turn left and follow the new Achistaca Trail in a southerly direction. Enjoy the views because soon you will be back in the trees. You again pass below the fire station and then the trail moves away from the highway. Enjoy the quiet as you wind along the west side of the ridge. The trail then reaches an old haul road, which is used as the trail for the last half-mile back to Highway 9. The Achistaca Trail is 1.7 miles long and culminates at the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail. This is an acceptable place for lunch if you don't mind being close the road. Regardless, you have completed the Skyline loop.

Next, the hike follows the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail to the Nutmeg Trail junction. There is a small group of western hemlock trees along this part of the trail (about 100 yards on the left). At 0.3 miles, take the Nutmeg Trail, which goes lower into the canyon. After another 0.3 miles, follow the sign which leads you back to Highway 9. Enjoy the views to the northwest after you have taken the Red Mountain Trail to the top of the hill and back to Highway 9. Next, take a right and follow the

Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail. There is a bench after a short distance. Continue to follow the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail for the next mile as it goes deeper into the canyon and further from the highway. Enjoy the transition from fir to redwood trees as you follow the trail and get close to the Chesebrough Scout Reservation. Cross the road and enjoy the view at Sempervirens Point. Do not continue on the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail. The Summit Meadows trailhead (and sign) are on the opposite side of the vista point, just beyond the rest room. Take the Summit Meadows Trail up the hill and enjoy the view of the San Lorenzo Valley from the bench just off the trail after about a half-mile of walking. Continue following the trail for another half-mile back to the highway, where it ends. Cross Highway 9 and now follow the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail in the opposite direction back to the junction with the Achistaca Trail. Here, the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail crosses Highway 9 again and goes down the hill to where it merges with the Saratoga Toll Road Trail. Follow this dual trail for about 0.4 miles and you will complete the Highway 9 portion of the loop (and the hike) when you again reach the highway. The parking lot is only a short distance ahead.

~Jerry Peters

Trainees learn how to use fire extinguishers during the Community Emergency Response Team program held at Las Cumbres.



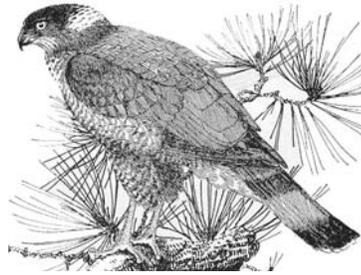
There's A Hawk In My Backyard

Most of the time, when birds sense a predator near the feeders, they head for cover and all is quiet until the predator goes on its way, then life returns to normal. Other times, stories are full of sadness, horror and death.

The emotion connected to a hawk killing a bird is very real and must be acknowledged. It's horrific to see a mourning dove that minutes before was enjoying it's

breakfast of millet at the platform feeder in your backyard, now become a hawk's breakfast on the back fence. I remember coming home and opening the blinds onto the deck to be greeted by the disemboweled carcass of a band-tailed pigeon. It took my breath away and the tears came as if by reflex. Once the tears dried, logic and the concept of the balance of nature took over.

Prey are usually younger, weaker, not as aware, or in the wrong place at the wrong time. Mourning doves are frequent prey because of their sheer numbers and because they are rather slow fliers, especially on takeoff. Mourning doves usually lay 2



Coopers Hawk don't start breeding until an average of about 2 years old.

There are several hawks and falcons that eat other birds. In the Falcon family, Peregrines, Merlins and Kestrels all eat other birds. A Peregrine was most likely responsible for the band-tailed pigeon on our deck. They are amazing hunters. *The Sibley Guide to Bird Behavior* describes their hunting habits as, "They either grab prey in flight or deliver a stunning blow to a flying bird with their feet and then quickly return to snatch the tumbling prey from the air." Merlins winter in this area and are very successful at using trees and shrubbery to hide their approach. Kestrels were at one time called "sparrow" hawks because they would perch on wires or snags and drop onto sparrows or other small birds. Kestrels are also very small hawks but not quite as small as a sparrow.

