

Thank you Neal!

The previous 31 editions (nearly eight years) of the Forest News featured much anticipated articles regarding various aspects of the history of Pebble Beach. The author of those articles was Mr. Neal B. Hotelling. He was an employee of Pebble Beach Company (PBC) for 27 years. Mr. Hotelling held various corporate management positions for PBC during his career. In addition to his other responsibilities he was appointed PBC Historian in 1995, serving in that capacity until he retired this year. The editorial staff of the Forest News interviewed Mr. Hotelling to provide DMFPO members with autobiographical information concerning the individual who contributed his writing skills very generously to our newsletter for so many years. The interview follows:

DMFPO: What was your favorite aspect of working for the Company?

NH: The diversity and opportunity to grow. I knew business operations and had the opportunity to learn golf from the sub-ground up, as we literally were rebuilding several greens to prepare Pebble Beach for the 1992 U.S. Open. In golf I also learned the value of trademarks and the challenge of infringements. After spending a month at trial in late 1995 – PBC et al vs. Tour 18 – I moved from Golf to Legal as Director of Corporate Affairs, overseeing corporate records, including trademarks, insurance and other contracts. I had some background in insurance and had worked with my predecessor in Legal on storm damage claims when the first-ever recorded tornado in Monterey County hit Del Monte Golf Course, and also damaged



the other courses in 1992. I was in charge of insurance when the El Niño storm of 1998 hit. The physical damage was pretty straightforward, but the business interruption was an interesting challenge to settle. In 2000 I moved to Marketing to manage the Licenses and also the annual magazine. Research, writing and editing provided an outlet for my creative side.

How did you develop your interest in history and literature?

I grew up with a set of encyclopedias and enjoyed looking things up. In school, I benefitted from teachers that encouraged finding diverse resources and interviewing elders in the community. I read a variety of books. Tarzan was my favorite. Ironically, Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, was my least favorite. I was not familiar with Steinbeck before moving to the peninsula, and when someone suggested I read *Cannery Row*, I cringed. If I hated Sinclair's meat packing plants, why would I want to read about fish packing plants. After a class at MPC, I quickly became a fan and collector of Steinbeck, which served as my primer on Monterey area history as I sought answers not available in the classroom.

A Shore Thing

Story by Gina Gianfala

Photo by Paul Fenwick, Monterey Audubon Society

Look Mom, that bird has a carrot on its nose!

Sure does look like one, but, no, it is not a carrot. Our iconic bird with a long red/orange beak is a Black Oystercatcher or BLOY for short. Perhaps you have noticed it before? This West Coast resident, is one-third larger than a crow, with black feathers that have a brown sheen, they also have distinctive red eyes. The BLOY sports a very noticeable beak and has a distinct call.

Black Oystercatchers are year round residents of our area, they are territorial and pair for life. Pebble Beach sports thirteen known territories plus several immature birds flocking together. Starting in April and through September volunteers monitor the birds. Now, you may ask why monitor this particular species?

Starting in early May the BLOYS will build a nest; not any regular old nest, but a collection of pebbles and shells strategically located on the rocks near the water. The location is critical, in close vicinity to their food supply, but away from rough waves, and with some ground for the little ones to scamper about. After the 2 or 3 eggs are laid, a small grey puffball will hatch in about 4 weeks. The time after hatching is critical for the little ones because of the many predators, such as gulls, raccoons, hawks, herons, owls and crows. There is plenty of danger for the chicks. The hatchlings are very active but vulnerable until they fledge (fly) in about 5 weeks.



BLOYS are important indicators of the health of our coastline; their presence is a sign of a healthy ocean. Their primary food source is critters that live in the low intertidal zone. These include muscles, limpets, urchins and small crabs. Elsewhere, as the name implies, they also feed on oysters.

An effort to monitor their habits and reproduction has been underway since 2011. Local residents volunteer under the auspices of California Coastal National Monument, the Audubon Society and the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History to accomplish these surveys. Although BLOY chicks have a low survival rate, the 15-year longevity of adults may be enough to sustain the population. The monitoring program hopes to gain more insight into questions such as this.

