

Del Monte Forest Property Owners

a non-profit
California Corporation

3101 Forest Lake Road
Pebble Beach, CA 93953
831.373.1618 phone
831.373.1619 fax

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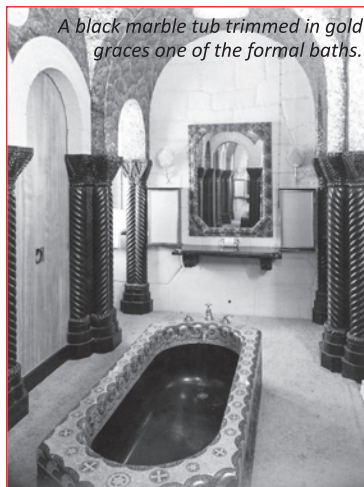
office@dmfpo.org
www.dmfpo.org

FOREST NEWS

The Crocker-Irwin Mansion

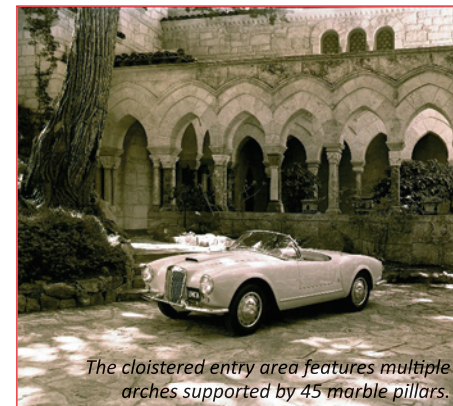


Helene Irwin-Crocker-Fagan built her ten thousand square foot castle on the rocks above the Pacific near Pescadero Point.



A black marble tub trimmed in gold graces one of the formal baths.

The sixth in a series of articles on the history of Del Monte Forest by Neal Hotelling



The cloistered entry area features multiple arches supported by 45 marble pillars.

Article photos courtesy of Julian P. Graham photographs / Pebble Beach Company Lagorio Archives

One of the most storied homes in Pebble Beach hides behind walls and hedges

near Pescadero Point. Tour buses that can see over the fence point it out as the site of multiple movies, including *My Favorite Brunette* (1947) starring Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour and *Escape to Witch Mountain* (1975) with Eddie Albert rescuing two alien children from Ray Milland, master of the mansion.

Many people refer to it as the "Crocker Mansion," yet no Crocker ever called it home. Charles Templeton Crocker (1884-1948) is the Crocker associated with this property. His father was Charles Frederick Crocker (1854-1897), the railroad Baron's eldest son. Both Charles Frederick and his wife Jennie (1858-1887) died young leaving Templeton and his sisters as trustee children who became multi-millionaires in their own right as soon as they came of age. In 1905, while a student at Yale and a classmate of S.F.B. Morse, Templeton's personal net worth at the time was estimated at five-million dollars—real money in those days.

San Francisco society pages began to go wild in 1910, when rumors of Templeton dating Helene Irwin started to emerge. Helene was born in Hawaii in 1887, and her father, William G. Irwin (1843-1914) made a large fortune in sugar. He owned the entire island of Lanai as

well as commercial property in Honolulu and was part owner of the Second Bank of Hawaii with his sugar partner, Claus Spreckels, a German immigrant based in California. In 1909, Irwin sold his sugar interests and moved his wife and daughter to San Francisco so that Helene might meet a proper husband. She did, and when she married Templeton on February 2, 1911, her father gave her stocks and bonds valued at one million dollars and her mother gave her a new limousine. After a honeymoon traveling the country in a private railcar, the wealthy couple settled in Hillsborough, California, where Templeton had spent his youth.

By the time S.F.B. Morse formed Del Monte Properties Company and turned 17-Mile Drive into the toniest address in California, both of Helene's parents had died and she had inherited another \$13 million. On September 15, 1923, Helene bought the 3-acre coastal lot adjacent to Pescadero Point for \$20,000 and engaged Santa Barbara architect George Washington Smith to design her castle. In mid-June 1926 she

and Templeton held a party at the site to lay the cornerstone. Among those in attendance was Templeton's cousin, W.W. Crocker (son of William H. Crocker) who decided to buy "Casa Amici," which had been built earlier by mining engineer John Vincent Rittenhouse and his wife Clara on the lot next door.