In the hawk family, the most common bird eaters are Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks. These two are Accipiters meaning they have shortish wings and longish tails to facilitate flying in more wooded areas. They also have long legs with long, thin toes that allow them to make the kill away from their head and eyes. Last summer, we had a juvenile Cooper's learn how to hunt in our yard. He went hungry for several days until he figured out a strategy. Unfortunately for the quail, he learned how to flush the quail toward the house and as they banked to avoid crashing into a window he would strike and bring them down. We're now very careful to put their food under the Ceanothus so they have a better chance of getting to cover rather than having to fly off. We did see this same juvenile go into the coyote bush after a bird and come up looking quite befuddled "Where did it go?"

~Freddy Howell

South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization – Progress Update

We would like to thank the community for all the generous contributions received during this year's SSA dues drive. The following is an update on progress made by some of our special committees.

- Medical – Bill Fowkes and his committee have met and are pursuing with MROSD the possibility of using their ranger station for storage of medical supplies. Once we have our location designated, we will purchase the proper storage containers and supplies.
- Non-profit status – Ken Broome will be filing for our non-profit status and hopes to have it in place so that the contributions you made in 2005 can be deducted from your taxes.
- Training and Events – Sherry Niswander and the committee organized a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training through San Mateo County OES that was held at the Las Cumbres Community Center. We graduated a class of 25. This brings our CERT trained individuals to 50 in our Skyline community. Although not allowed to be activated in an actual disaster, 3 children ages 9-13 also attended and had a great time. We plan to schedule another training next year.

In Memory of Min Moore

Min (Winifred) Moore passed away Tuesday, January 11, 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona. She is survived by her husband Chuck Moore, and their son Eric, of San Luis Obispo, CA.

There was a memorial event and dedication of a commemorative bench at Elkus Ranch, in Half Moon Bay, CA on February 27th.



Gardening with Deer

Editor's Note: Looking back in the archives of the *Skylines* Spring issue dated **March 1986**, many useful gardening tips were offered by local residents. Below are two remedies submitted that year for keeping out the deer.

Submitted by Betsy Clebsch

A neighbor of mine invented fencing that does the job. It was a matter of necessity—deer were cleaning the vegetable garden of all growing things. A regular four-foot high fence was already in place around her garden. Her inspiration was to erect another such fence, leaving a runway between the two about five feet wide—just enough room to push a wheelbarrow through with comfort. If this strip is kept bare it does help deter rabbits.

We used our neighbor's idea of the double fence when starting our garden seven years ago, and in all that time deer have never jumped these fences. I write that sentence in trepidation but to this moment, it is a perfectly true statement. On several occasions the outside gate was blown down in a storm and deer tracks were found all around the runway but I guess deer can't stand still and jump. Consequently, the garden has stayed intact.

Submitted by Marsha Jo Hannah

About the only solution to the deer problem is a good barrier. For small single plants, a covering "basket" of regular or even 2" chicken wire seems to work, as long as it is anchored to the ground; I have good success with 2" pieces of rebar, driven a foot into the ground, then wired to the basket.

For a small area, such as one of my 4x8 planter boxes, a 3' tall pen made of panels of chicken wire completely surrounded with a frame of 2x2's works nicely—it allows me easy access to any part of the bed, is too tall for deer to reach over and too small an area for them to jump into.

For small fruit trees, covering them with bird netting (completely closed up with clothes pins) will deter as well as birds, but needs to be removed and reset frequently to allow for tree growth.

Lakeside Board of Trustees Approves new Action Plan for 7th Grade Students

On Tuesday March 30, 2005 the Lakeside Joint School District Board of Trustees approved by a 4-0 vote the action plan for next year's 7th graders, and for future 7th and 8th graders from the Lakeside Community, to attend Rolling Hills Middle School in the Campbell Union School District.

This decision came about after unsuccessful attempts to negotiate with Los Gatos Union School District and Loma Prieta School District to take Lakeside's 7th and 8th grade students, as has been none in past years. The board had also previously decided not to provide 7th and 8th grades at Lakeside. That decision was made after a parent survey and much discussion over the concern that Lakeside did not have enough funding available to hire teachers and provide the kind of programs needed for middle school students. Lakeside is a K-8 one-school school district.

