



## Reservoir Used to Contain Fire Within Thirty Minutes

One of a recent rash of fires in the Forest brought out an extensive response from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). Both a tanker aircraft and a dipping helicopter were used to quickly douse a fire attributed to smoking, confining it to less than 1/4 acre. Two tanker drops of fire retardant and 22 helicopter drops of water from Forest Lake reservoir were applied with control occurring within 1/2 an hour of discovery.



*CDF is investigating a rash of small fires that have occurred throughout the Forest within the last several weeks.*



*A helicopter hovers over Forest Lake Reservoir, filling with water to douse flames every 95 seconds.*

Residents above the fire were understandably concerned about the similarity with the start of the devastating 1987 fire, but numerous improvements in fire roads and response protocols produced the extreme opposite outcome. The all-clear was given to residents via the new Reverse 911 phone system when control was gained, before any warning messages were necessary.❖

## Traffic and Safety Update

PBCSD voted unanimously to assume the police power newly authorized by the Local Agency Formation Commission by passing Ordinance 24 which allows the District to contract with regular police agencies for supplemental services. The services will be administered by the General Manager of the District.

The pursuit by the District for supplemental law enforcement authority is in response to the DMFPO/PBCSD survey of Forest property owners in the fall of 2005, prompted by resident concerns voiced to DMFPO, in which such services were seen as needed to address traffic violations and vandalism in the Forest.

PBCSD staff is now working on contract language with the CHP and Sheriff's Office within the authorized budget limitations.

PBCSD has purchased four radar measurement devices to collect data to assist law enforcement agencies in reducing excessive speeding in the Forest.

Additional patrol services will most likely begin in the fall of this year, with PBCSD notifying residents as to the particulars of the program through mailers, meetings, and web site information ([pbcSD.org](http://pbcSD.org)).❖



Rick Verbanec

## President's Message: Taking Stock

Several items of DMFPO interest have transpired so far this year that are worthy of review. PBCSD completed renovation of Forest Lake Reservoir as storage for recycled water, allowing the golf courses and athletic fields to reduce their use of potable water drastically. A number of property owners have also been able to build on or remodel their Forest property after acquiring water rights sold through PBC to finance the Recycled Water Project.

A significant side benefit of the Lake was already demonstrated, as a CDF helicopter was able to dip in for water to douse a fire in the Morse Botanical Reserve on Huckleberry Hill in July. That fire also provided the first opportunity for a tactical test of PBCSD's new Reverse 911 system, used in this case when the fire was stopped to give the "all clear" message to nearby worried residents. To CDF's credit, that came just 1/2 hour after discovery of the fire at a location not far from the origin of the 1987 Morse Fire. What a difference in outcome!

PBCSD has also completed the process to gain authorization to provide supplemental law enforcement in the Forest, as per the desires expressed in the Traffic and Safety Survey last fall. DMFPO was instrumental in pressing on residents' behalf for the lengthy sequence of events necessary under the new Community Services District law. That activity is now the responsibility of PBCSD. We should very soon begin to see CHP and/or Sheriff cruisers in the Forest more often. DMFPO and PBCSD are working on a flyer for distribution to Forest drivers, pleading the case for cooperation and warning of the extra enforcement.

DMFPO has previously expressed frustration with the Coastal Commission process of reviewing Measure A and the DMF Plan separately. As long as the Plan is held up, the Highway 1 Gate improvements and other road improvements within the Forest are also in limbo, contrary to the will of the people. Dan Walters, a columnist at the Sacramento Bee, pointed out the lack of accountability at the Coastal Commission. Twelve members appointed by just 3 Sacramento politicians, 2 of whom are elected by just one District each, control the whole show. The staff is even more insulated, with no incentive for balance in any of their work. California taxpayers foot their entire bill, even for their lawyers when they lose their way. "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Whether money is involved or not, I see abuse of political power to thwart the will of the people as a corruption of good governance worthy of correction.