Costumed revelers try out an ornate marble tub during a 1960 house party.

Continued on page 3



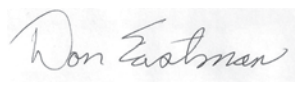
Don Eastman

With all the things I have learned and all the experiences I have had during my several years of service on the DMFPO Board of Directors, and especially during the last two years when I have served as board president, I am still amazed at how effectively several organizations work side by side, on a non-competitive basis and in seamless fashion to coordinate the operations in the forest and make Pebble Beach run like a well-oiled machine. Those organizations are the Pebble Beach Community Services District, The Pebble Beach Company, the Del Monte Forest Foundation with their Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Del Monte Forest Property Owners. DMFPO's role is to act as a communications hub between the other four organizations, the residents and property owners and various other entities and organizations that have an impact on activities in the forest. It wasn't until 2009 that I personally became aware of the Land Use Plan – Agreement – of 1984 between the Pebble Beach Company, the County of Monterey and the California Coastal Commission, and the fact that the 1984 agreement confers official capacities on the Del Monte Forest Foundation (DMFF) and DMFPO. That official recognition guarantees gracious receptions when DMFPO deals with government agencies and other entities.

As I have said and written many times it is my humble opinion that DMFPO does an excellent job handling its communications role. DMFPO has a culture of active participation by each board member. On average two or three experienced board members are replaced due to term limits each year. Those that leave the board after many years of service often go on to serve in other capacities in the Forest. For instance we currently have four former DMFPO board members serving on the Board of Directors of the Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD), and there are also former DMFPO board members on the board of the Del Monte Forest Foundation. In this way a cadre of experienced personnel are developed who know how the forest works and are available to give advice and support.

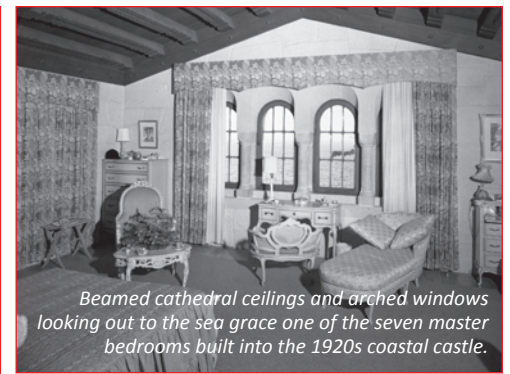
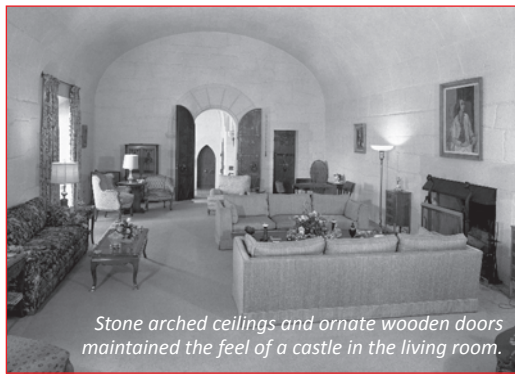
In performance of the communication function DMFPO has been involved in many positive events over the years and in the recent past. One of our board members recently viewed traffic accident statistics in the forest. Since the CHP has been here on a contract basis traffic accidents have been enormously reduced. Working with county officials on the issue of PODs being left in plain view for months at a time resulted in an elimination of that problem. Our new tradition of meeting twice a year with Bill Perrochi, the Chief Administrative Officer of the Pebble Beach Company (PBC) as well as other PBC managers has led to higher investments for road maintenance during the last two years with indications that there will be another dramatic expenditure increase for road maintenance in 2012. Another benefit of the meetings with Mr. Perrochi was the PBC reaction to DMFPO complaints about lax security at the gates with the result that new and more effective procedures were implemented in 2011 for enhanced security at all gates.