Although Rolling Hills is a good school academically, the agreement with Campbell Union School District is not ideal, because Rolling Hills Middle School does not feed into Saratoga or Los Gatos High Schools, which is where the Lakeside students will be going in the 9th grade. Many parents have expressed concern that their children will attend Rolling Hills for 2-3 years; make new friends, then in high school they will have to start over again at a new school with new students. The distance to Rolling Hills is also a concern.

The Board will meet again on Tuesday April 12, 2005 to discuss the 2005-6 6th grade action plan, and discuss transportation to Rolling Hills.

Future Lakeside Board meetings will discuss merger or annexation with the Los Gatos Union School District.

~Patti Begley

Skylines Services – Free Ads for Members

The South Skyline Association Membership (only \$15 per year) includes free classified ads in The *Skylines* newsletter. What a deal! We have had reports that the ads are quite successful.

Just mail your ad to: Skylines c/o 22400 Skyline Blvd #35, La Honda CA 94020 or send email to Skylineseditor@earthlink.net. Ad deadlines are noted in each issue. Ads must be resubmitted for each issue.

If you would like to place an ad but are not a member, simply send in your membership dues of \$15 along with your ad.

A new option is to place an ad on the new on-line bulletin board at <http://southskyline.org/bb>.



Indians on Skyline

Were there ever Indians who roamed the South Skyline area? We know for certain that there were because of the number of bedrock mortars dotted along the Skyline ridge. One of these can easily be visited on the Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve on a trail near Alpine Pond.

Archaeologists disagree on whether the mountain sites were permanent villages or just seasonal encampments used by valley tribes only during the harvest. There have been no excavations at these sites nor do there appear to be any known descendants of tribes living in this area, so we know very little about the early people. However, some general information can be gleaned from our knowledge of surrounding tribes and from the careful analysis of mission records from the Spanish period.

All the native tribes on the San Francisco Peninsula who spoke many different dialects of a common language were lumped together and labeled "Costanoan" by the Spanish. Today, the surviving members of this group prefer to be called Ohlone, a name of native origin.

The Ohlone had no central governing structure, but consisted of many autonomous tribelets and family groups, each with its own food gathering territory. They had an extremely varied food supply, ranging from the scanty grasshopper to the mighty elk and from the tiny red maid seeds to the fruit of the buckeye tree. Historians now believe that the Ohlone of the Bay Area practiced a form of quasi-agriculture by manipulating the natural environment to enhance their harvest. One of the techniques used was the regular burning of meadowland and underbrush.

There are three tribal groups thought to have inhabited the South Skyline area before the Europeans arrived. The Olpens (or Guemelentos) straddled the ridge, living both along La Honda Creek and the Corte Madera Creek. The Partacsi group inhabited the area round Saratoga Gap and the headwaters of Pescadero Creek. The Achistaca tribe, living in the upper San Lorenzo watershed may have also extended up to Saratoga Gap. A new trail on the Long Ridge Open Space Preserve has been named in their honor.

I hope that some day archaeologists will excavate a site in the South Skyline area, so that we can learn more about our predecessors. Meanwhile, I recommend visiting the Saratoga Historical Museum, which is preparing an exhibit on an archaeological find right in the Village of Saratoga. The Museum is open Friday through Sunday from 1-4 p.m.

~Janet Schwind

Lakeside School Celebrates the 20th Annual Family Fun Day and Auction

Lakeside School's biggest fundraiser of the year is the Annual Fun Day and Auction. The goal of the auction this year is to raise \$24,000 to fund enrichment programs such as music, PE, art and other programs and equipment that help Lakeside provide a well rounded education for our children. Please help support our school by donating items for the auction. In the past, we have had donations from businesses and individuals such as vacation rentals, handmade items, artwork, and many other great items that people have been happy to purchase.

Donations can be dropped off in the school office, or call 408-242-7424 for pickup.

Join the Lakeside Community for a day of great food, music, and fun:

Saturday, May 21, 2005

12:30-7:30 p.m.

