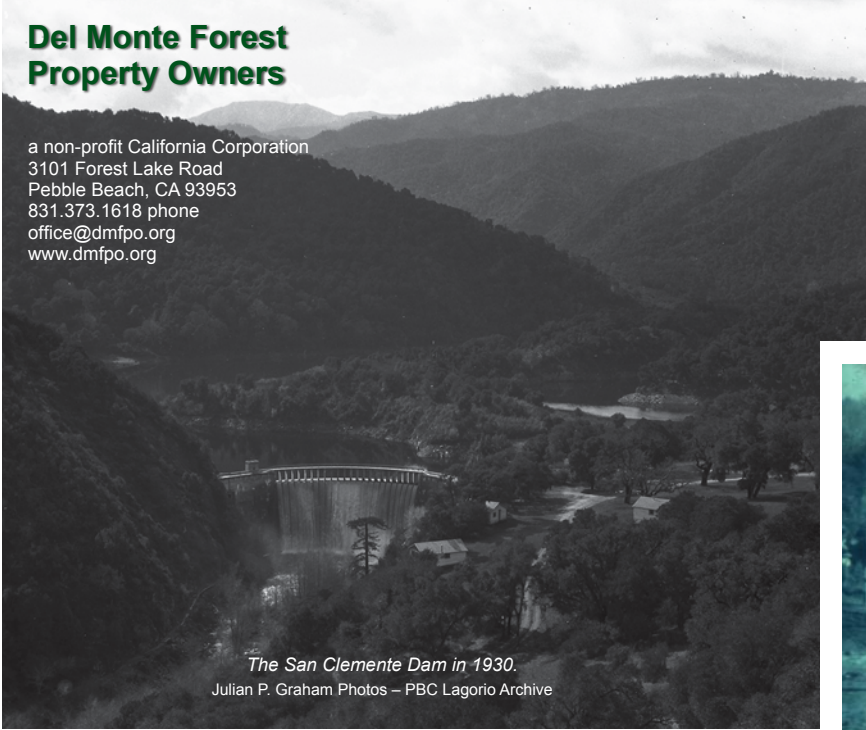


Del Monte Forest Property Owners

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FOREST NEWS

July - September 2014



The San Clemente Dam in 1930.

Julian P. Graham Photos – PBC Lagorio Archive

The First Del Monte Forest Water System

- by Neal Hotelling

Whether Mark Twain ever uttered “Whiskey is for drinking; water is for fighting,” is unprovable, but as real as it seems to have always been, it was not the case on the early Monterey Peninsula. Clean water was a need the public here could not solve and required a private enterprise that was willing to invest. That enterprise was the predecessor of Pebble Beach Company, the Pacific Improvement Company (PICO).

The early Spanish settlers at Monterey struggled with water. The need led Father Serra to move the mission headquarters to Carmel in 1771 to be near the river. Still he could not tap the resource to adequately irrigate the mission fields. A hundred years later, a Methodist retreat struggled to establish itself at Pacific Grove. Carrying buckets from a small spring was their only source of fresh water.

In 1880, PICO bought most of the Monterey Peninsula including all of today’s Pebble Beach



A construction crew—largely Chinese workers—builds Forest Lake Reservoir in 1888 to expand the community water system.
– PBC Lagorio Archive

and Pacific Grove, and built Hotel Del Monte near Monterey. The development company tied to the railroads and owned by the “Big Four” – Hopkins, Huntington, Stanford and Crocker – twice attempted to drill wells near the hotel; each was inadequate. Seeing that water was also necessary to expand their vision for Pacific Grove, the company sought to acquire the water rights to the Carmel River.

PICO bought 11,000 acres in Carmel Valley, including the 6,000-acre Los Laureles Rancho. PICO signed agreements with Monterey to supply their water needs in exchange for rights-of-way in town, and then purchased a right-of-way through the Carmel Valley land of Honoré Escole (1834-1895) for extending their pipeline to the PICO-owned land on the peninsula. PICO selected a site just west of where the San Clemente Creek feeds into the Carmel River. On April 7, 1883, the PICO filed for water appropriation rights with the county, with no opposition.

(Continued on page 5)

Orchids in Del Monte Forest

Nature Notes from the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

Walk the trails of Del Monte Forest this summer, and you may find a wild orchid in bloom under the Monterey pines. The one you're most likely to see is Yadon's rein-orchid (*Piperia yadonii*), shown in the accompanying photograph. It's named after Vern Yadon, a botanist, Director Emeritus of the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, and also member of the Forest Open Space Advisory Committee.

Be cautioned, however, that you should count yourself lucky if you do see this orchid in flower. Only about 10% or fewer of the plants actually bloom in a given year. (It's time to forgive yourself for not being able to get your commercial orchid to re-bloom.)

Like other orchids, Yadon's rein-orchids grow from underground tubers. After the winter rains, some tubers push up one or two strap-shaped leaves above ground. Then in the summer-time, the leaves wither and an even smaller subset sends up a single flowering stalk. The stalk may reach 30 inches tall and is packed with over 50 individual flowers.