I hope everyone is as appreciative as my wife Sandi and I are for our moderate coastal climate. We are truly blessed to escape California's inland heat and the stifling summer conditions elsewhere in the country. We still find it hard to believe we don't need air conditioning.❖

Rick Verbanec, President  
Del Monte Forest Property Owners



## Del Monte Forest Property Owners

### DMFPO OFFICERS

*President* Rick Verbanec  
*Vice-President* Tobi Adams  
*Vice President* Jerry Verhasselt  
*Secretary* Linda Elliott  
*Treasurer* Bob Adler

### OTHER DIRECTORS

Al Budris Bill Conners  
Sandy Getreu Paul Jordan  
Jack Kidder Jim Nero  
Don Eastman

### DMFPO OFFICE

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*Newsletter Chair* Vacant  
*Photos* Rick Verbanec  
*Graphics* Laura Paxton

## FOREST LAKE RESERVOIR

### Dedication Ceremony and Media Event

**September 15, 2006  
11:00 A.M.**

Pebble Beach Community Services District, in conjunction with Pebble Beach Company and the Carmel Area Wastewater District, is planning an event to commemorate the completion of the Forest Lake Component of Phase II of the CAWD/PBCSD Wastewater Reclamation Project. If available, a CDF helicopter will demonstrate water siphoning from the reservoir and dousing for fire fighting via air assault. Come and see the newest element of the recycled water project in the Forest.

# New Boardmember Don Eastman



The Del Monte Forest Property Owners welcomes Mr. Don Eastman to the Board of Directors as of July 10, 2006. Mr. Eastman fills the vacancy left by Director Skinner who resigned from the Board in June 2006 due to health reasons.

Don and his wife Pinky moved to the Forest in March of 2000 and are delighted with the strong sense of community here and desire to contribute their time and experience where needed. Don graduated from the UCLA School of Law in 1965 and went on to a stellar career with the Los Angeles County District Attorney as a trial lawyer and later as Head Deputy of many divisions throughout his 34 years

of service. After moving to the Forest he served as Deputy District Attorney for Monterey County in 2000 until his retirement in 2002. He has served for 20 years on a condominium Board of Directors in Mammoth, California. Don offers the Board extensive insight on the workings of California government at State, county and local levels.

Don and Pinky travel to the Pacific Northwest (Portland and Seattle) as well as making frequent trips to Southern California to visit family and friends. They participate in local activities with the Pebble Beach Riding and Trails Association and DMFPO.

DMFPO looks forward to the positive influence Don's past experience and current community spirit will lend to the Board.❖

## Membership: What Your \$40 Brings

- Representation at meetings with PB Community Services District, Pebble Beach Company, other Forest organizations and Monterey County agencies.
- The opportunity to participate in community meetings of the Traffic & Safety Committee, Land Use/Subdivision Committee, Neighborhood Representatives Committee, and the Board of Directors.
- Invitation to semiannual meetings held in May and November, featuring compelling speakers and the opportunity to mix socially with other Forest residents.
- The satisfaction of knowing that you are keeping abreast of pertinent issues within the Forest and acting to pursue the best interests of property owners.❖

### NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES MEETING ANNOUNCED

Friday, September 15, 2006  
3:30 p.m.

(after the Forest Lake Dedication Ceremony)

Featured speaker: Margaret Elizabeth Leighton  
Manager, Architectural Review  
Pebble Beach Company

Pebble Beach Community Services District Boardroom  
Forest Lake and Lopez Road

## BECOME A DMFPO MEMBER

**PAY ONLY \$40.00 FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2006 THROUGH 2007**

- YES, I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN DMFPO. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR \$40.**  
I UNDERSTAND I WILL NOT NEED TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP UNTIL JANUARY 2008.