At the December board meeting, the DMFPO Board of Directors decided that the officers will remain the same for 2012 as they have been for 2010 and 2011 with the exception that Vice President Paul Jordan is being "term limited" off the board so we will operate next year with only one Vice President, Averil Nero. For 2012 the DMFPO board looks forward to serving the property owners even more pro-actively than we have in the recent past.



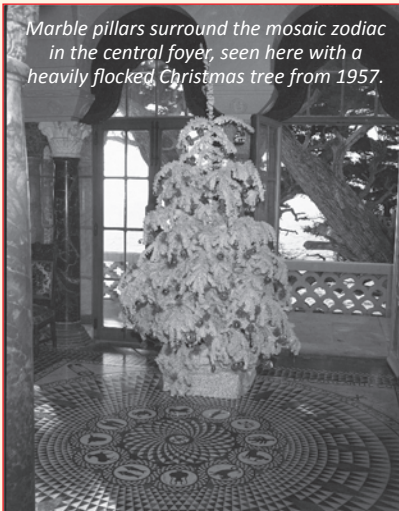
Don Eastman, President
Del Monte Forest Property Owners





The Crocker-Irwin Mansion - continued from page 1

George Washington Smith (1876-1930), originally from Pennsylvania, built a reputation as a painter and studied in Europe. He came to California to see his art on display at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exhibition in San Francisco and decided to stay on the West Coast. He settled in Montecito, where he designed and built his own home. The acclaim for his architecture outpaced that of his paintings, and he changed his focus. He designed more than 80 homes in Santa Barbara County, most of which were built and had earlier designed "Villa Eden" for Arthur Rose Vincent further north of the Crocker site. He also designed the Cypress Point Clubhouse, which was built after he died on March 16, 1930. Smith was noted for blending history with modern design, and outdid himself in creating what is believed to be the only Byzantine-style structure in America for Mrs. Crocker.



The two-foot thick exterior walls were formed of reinforced concrete faced with eight-inch thick Doria stone brought from Mount Vesuvius; the cloistered entry area included 45 marble pillars imported from 32 quarries in 16 different countries. The approximately 10,000 square-feet of interior space was equally impressive with seven master bedrooms, each with its own bath. A 16th-century mantle, featuring the 12 Apostles in carved stone, adorned the fireplace in the formal dining room, and the floor in the entry was a marble mosaic Zodiac chart in a Byzantine design. The most magnificent of bathrooms featured a tub, ornately carved from a slab of black marble with trim of real gold; the vaulted mosaic ceilings shimmered with mother-of-pearl from native abalone shells.

However, as the 30 craftsmen labored on the fine details of the palatial home, all was not right with the Crockers at home in Hillsborough. Templeton busied himself with writing and producing plays for the Bohemian Club, and funding expeditions and traveling with the California Academy of Sciences aboard his personal yacht. Helene was left at home. The childless couple divorced in 1928, with Helene retaining the palace still under construction at Pebble Beach. She went East for a few months and there married Paul I. Fagan (1893-1960) in New York on March 15, 1929. He was a successful exporter and importer, and after a honeymoon in Europe, they bought the W.C. Van Antwerp home in Hillsborough and soon finished her Pebble Beach getaway. The final cost of the Pebble Beach castle was reported to be \$2.1 million.

The Fagans remained together until his death in 1960, spending time between their homes at Hillsborough, Pebble Beach and Hawaii; even developing a 10,000-acre cattle ranch and, in 1946, a luxury resort on Maui. Their Pebble Beach estate was on the market in 1946, when filming of *My Favorite Brunette* took place. A few months later it was bought by George and Marcia Hart for just \$160,000. The Hart's made it their home from 1947-1955, and then sold it to Noel Poux, a Penn State engineer whose interest in the peninsula was piqued when his son was stationed at Fort Ord. Poux made his first fortune with the invention and improvement of zippers, and later formed a plastic pipe company in 1942. He planned a west coast branch of his plastics company in Seaside. He converted two bedrooms of the castle as his personal design studio

and otherwise used the home as a place to entertain business associates. His primary residence and business remained in Pennsylvania.