At first glance, the flowers don't look like orchids. But look more closely, and you'll see six petals and sepals, divided with bilateral symmetry. On Yadon's rein-orchid the upper three are white and green, while the lower are white. Look for the flowers from mid-June to August. Its fruits mature from August to early October. - Annie Holdren



Yadon's rein-orchid (*Piperia yadonii*)

- Photo © Katie Swanson (natureid.blogspot.com), used with permission

DEL MONTE FOREST CONSERVANCY DONOR APPRECIATION

The Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) hosted a "Donor Appreciation Event" last September at Indian Village Picnic Grounds, one of many areas under the agency's stewardship. The day was wonderfully warm and sunny in the wooded area off Dunes Road up from Seal

Rock Beach. Tenor Erasmo Aiello, shown in the photograph at left with Dave Daly and Mike Marotta, performed "Arias in the Village" for DMFC supporters. This event was made possible through generous donations of wine, food, and volunteer staffing, along with Mr. Aiello graciously gifting his performance.



The event received an enthusiastic response, and will be back by popular demand in September 2014. The recently renovated "Gingerbread House," also a DMFC property, will be open for tours before and after the performance, featuring a display of fine art by Pedro De Lemos, the artist and craftsman who built the cottage in 1944. Details of the event are provided via donation acknowledgement letters.

Visit <http://www.delmonteforestconservancy.org> for more information.



- * Del Monte Forest has approximately 75 miles of roads.
- * Pebble Beach Company (PBC) uses a state of the-art road survey computer database to prioritize roads in need of maintenance using a scale from 1 to 3: 1 = roads in good condition; 2 = roads in fair condition that may need repair/patching; 3 = roads in poor condition that need to be repaved in the next 12 months.
- * Historically, PBC has spent approximately \$500,000 per year on road maintenance by outside contractors (Pavex, Granite, etc.) or about \$7,000 per mile of road (by comparison, the County of Monterey historically spends about \$2,000 per mile of road).
- * For the last three years, with input from the DMFPO, the Company committed to spend \$1 million on various road projects, or almost double its historic budget.
- * For 2014, again after input from the DMFPO, PBC has committed to spend \$900,000 on road maintenance projects. Additionally, PBC plans to spend another \$600,000 on improved signage in and around the Del Monte Forest.
- * The following repaving projects are planned to be completed by November 2014:



| | |
|-------------|--|
| Club | Benbow |
| Arbor | Sombria (Portola to Portola) |
| Quarry | Portola (Sombria to Stevenson) |
| Sheridan | Lopez (Sunridge to Forest Lake) |
| Susan Way | Raccoon Trail (Forest Lodge to Majella) |
| Douglas Way | S.F.B. Morse Dr. (Congress to Forest Ave.) |

- * The above list is subject to change based on adverse weather conditions, timing of local utility projects, and other unexpected conditions.
- * In recent years, Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) has provided additional funding to repave/repair roads that are damaged as a result of its sewer and water line replacement projects. Last year, for example, PBCSD provided \$300,000 toward road repaving connected with its underground utility project. This funding by PBCSD supplements the miles of roads that PBC repaves each year.
- * In addition to its annual contractor costs, PBC employs 4 full-time road maintenance employees at an annual cost of \$300,000 per year. PBC's crew handles more routine road maintenance work such as patching, filling potholes, clearing drain lines, minor restriping, etc.
- * The PBC contact for road condition/maintenance is Shawn Casey, Vice President, Resource Management, 625-8435. Shawn has been with PBC for 35 years and is the person most knowledgeable about the Forest road system. Please feel free to contact him if you have any questions.

PEBBLE BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



Reverse 911® Program

Did you know that the Pebble Beach Fire Department has an emergency telephone notification system? It's called Reverse 911®. This system is used to notify Pebble Beach residents in emergency situations such as disasters, pandemics, evacuation notifications, and neighborhood emergencies. To register your telephone number in the emergency notification system contact Captain Jennifer Valdez at (831) 647-5642 or email jennifer.valdez@fire.ca.gov. You can complete an online enrollment form at the District website: http://www.pbcسد.org/contactinfo_update.html.

Emergency Assistance Program



If your mobility is limited, or a medical condition might restrict your ability to leave quickly during an emergency, then the Pebble Beach Emergency

Assistance Program is for you. It's designed for those needing assistance in an emergency, and lets firefighters, paramedics, and other emergency workers know who needs special assistance during a disaster.

KNOX® Box Program

When paramedics and firefighters encounter a locked gate or a locked entry door to a residence, critical time is lost while trying to gain emergency access. A KNOX® Box quickly allows access without having to force entry to assist someone injured or ill. Contact Captain Sichel Young at (831) 647-5641 or email sichel.young@fire.ca.gov to find out more.



