



# FOREST NEWS

In 1964, while Robert Trent Jones Sr. was in the process of building a new golf course that would open on March 11, 1966, Company founder Samuel F.B. Morse wrote to friend, attorney and future USGA President Frank "Sandy" Tatum:

"The legend of Spyglass Hill is more conjecture than actual fact. As you know, Robert Louis Stevenson lived in Monterey for a while and he wandered through the Forest a great deal. That seems to have been his favorite form of exercise. In fact, I don't think he had any other... As far as I know, if it is of any importance, I am the one who named it Spyglass Hill, and now of course it is come into common usage.

"If you have read 'Treasure Island' you will remember the name Spyglass Hill, a prominent point that overlooked the ocean, where one could view before anyone else ships coming into the one harbor on the island. It has been said, without any authority that I know of, that the high sand dunes at Cypress Point which do command a view of the entire ocean all the way across the bay to Santa Cruz, were the inspiration for the Spyglass



*Robert Trent Jones, Sr. (center) shows early plans for Spyglass Hill to company and NCGA officials. Far left: NCGA's Robert Hanna; far right: Company President Richard Osborne. (PBC Archives)*

Hill of Stevenson's story. It is the nearest high point to Indian village and I don't think that there is much doubt but what the Indians viewed the Spanish galleons as they came in from this point."

While Morse gets credit for naming the course (eradicating the early name, "Pebble Pines"), the impetus for the course as well as the hole names – with colorful

descriptions that survive in the yardage guide – goes to Robert Hanna, then the executive director of the Northern California Golf Association. He was challenged with finding venues for NCGA golf tournaments. Hanna first approached his board with the concept of building their own course, and

they, other than telling him he had no chance of succeeding, granted permission for him to approach Morse.

Hanna succeeded by striking a deal where the NCGA would pay for the design and construction of the course if Morse would put up the land. The course would be owned and maintained by the Company, and for 50 years, the NCGA would have 30 days a year where they could host their tournaments, and a subset of



*At age 80, Samuel F.B. Morse was on hand for the opening of Spyglass Hill on March 11, 1966. (l to r) DMPCo Chairman SFB Morse, DMFPO President A.G. "Tim" Michaud and course designer Robert Trent Jones, Sr. (PBC Archives)*

## Watching for Gray Whales

*Nature Notes from the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History*

If you watch the ocean during these winter months, you're sure to observe California gray whales. The whales can often be seen just beyond the surf zone of our coastline, because the deep water of submarine canyons isn't far from shore.

California gray whales have two distinguishing features that you can recognize through binoculars. When one spouts, look for a V-shaped spray. It will likely blow three to five times before diving. When it dives, look for a series of low bumps along its slowly arching back. Gray whales don't have pronounced dorsal fins.

From December through mid-February, the gray whales migrate past our area as they swim slowly southward. They move from the food-rich Bering Sea to the protected bays of Baja California, where they mate and birth their young. Then, beginning in mid-February, the grays return to Alaska. Adults and juveniles

leave Baja first; mother gray whales with newborn calves pass through Monterey waters during April and May.

Round-trip, California gray whales make the longest migration of any mammal on Earth: 10,000 miles. - Annie Holdren



*The distinctive V-shaped spout of a California gray whale.  
[Photo credit: Tony Cyphert]*

## El Niño Preparedness Tips

1. Trim or remove hazardous trees on your property. Do not drive in the Forest during storms or high winds.
2. Clean out your home rain gutters regularly and keep street gutters and catch basins near your home clear of debris.
3. Pick up free sandbags at the fire station at Forest Lake and Lopez Roads (for assistance please call 375-4204). Keep plastic sheeting and plywood handy for waterproofing doorways.
4. Locate your main electrical fuse box, water service main, and natural gas main. Make sure everyone knows how to turn them off and keep tools near the shut-off valves.
5. Have a disaster preparedness plan. Refresh your disaster kit so you can be self-sufficient for three days without power or water—see checklist at [PBCSD.org](http://PBCSD.org). If you live in a flood-prone area, prepare an action list to minimize losses, such as moving items to a second story and removing motors from lowlying furnaces and other equipment. Designate a person outside the area for family members to call if separated.
6. Stay tuned to 1620 AM radio for road closures and other hazards. The District's Reverse 911 system will contact you with emergency information so make sure your contacts are current, especially cell phones. To register or update call 647-5642, or visit [PBCSD.org](http://PBCSD.org).