**PROPERTY OWNER NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY/STATE/ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR DMFPO USE ONLY)

**PEBBLE BEACH PROPERTY ADDRESS(ES)** \_\_\_\_\_

- ENCLOSED IS A DONATION TO DMFPO TO AID IN ITS EFFORTS \$** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please call the dmfpo office at (831) 373-1618 for membership status*



# Meet the Tree Squirrels

*Like a small grey  
Coffee-pot  
Sits the Squirrel*

*The Grey Squirrel, Stanza 1 (Humbert Wolfe - 1885-1940)*

Someone take a memo to the DMFPO Traffic & Safety Committee: “Invite Resident Tree Squirrels to next meeting.” What driver of Forest roads hasn’t seen the comic and sometimes tragic struggle that marks the lives of our bushiest-tailed neighbors, the shy Western Grey Squirrel (pictured above) and its more brazen East Coast cousin (who came to visit but wouldn’t leave), the Fox Squirrel (right). True, virtually all of a Tree Squirrel’s existence is spent in treetops and deep in foliage of our forest, woodlands and gardens; however, one does need to hide one’s booty of acorns, nuts and seeds – and doing so brings one down to the ground and harm’s way often enough. How often are we left in suspense and wondering – will the road show end in ‘pew-that was close’ or ‘splat?’ Alas, another reason to slow down and enjoy our wildlife, however ‘squirrelly’ and confused.

In no small measure, we owe the Forest to the Tree Squirrels, especially the reclusive Western Grey.

Always at work, this gunmetal grey and white-bellied denizen of the treetops gathers more pine seed than it can eat, caches the rest, and inevitably forgets where all of it was buried – then later its ‘Houston, we have germination!’ While aground and wondering where that nut went, Tree Squirrels delight in finding fungus to eat and in doing so spread a special inoculation so vital to the health and welfare of new forest trees. Therefore, if it makes anyone feel better, let’s also thank Mother Nature for coming up with an excuse for the poor memory.

The Fox Squirrel, buff to orange colored (watch for rare coal black kits), is most comfortable living closer to our homes and birdfeeders, riding backyard fences like the A&S Railroad (Acorn & Sunflower), and breeding like there was no tomorrow! In fact, female Fox Squirrels breed year-round, have multiple mates and more than one litter of dependents at the same time! (If you have a Wildlife Science major coming home for Christmas, ask if she can define the word “ITEROPAROUS”).



Ground Squirrels and Chipmunks? That’s another story, or two.❖

*Jeffrey B. Froke, Ph.D.  
jbfroke@msn.com*

## Pampas Grass Update by Bruce Cowan, OSAC Naturalist

Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) members may recall that 20-25 years ago, Ecuadorian pampas grass (*Cortaderia jubata*) was threatening Monterey Peninsula open space – as on the southern Big Sur Coast. It had filled in Spanish Bay, was spreading aggressively throughout Del Monte Forest and Monterey’s Skyline Forest, and is still a problem at Fort Ord and parts of Monterey, including Ryan Ranch, Cannery Row, and Carmel Highlands.

The problem that remains is pampas grass planted or allowed to remain on private properties. Keeping pampas grass under control needs community wide cooperation. Every pampas grass plant sheds hundreds of thousands of seeds, which can spread for miles in the wind. Twenty to 30 hours of volunteer time this year alone have been spent on the problem. Follow up work must be done for several years.



### Progress In Eradication Efforts

- *Spanish Bay:* The Monterey Peninsula’s largest infestation was eradicated with completion of the golf course, hotel and condos.
- *S.F.B. Morse Reserve / Huckleberry Hill / Poppy Hills:* Mostly eradicated, but some are growing on unreachable steep banks above Haul Road.
- *Navajo-Rip Van Winkle Park:* For the first time none were observed near or behind the Methodist Church. One small plant was found above a creek bed.
- *Pacific Grove High / Forest Grove School:* Pebble Beach Co. efforts, in cooperation with PGUSD, eliminated most plants; a few small plants are found each year.
- *Holman Highway:* Past eradication efforts along Holman Hwy (68) from Pacific Grove up to Haul Road removed all large plants; small plants remain on a steep bank.
- *Monterey Huckleberry Hill Park (leased from DLI):* Three plants were recently sprayed, and several dozen smaller ones dug out in the area.❖

# Keeping Your Security System Operating Properly

Many people turn their system on and off each day feeling safe and secure in the knowledge that their alarm will do its job when called upon. Fortunately, a security system is a low maintenance appliance, but it does require a little bit of attention from time to time. Below are a few tips for keeping this important device operating at top level.