**Lakeside Elementary School
19621 Black Road, Los Gatos**

Fun events include:

Carnival Games 12:30-2:30

Giant slide and bounce houses 12:30-5:30

Silent Auction 12:30-5:00

Live Auction 3:30-5:30

Plant Shop and Children's store 12:30-5:30

Dinner from 5:30-7:30

Live MUSIC 5:30-8:00

Skylines Is Published Once A Quarter

Skylines invites individuals to submit articles and artwork.

Policy on Classified Ads: Ads are free to SSA members. No continuing ads will be accepted. They must be resubmitted for each issue. Deadline date for ads for the July issue will be June 24, 2005.

Skylines News Articles: The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue is June 17, 2004.

Send all ads and articles to: Patti Begley c/o 22400 Skyline Blvd #35, La Honda CA 94020, or SkylinesEditor@earthlink.net, 408-867-3973
We reserve the right to edit all submissions. We assume no responsibility for omissions, incorrect information or personal opinions.

SOUTH SKYLINE ASSOCIATION

Box 400, Star Route 2
La Honda, CA 94020



Classified Ads

FOR SALE

5 yr old Kenmore washer and dryer, good condition, \$200 for both.
Kevin & Sara Howard 650-851-9843

Gas Water Heater, 20 gal, used two weeks - \$50 OBO. Chuck 408-867-9229

Matching Washer & Dryer (elect), exc condition - \$200 OBO.
Chuck 408-867-9229

Wood Stove -- older Lopi model (steel, glass door). Hardly used, like new.
\$250. 408-867-9422.

WANTED

Caretaker(s) for Mt. Paradise Prefer mature person(s). Prop. Close to Bldr Creek. Large acreage, some expr. in wood cutting, prop maintenance & horse care. Hrs per wk in exchange for free rent of beautiful apartment, workshop, large deck, utilities incl. Drivers license required. Will pay for special tasks. 650-213-4832 weekdays 8-3:30 pm

FOR RENT

2 bedroom/ 2 bath apartment in LG Mt. at Skyline/Gist Rds.
\$1400+util 1st&last month
408-395-8667

SERVICES

Alice's Restaurant

Four Corners on Skyline
Come meet the new owners-
(650) 851-0303
8:30AM-9:00PM daily; 7:00PM
(Tuesday)

Gourmet dinners from our chef, Ruffino
Full breakfast and luncheon menu
Personable and knowledgeable Maitre D'

Finish carpenter specializing in repair, construction and installation of windows, doors, flooring, custom cabinets and outdoor decks.
Bruce Soko 408-561-8016

Handyman - particularly carpentry, remodeling, repair, concrete; minor tree work. Jobs less than \$500. (no contractor's license). I'm here on Skyline. References. Allan
408-867-2784, cell: 650-703-2145

Handyman with extensive knowledge of invasive plant removal and native plant landscaping. Specialties include invasive tree removal, soil testing and regeneration, organic circle gardening, permaculture techniques, carpentry and plumbing. David "Tex" Houston
650-303-2777

Local Skyline Realtor would like to help you buy or sell your home! Call Christine Jarvis for a free Market Analysis 408-863-3014

SERVICES

Residential Design

Custom residences, remodels, additions. 30 plus years experience, 20 in Calif.
Taruno Vega (650) 747-0654
taruno@pacbell.net


1 Mbps symmetrical broadband is now available in the South Skyline area.

A customer quote: "*Bravo for your vision and your persistence in getting 'broadband to the boonies'!*"

-- Bruce
Visit our website at
<http://SkylineBroadbandService.com>
650-917-9279; ask for Bill

The Mountain Terrace

(formerly Skywood Chateau and Boulevard Bar and Grill)
Charming and rustic atmosphere, uniquely suited to your special occasion. Now available for private events and Sunday brunch (650) 851-1606

FREE

Free fire fitting. This fitting will allow the connection of a fire hose to your water supply and can be utilized by the fire department to access the water necessary for fire suppression. South Skyline Fire and Rescue,
George 408-354-1401