National Disaster Search Dog Foundation Highlighted at Two Events in April



On April 3rd at a reception held at the Naval Postgraduate School, over one hundred guests looked on as

Comet, a Border Collie, and Lola, a black Labrador, received medals for their service as they transferred from active duty to retirement status. The two Search and Rescue dogs were honored by ten uniformed firefighters before marching off with their respective handlers, Captain Michele Vaughn of Salinas Fire Department and Firefighter Johnny Subia of Seaside Fire Department, to the tune of "Scotland the Brave".



The 11th Annual "A Table Affair" took place on Thursday, April 24 at the Conference Center, The Lodge, Pebble Beach. A record number of visitors viewed 36 imaginative table creations, and enjoyed complimentary light refreshments

and browsed items for sale at "Comet's Boutique." As a result of the afternoon's activities, over \$15,000 was raised for the beneficiary, the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation, and further donations are still being received. Grateful thanks are extended to all donors, contributors, creators, and volunteers for a very successful event. Special thanks to Pebble Beach Company without whose support "A Table Affair" would not be possible.

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In August 1883, tapping the resource of cheap and efficient Chinese labor with which he built the railroads, Charles Crocker began construction of what became known as the Chinese Dam and laid an 18-inch pipeline from the dam to Del Monte Forest, across to Pacific Grove and on to Monterey and Hotel Del Monte. The 42-foot high dam of marble and concrete, along with more than 20 miles of pipe, was completed in less than three months. On Sunday evening, October 14, 1883, W.H. Pyburn, owner of Monterey's only newspaper, the Argus, tapped the first pitcher of water from the new pipes.

A month later, PICO completed work on the 16-million gallon Pacific Grove Reservoir – today an unused hole in the ground west of David Avenue near Carmel Avenue. Within a few years of having fresh water available, sales of lots in Pacific Grove soared, with “over 2000 [lots] having been sold in the last three years [1884-1886], and an addition of 1400 more will be ready for the market on the 15th of April [1887].”¹ Another 245 lots had been sold in new Monterey; a larger reservoir was needed.

While PICO was still enmeshed in lawsuits to obtain clear title to their El Pescadero Rancho comprising most of Del Monte Forest, they took the risk. The Argus of August 4, 1888, reported that Crocker and others “came down from San Francisco and selected a site just above the clay pit at saw-mill gulch” for what would become Forest Lake Reservoir. The report continued: “The dimensions of the storage reservoir will be 600 x 800 feet and it will hold 100,000,000 gallons of water.” Sadly, Charles Crocker, suffering with diabetes, became ill on this trip and died at Hotel Del Monte on August 14, 1888.

Despite Crocker's death, work on the reservoir moved forward. The Argus of September 29, 1888 reported: “On probably twenty acres is

grouped thirteen hundred men... three or four hundred horses, and maybe two hundred carts. All are continually in motion.” The men completed the work in December, and for most of the next century it remained a key component of the local water system.

Without Crocker, who had led so many positive changes for the early development of the Monterey Peninsula, the era of trust in PICO's motives seemed to shift. Pacific Grove incorporated as a city in 1889 and as Carmel began to develop, a dozen years later, conflicts increased. The next enhancement to the system, the San Clemente Dam, took longer to approve and complete. S.F.B. Morse began the project while he was the manager of PICO, and finished it in 1921, under Del Monte Properties Company.

A decade later, with the onset of the Great Depression, Morse needed an influx of cash. The Sweetwater Company bought a number of local utilities in the 1930s and reorganized as California Water and Telephone Company. Negotiations throughout the early 1930s resulted in a sale of the Monterey Water Works for which Del Monte received roughly one million dollars and a 50-year freeze on the water prices charged to all Del Monte holdings. The era of local ownership of our 130-year-old water system lasted just 15 years, from 1919-1934. 🌀



*Flood gate at reservoir, located where California American Water now has its corporation yard, near David Avenue in Pacific Grove. The reservoir was built in 1888 by the Pacific Improvement Company. It had a 140,000 gallon capacity.
(McLane, 1952)*



**DEL MONTE FOREST
PROPERTY OWNERS**

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DMFPO HOSTED SEMINAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3RD

2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

PBCSD COMMUNITY ROOM

The Panetta Institute for Public Policy will
present information on

Monterey County Reads, a local
community literacy initiative.

No charge, no reservations needed.

Light refreshments will be served.



office@dmfpo.org

<http://dmfpo.org>

(831) 373-1618

DMFPO Hosts Flu Shot Clinics In October

Central Coast Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice *Flu Shot Clinics Open to the Public*

**Hosted by DMFPO at the Pebble Beach Community Services District
Forest Lake and Lopez Roads, Pebble Beach**



Dates: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Thursday, October 23, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. - Noon



Immunizations available to ages 2 and above

- \$30: Flu Shot, FluMist & High Dose (over age 65)
 - Medicare Plan B
 - Blue Cross & Blue Shield Insurance
- *Must present insurance card at clinic**

Other vaccines available:

- Tdap (tetanus/whooping cough) - \$70
- Pneumonia (over age 50) – price varies