1. Visually inspect your system monthly. This means simply looking at all the visible components to make sure they are free from excessive dust and/or cob webs. Typically, the visible components include motion sensors, keypads, sirens, smoke detectors, and a control panel (usually in a closet or garage).

2. Check with your alarm company to make sure your emergency contact list is up-to-date and that your response protocol is set up properly. People frequently change cell phone numbers or work numbers and forget to update their alarm company.

3. Perform a test of your system at least monthly. This simple procedure will ensure that your system works and is communicating with your alarm company.

*Information provided by: Dave Hood, Vice President and General Manager of First Alarm. 649-1111 or dhood@firstalarm.com.*

## How To Test Your Burglar Alarm

- Call your alarm company to them know you'll be testing your system. Please have your verbal ID code ready.
- If you have neighbors, it might be a good idea to let them know you'll be triggering your alarm for a minute or two.
- Arm your alarm system as you normally would when you leave your home.
- Once the system is armed (after the exit delay) set it off by opening a protected door or window. You should hear the siren, bell, or other sounder.
- Proceed through your home and open all protected doors and windows to activate signals to the alarm company — plus walk in front of any motion sensors.
- Disarm the alarm system and wait 60 seconds.
- Call your alarm company to verify that they received all the alarm signals.
- If there is any problem with the way the alarm system operates or communicates, ask to schedule a repair technician. ❖

## Noise Ordinance In The Forest??

No, not really, but there are guidelines that have been established by the Del Monte Forest Architectural Review Board. This Board sets construction standards that limit building activity to Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with no work allowed on Sunday or federal holidays. These guidelines not only apply to all construction personnel, but also to any other contractors, including landscape services. Most contractors know of the limitations, but occasionally an errant landscape or

maintenance service is trying to get ahead by showing up on Sunday and it is the responsibility of the homeowner to inform his contractor of the restrictions. Although there are no direct restrictions on homeowners with regard to construction, lawn mowing and other loud equipment, it has long been an unwritten policy in the Forest that Sunday, as a "day of rest," has meant that homeowners, too, have refrained from making unwanted noise on Sunday to respect the serenity of the forest.❖

## Member Connection

Pebble Beach resident Paul Simonsen sighted a family of coyotes in the area of Bristol Curve on the ocean side -- two adults and three cubs -- in late June. Keep this in mind when walking your dogs at dusk.❖

Please let us know!  
[dmfpo@dmfpo.com](mailto:dmfpo@dmfpo.com)

831-373-1618

## On Indian Village

*...The legend of the place is that the Indians had used it as a sort of cure; that when they were sick they came there to camp and that after they had stayed there a few days and taken of the waters of the spring they frequently felt better... Principally out of curiosity I had the water of the spring analysed and discovered that it contained a great deal of magnesia...*

*Samuel F. B. Morse, circa 1960*



## Pebble Beach Riding & Trails Association (PBRTA)



View from arena-side seats at the Jumping Derby



Presentation of the colors before the PBRTA Summer Luncheon

The big event in July was the Summer Luncheon held in the Spectator Tent on Sunday, July 30th. PBRTA and the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center worked together on the luncheon which was a sellout. Pebble Beach Company catered an attractive buffet for 256 guests. Prior to the buffet the colors were presented by equestrians Kelly Getreu on *True* and Margaret Leighton on *Mirage*. The United States and California flags were carried by Sandy Getreu and Paul Jordan, both DMFPO Directors. Christine Olson and Steve Olson carried the PBRTA banner. After the luncheon the guests were thrilled by the \$10,000 Lexus Jumping Derby.



The Jumping Derby thrilled guests

A reminder that our monthly walks are always on the second Wednesday of the month. Those interested in coming along should contact Elizabeth Behrens-Nagle at 831-372-3674.❖

All Members Welcome

Lopez Roads  
Corner of Forest Lake and  
Services District Building  
Pebble Beach Community

at the

MONTH AT 4PM

SECOND MONDAY of each

meet the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DMFPO

P.O. Box 523, Pebble Beach, CA 93953

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**DEL MONTE FOREST  
PROPERTY OWNERS**



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