While there are references that early Los Angeles Angels hurler turned stock broker Clare V. Goodwin and his wife Kathryn called the castle home in the late 1950s, Poux still owned the home at the time. In 1962, Harold Chittenden bought the showpiece and attempted to open it for tours. Morse immediately shut down that operation as a violation of deed restrictions. The house was put back on the market for \$200,000 and sold in 1964 for \$165,000.

From 1964-1980, the castle was owned by George Stoll (1905-1985), a jazz violinist who became a music director, first with Bing Crosby on radio, and later with MGM, working on everything from Judy Garland's *The Wizard of Oz* (1939) to Elvis Presley's *Viva Las Vegas* (1964) and *Spinout* (1966). Stoll won the Best Musical Score Oscar® for *Anchors Away* (1945). For Stoll and his wife Merien (known to all as "Dallas") this was their primary residence in retirement, surrounded by movie memorabilia and

receiving visits from many Hollywood stars through the years, including Elvis and Priscilla Presley in 1967, while visiting Priscilla's parents at Fort Ord. The Hollywood pair no doubt enjoyed opening their home to the Disney Studio for *Escape to Witch Mountain*, but in 1980 they sold the estate for \$4 million dollars and moved to a moderately smaller and easier to maintain home at Pebble Beach where George died in 1985 and Dallas lived until her death in 2001.

Since 1980, the castle at Pescadero Point has returned to its role as a getaway for its wealthy owners, but has only changed hands twice. Mahdi Investment Company bought the property from the Stolls and held it for nearly two decades. In 1998 they put it on the market for \$25 million, eventually selling it for \$13.25 million in August 1998 to the Pescadero Point Trust of Southern California; the most expensive home ever sold (at that time) in Monterey County. The current ownership prefers to remain private, but treasures one of the most unique architectural examples in the world – here in Del Monte Forest.

New DMFPO Board Directors for 2012

DMFPO DIRECTORS

Brenda Anderson
Richard Cassam
Julie Conners
Meg Conners
Don Eastman
Bob Hutchison
Jack McKenna
Monica Nathan
Averil Nero
Ned Van Roekel
Joella Szabo

DMFPO OFFICERS

President
Don Eastman
Vice President
Averil Nero
Secretary
Meg Conners
Treasurer
Ned Van Roekel

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Roads/Land Use
Bob Hutchison
Traffic & Safety
Neighborhood Watch
Monica Nathan
Membership
Ned Van Roekel
Nominations/Elections
Julie Conners
Website & Newsletter
Richard Cassam

NEWSLETTER

Editor
Richard Cassam
Design
Laura Dadiw
Writers/Photo
Contributors
Neal Hotelling
Julian P. Graham Photos
- Pebble Beach Company
Lagorio Archives
Capt. Jennifer Valdez
Don Eastman

Brenda Anderson has a background as a high school English teacher, interior designer, and previous owner of an antiques/interior design shop in Menlo Park, CA. Brenda and her husband Dick raised 3 children and moved to the Forest in 2003. Brenda's greatest satisfaction has come from starting the Monterey Peninsula Newcomers Club in 2004, now with 80 members! Brenda is presently a real estate agent and volunteers weekly at the Cancer Society's Discovery Shop. Dick works at Spyglass Hill Golf Course. Brenda is committed to listening to residents' ideas and conveying them to the board.

John (Jack) F. McKenna moved to Pebble Beach in 2010 after having lived for thirty-three years in the Chico area of Northern California. He grew up in San Diego (Point Loma) and has an undergraduate degree in business from Whittier College. Jack taught Naval Management Analysis and ultimately received his Ph.D. from U.C. Irvine in business. He then taught at CSU Chico and was an Associate Dean and Director of Graduate Programs, retiring in 2000. He looks forward to learning about and addressing the challenges facing our community.

Forest Residents Can Be Safe First Responders

by Captain Jennifer Valdez, PBCSD Fire Department

It's human nature to want to help someone who has been injured, but there are a few things you should consider before, during, and after choosing to render aid.

Before:

Check the scene to determine if it is safe for you to approach the patient. Did they get shocked by a fallen power line that might electrocute you as well? Are they in the middle of a busy street where you might need assistance stopping traffic before it is safe to help?

Don't put on blinders and jump right in... or you might become a second victim.