NCGA members, “the Founders,” that put up the money for construction would, for the same 50 years, have an hour or two each day of the year when they could have free tee times.

The goal was to subscribe 256 founders to each contribute \$2,500 and raise \$640,000. Years later, Robert Trent Jones, Jr., who interned under his father on Spyglass Hill, revealed the subscriptions fell short and Morse made up the difference. The course was reportedly built for a mere \$487,000 leaving the remainder to build the new clubhouse. The deal gave:

- the NCGA the venue it needed, saving them money by not having to pay other clubs to host events;
- the Founders access to a lot of great golf;
- the clubhouse to serve the needs of the Founders as well as providing offices for the NCGA; and
- the Company a new championship course to fill rooms, and around which to sell homes.

At the time, green fees at Pebble Beach were \$10, and Spyglass Hill opened at the same rate. The 80-year-old Morse proclaimed, “Spyglass Hill doesn’t have to bow to either Pebble Beach or Cypress Point.” Rankings concur. First used in the Crosby before it was a year old, Spyglass Hill has consistently joined its neighbors on the prestigious Top 100 list and is ranked the No.2 public access course in California, right next to Pebble Beach.

In the first foursome on the opening two-day Founders Tournament were: Clyde Hall, VP/CFO of the Company, NCGA President Ray Fisher of



*In 1966, dunes and little else enveloped the third green of Spyglass Hill (PBC Archives)*

Sacramento, William Power of Woodside, and given the honors of the first shot was Francis Watson of El Cerrito, the first president of the new Spyglass Hill Golf Club.

Frank Thacker, who had been the golf professional at Del Monte GC from 1955 to 1965, became the first golf professional at Spyglass Hill and served until he retired in 1980. On the agronomic side, Roger Larson was brought on to oversee the construction, and soon after opening the course Larson was put in charge of all the company courses.

Larson got an added benefit. Early in the process of planning Spyglass Hill, the Company bought Casita deLemos, “the Gingerbread House,” from the deLemos family, just in case they needed the extra dunescape for the new course. As they didn’t, Larson and his new wife Jeannie made the oceanview cottage their home for several years until he left the company in 1975.

As Spyglass Hill celebrates its golden anniversary, the desirable mid-morning tee times reserved for members for the last 50 years, will now be open for public enjoyment.🌳



## Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) Tackles Ford Meadow Erosion Gully

For more than two decades the DMFC has fought to mitigate a worsening erosion gully tearing through the southern edge of Ford Meadow in Pescadero Canyon. The DMFC's Pescadero Canyon tract is fee-owned property which was acquired to protect the natural and scenic values of the greenbelt between Carmel/Carmel Woods and the Del Monte Forest. The gully is the result of uncontrolled discharge of concentrated stormwater runoff from Camino Del Monte/Pescadero Roads in the Carmel Woods neighborhood. The continued downcutting has led to tree failures, habitat degradation, and sedimentation of adjacent areas downstream from the gully.

In 2015 the DMFC received a \$10,000 grant from the McCaw Foundation, a non-profit environmental organization based in Santa Barbara. Aided by a matching donor, volunteer assistance from the Pebble Beach Company and the Pebble Beach Community Services District, the DMFC decided use the funds to address the erosion damage at Ford Meadow. Perhaps you have observed the large equipment and workers along 17 Mile Drive as you go from Highway 1 Gate toward the Lodge. Engineered check-dams, or grade control structures, were installed at specific locations in the gully in an attempt to curb downcutting and lateral scour. Each of the structures used an entire truck load of specifically selected eucalyptus trees.

Only one-third of each structure is visible as most is buried deep in the ground. These grade control structures will make bioremediation efforts more successful in the years ahead.

- by Cassady Bill Vaughan, DMFC Forester



For more about this on-going project, please visit the DMFC website at [www.delmonteforestconservancy.org](http://www.delmonteforestconservancy.org)

## Lodge Area Improvements Underway - by Pebble Beach Company

It is an exciting time for Pebble Beach Resorts. In November, we initiated a number of major upgrades throughout the Resort starting at The Lodge.