Today there is a total estimated population of 12,000 birds over the entire range (Alaska to Baja California).

You may ask what are some things I can do to help this iconic bird? Give them space and keep dogs on a leash while walking near the ocean during the April to August time period, that's when the young are most vulnerable. Pebble Beach prohibits the use of drones, which scare wildlife. You can call the Pebble Beach security dispatch if you encounter somebody using a drone.

Happy trails and keep a lookout for a bird with a carrot for a nose! - Gina Gianfala is a Pebble Beach resident and Bay Net volunteer

Del Monte Forest Property Owners

a non-profit
California Corporation

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Can you tell us a little about the Company's corporate archives and art collection that you managed?


As a student of history, one of my first questions as Golf Operations Manager was, "Who was the first golf pro?" Nobody knew so I set out to remedy that. There was no archive, just boxes of materials in storage. The Lagorios, a brother and sister team of retired teachers from Oakland, had moved to the area and Elmer had asked if he could go through the boxes to see if there was anything that could help him research his interest in trains; the Del Monte Express in particular. He and his sister Elena began volunteering two days a week, initially cataloguing box contents. I began comparing historical notes and questions with them, and worked with them to gather historic images of Pebble Beach Golf Links for the reconstruction work our team was directing. Had the Lagorios not done the organizing to establish the archive, I could not have built out the historic knowledge base the company has now.

The importance of art at the resort goes back to the beginning of the 20th century when Hotel Del Monte featured what some believe to be the first art gallery on the west coast. S.F.B. Morse was a strong supporter of the art community. Much of the company's vast art collection is historical, such as three large pieces by early Pebble Beach resident Francis McComas and a triptych by his wife Gene. Pieces by Jerry VanMegert, a current longtime resident are also featured at The Lodge and The Inn. The company collection grew dramatically with the opening of The Inn at Spanish Bay, featuring mostly modern or contemporary art of California artists at the time it opened in 1987 but also earlier peninsula artists. The nocturnal by Charles Rollo Peters that hangs in the lobby, and the modern aquatint by Motherwell, are favorites. The collection also includes photographs by Ansel Adams, Edward Weston and others.

Any interesting stories about the US Open?

I've had the unique experience of working the 1992 U.S. Open as a member of the Golf team, the 2000 U.S. Open as Legal, and the 2010 as Marketing. Each had unforgettable moments. As some may recall, in 2010 Dustin Johnson looked like a lock going into the final round, but fell back and soon out of sight after opening par / triple-bogie / double-bogie / bogie – giving up six strokes in the first four holes. The tension mounted as Woods, Mickelson and Els were all close, but couldn't close. The three hall-of-famers trailed the little-known Scot, Graeme McDowell, and the even lesser-known Frenchman, Gregory Havret. As the U.S. Open Committee gathered behind the 18th green for the closing ceremony, you could hear the murmurs: "If McDowell misses this putt, these two will be back tomorrow for an 18-hole playoff." McDowell sank it and the U.S. Open had the first European champion in 40 years.

Are you planning to write any more books?

The short answer is yes. I have spent many hours with the memoirs of Sam Morse, contemplating a comprehensive biography on him. The recently released biography by his grandson Charles Osborne may fill that niche. I have also been working on a study of the life of Abraham, to include extra-biblical sources to interpret his youth and training under Noah's son Shem (aka Melchizedek) and correlate his life with other histories of the era. Alternatively, having traced many of my personal lines to the Great Migration to America of the early-to-mid 1600s, I'm also contemplating some historical fiction that would blend in some of the experiences of my ancestors in the development of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and Martha's Vineyard pre- and post-American Revolution. I may revisit what I thought would be my first book, a pictorial on the films of John Steinbeck. I have more than enough ideas to keep me busy in retirement. 