During:

Check the victim. Is the patient conscious? If so, you need their permission before you can touch them. Obtaining permission to assist can be as simple as asking, "Can I help you?"

Is your patient unconscious? If so, you have implied consent.

If you aren't sure whether they are conscious or unconscious, tap the patient gently on the shoulder while asking, "Are you okay?"

Ask the patient what happened while scanning them for injuries. Are they bleeding? Are they guarding a hurt arm or leg? Try to gather some basic information quickly, and then relay this information to 911 dispatchers.

Sample patient history #1:

Woman comes across a man who is sitting on the side of a walking trail.

Rescuer (woman) - "What happened?" (She notices the man is sweating profusely).

Patient (man) - "I don't feel so good. My chest feels... tight."

Rescuer - "I'm going to call 911 and get you some help."

Patient - Waves the woman away dismissively, "Good gracious, it's nothing. I just pushed myself

a little too hard today. I'll be fine. Can you help me up?"

Rescuer - "No. If you start walking again, it might make things worse. I'm going to call 911 so the paramedics can help you."

Moving the patient: Remember, not all wounds hurt right away, nor are they always visible, so you might not know that a person has a significant internal injury. Plus, the same incident can affect people differently. Just think how a 90 year old victim of a vehicle accident might fare versus a 20 year old. Keeping these things in mind, it is almost always advised to never move a patient unless it is absolutely necessary for their safety. Your best bet is to phone 911 and let the professionals handle making the full patient assessment and movement decisions. In addition, Monterey County has Emergency Medical Dispatchers; they can walk you through the steps of basic first aid and CPR. And speaking of... are you trained in CPR and First Aid? If so, you can provide care until the fire engine and ambulance arrives. If not, you should consider taking a class. The Pebble Beach Fire Department offers free first aid and CPR classes.

Do you have an emergency kit in your vehicle with gloves, a barrier device and other medical supplies? If not, you should consider buying a pre-made kit, or putting together one of your own.

After:

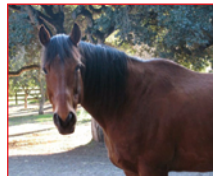
If you had on medical gloves, give them to the paramedics to dispose of properly. Then make sure to wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, even if you were wearing gloves. If there isn't water and soap immediately available, use some hand sanitizer from your emergency kit or off the ambulance or fire engine.

Restock your emergency kit. We hope you won't have to use it again, but if you do, you'll be relieved you were prepared!

"A Table Affair - 2012"

"A Table Affair - 2012" sponsored by Pebble Beach Company and Pebble Beach Riding & Trails Association is scheduled for Thursday, April 26th. The event will be held at the Conference Center, The Lodge, Pebble Beach from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. There will be no entrance fee but donations are requested for three beneficiaries: Redwings Horse Sanctuary that rescues abandoned and neglected equines; Animal Friends Rescue Project of Pacific Grove that makes a difference in the lives of abandoned, stray and abused animals; and Peace of Mind Dog Rescue, an organization that cares for older animals that have suffered the loss of their owner.

Each of the three beneficiaries does sterling work in the care and welfare of animals in our community. The three organizations cover horses, burros, donkeys, dogs, cats, rabbits and older animals.



Two public relations events are planned prior to "A Table Affair - 2012." The first will be an exhibition of animal photographs, paintings and posters to be held at the Pebble Beach Community Services District Board Room on Wednesday, February 15th and Thursday, February 16th. This fun event is open to the public. There will be no charge but donations will be welcomed.

The second will be an evening event held in the Drawing Room of Herrmann Hall at the Naval Postgraduate School on Wednesday, March 28th. A similar event held in 2009 was a huge success. Further details will be forthcoming on these two public relations events. Any inquiries should be addressed to the Co-Chairs of "A Table Affair - 2012," Averil Nero at 644-0833 or e-mail acnero@comcast.net or Sandi Verbanec at 333-0323 or e-mail svgraphicdesign@gmail.net.

Check out the DMFPO
web site at
<http://www.dmfpo.org>
for current events,
contact information,
articles of continued
interest, and a wealth of
resources from DMFPO
for getting the most out
of living in the beautiful
Del Monte Forest.

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