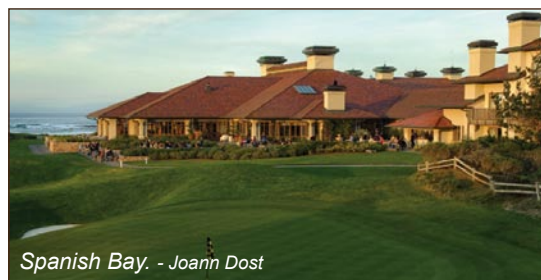
**Lodge Utilities Improvement Project** | The Pebble Beach Community Services District has begun work on a cooperative project to replace and modernize the underground utilities near the Lodge.



The Lodge. - Joann Dost

This is an essential and time-sensitive project that will replace the underground power lines, water pipes, and telecommunication lines. To accommodate the utilities work, you will experience some detours around The Lodge area from time to time, and your route to the Post Office, Market, and restaurants may change a bit. Portions of Cypress Drive from the iron gate to Casa Palmero will be closed during this project. We will keep you informed with periodic updates, and we have staff available to help you navigate around the construction area. This work will significantly improve the service and reliability of all the major utilities in the Lodge area, and is scheduled to be complete in April 2016.

**Rooms Renovation** | Over the next three years, all guest rooms at both The Lodge and The Inn will be completely renovated. Inside the rooms, every aspect of the experience, views, and amenities will be enhanced; and much-needed air conditioning will be added to the rooms. The exterior of The Lodge buildings will also be remodeled – the patios and decks will double in size and the window walls will become 30% larger to capture the incredible ocean views. This year's work is underway now in unoccupied Lodge guestroom buildings, and will be completed in April 2016. Once complete, the rooms will match the quality of the Resort's world class golf courses.



Spanish Bay. - Joann Dost

As with the Company's routine and ongoing work around the property, these projects are carefully managed to minimize disruption to guests, residents, and visitors. The work is not anticipated to impact the Pebble Beach experience. Throughout the work, Wells Fargo Bank, the Post Office, Pebble Beach Market, and the retail shops will be open as usual. The Spa and restaurants will also remain open during this time (with a few exceptions for routine maintenance). We invite you to visit us. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Dawn Mathes at (831) 625-8402 or mathesd@pebblebeach.com.



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### NEWSLETTER

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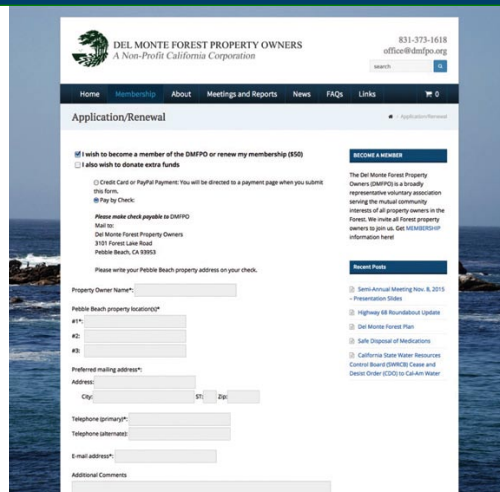
**Would you need help  
evacuating during a disaster?**

If you have limited mobility or do not drive, please make sure you are listed on the PBCSD Emergency Assistance List. It's easy—just call 373-1274. You will be phoned in the event of an emergency to provide a home check or evacuation assistance if needed. All information is strictly confidential.

*Check out the newly designed DMFPO website at <http://dmfpo.org>*

## DMFPO Updates and Revamps Website

DMFPO has recently updated its website at <http://dmfpo.org>. The new format is cleaner, simpler, and intended to make navigation throughout the site easier for the user. The update is based on the popular WordPress content management system, that makes it easier to update and maintain the website.



Other pages are devoted to a record of meeting minutes, links to useful sites for Del Monte Forest residents, and answers to frequently asked questions ("FAQs"). There is a blog-style page with news of events and other items of interest to our members. The new website has information about the organization

and its Officers and Directors.

The home page features a rolling "Upcoming Events" listing, which displays upcoming events in chronological order, with the next event at the top of the list. The list is updated automatically every day. There are buttons on the home page linking to maps and brochures related to the Del Monte Forest.

**Another feature is an online membership or renewal application, which supports payment of membership dues either by check, by credit card or via PayPal.**

<http://dmfpo.org>