Special Offer from Pebble Beach Company

DMF residents can purchase special tickets that include parking passes! To get your parking pass, be sure to purchase tickets for the 2019 U.S. Open at **ticketing.usga.org/delmonteforest** using promo code **2019dmfr**.

"A Table Affair" May 31, 2018



The 15th "A Table Affair" was a truly celebratory occasion. The wonderful array of imaginative and creative tables that filled the ballroom at the Inn at Spanish Bay brought real delight to the very large number of guests who attended the event.

Special thanks are due to the table designers, the enthusiastic team of volunteers which includes the great sales force that manned the Bow-Wow Boutique, and the friendly, efficient Pebble Beach Company personnel.

Peace of Mind Dog Rescue, this year's beneficiary will receive 100% of the funds that were donated at the event. The money will be put to very good use to help senior dogs and senior citizens on the Central California Coast.

A heartfelt thank you to Pebble Beach Company for being so supportive and interested in "A Table Affair" since the event was first staged in 2004.

The following repaving projects are planned to be completed by October 2018:

- Sloat - 17 mile Drive to Lopez
- 17 Mile Drive - Hwy 1 Gate to Del Ciervo
- Sunridge - 17 Mile Drive to Scenic
- Cypress Drive - 17 Mile Drive to Stevenson
- Sunridge - Ronda to Sunridge
- Misc. Large Patching & Asphalt Repairs

Roads to be slurry sealed: **Venadero**

The following drainage improvement projects are planned to be completed in 2018:

- SFB Morse Drive (above Congress Road Intersection)
- Riata Road Easement (1509 Riata Road)
- Berm Repair/Replace (Various Locations)
- 17 Mile Drive (by Conference Center)
- 17 Mile Drive (near Del Ciervo)
- Sonado Road Easement (1601 Sonado Road)
- Stevenson Drive Swale (Near Spyglass Maintenance)
- Scenic Drive (near Ocean Pines)
- Mission road (1501 Mission Road)

The above lists are subject to change based on adverse weather conditions, timing of local utility projects, and other unexpected conditions.

**ROAD
WORK
AHEAD**



- * The Forest has approximately 75 miles of roads.
- * PBC uses a state of the-art road survey computer database to prioritize roads in need of maintenance.
- * For 2018, PBC has committed to spend almost \$1 million on road maintenance projects and drainage improvements.
- * Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) continues to provide additional funding to repave/repair roads that are damaged as a result of its sewer and water line replacement projects, or undergrounding utility lines projects.
- * In addition to its annual contractor costs, PBC employs 4 full-time road maintenance employees at an annual cost of \$300,000. 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 and maintenance is Shawn Casey, Vice President, Resource Management, 625-8435. Shawn has been with PBC for 39 years and is the person most knowledgeable about the Forest road system. Please feel free to contact with questions.

IF TREE BRANCHES ARE TOUCHING POWER LINES, residents should call 1-800-pge-5000, and press 1 to "report a hazardous situation." Prior to calling please note: the address of the tree; whether there are any down or broken lines; whether the line is pole-to-pole or pole-to-house; and If there are any access issues (gates, dogs, etc.)



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U.S. Amateur Golf Championship

August 13th -19th, 2018

Pebble Beach

Volunteers are needed to help—
and to host a player (and guest) in
their home during the tournament.

For more information on how to
volunteer, visit the DMFPO
website home page.

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Presents

Age Well Drive Smart

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Driving is Freedom
Join the CHP for the Keys to
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**Pebble Beach Community Services
District Office**
3101 Forest Lake Drive, Pebble Beach, CA 93953
Reserve Your Place via email: office@dmfpo.org

Coming this Fall

*Participants will receive a certificate of completion that may be accepted by their auto insurance and result in a discounted premium.

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Free Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Collection Event!

Saturday, September 22, 9 am - 2 pm
PBCSD office parking lot
3101 Forest Lake Rd., Pebble Beach
(intersection of Forest Lake and Lopez Roads)