



A SENSE OF WONDER

THE NEW DEL MONTE FOREST CONSERVANCY YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

- JAMES FUQUA, BOARD DIRECTOR

Beginning in early Spring 2022, the Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) Youth Environmental Education Program will bring school age children to Indian Village in Pebble Beach to learn about the unique environment that exists in the Del Monte Forest. Students will participate in hands-on learning with age-appropriate classes to uncover the secrets of old growth cypress, redwood, Monterey pine trees, other unique plants, and ecosystems (some that exist nowhere else on earth). Students will explore the habitat that exists in Pebble Beach, home to many animals including deer, bobcats, coyote, birds, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies and an amazing array of plants from tiny wildflowers to staggering redwoods and cypress.

The goals of the new program are as follows: connect children to nature, inspire curiosity and a sense of wonder, promote stewardship, and foster future caretakers of the Del Monte Forest and the natural world beyond.

The DMFC youth program is inclusive, free and available to public, private and charter schools, home school programs, community programs like Boys and Girls Club, Community Partnership for Youth, Scouts, 4-H — groups that support youth education and health.

Kirsten Stember, an environmental education specialist with over 25 years of experience coordinating outdoor programs, leading interpretive walks, and creating hands-on curriculum for schools and organizations on the Central Coast, is DMFC youth program designer and educator.

Kirsten has taught classes for many charter and public schools and co-created the environmental education program for the Santa Lucia Conservancy. A lifelong resident of Pebble Beach, Kirsten grew up exploring the trails of the Del Monte Forest by foot and horseback and has a deep appreciation for the scenic treasures that exist nowhere else. Accepting the leadership of the DMFC program, Kirsten stated: "I am so fortunate to be able to enjoy this incredible place and I care greatly about future generations enjoying the same beauty and serenity that I have experienced."



*Image
Sue Holland
Artworks*




The Del Monte Forest Conservancy is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that acquires, protects, and enhances lands dedicated to open space within the Del Monte Forest. It is DMFC's hope that its new Youth Environmental Education Program will foster the future caretakers of Del Monte Forest Conservancy lands that we treasure. 



Image Monterey Bay Parent Magazine





Five years ago, I had the honor of being a presenter at the Del Monte Forest Property Owners semi-annual meeting and sharing the podium with my friend, Charley Osborne. At the time, I described his grandfather, Samuel Finlay Brown Morse, in this manner:

Samuel Finlay Brown Morse maintained his Newton, Massachusetts accent throughout his life. He was identified as a "Noted Sportsman and champion bean chef" in Del Monte's 1936 cookbook, Famous Recipes by Famous People – Hotel Del Monte. His contribution for Boston Baked Beans joined entries from poet Robinson Jeffers, explorer Ales Hrdlicka, novelist Gouverneur Morris, illustrator Otto Soglow, author John Steinbeck, cartoonist Rube Goldberg, Gertrude Stein, Walt Disney, Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt and many others. The publication was a creative project by Herb Cerwin.

Disney's recipe, Silly Symphony Souffle, needed only minutes to prepare and cook while Jeffers' Poetic License dish of eight small Bermuda onions with sauce required 75 minutes to bake. Morse's beans took three days of elaborate preparations. The recipe's intricacy reflected Morse's sophisticated penchant for detail.

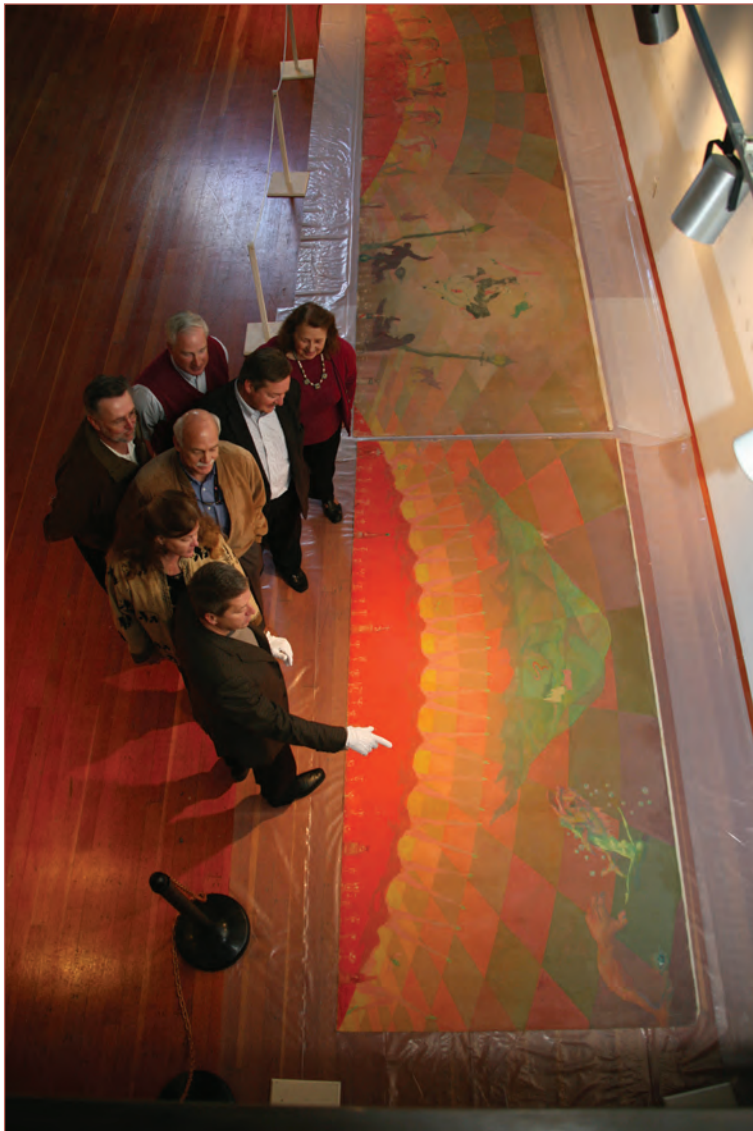
The following year, Charley published his book, "Boss: The Story of S.F.B. Morse, Founder of Pebble Beach," and in the months

that followed, I enjoyed attending several of Charley's presentations and learning more about the man whose skill and vision defined this remarkable place.

Before Pebble Beach, Morse transformed Monterey's aging and stagnant Hotel Del Monte into an unparalleled, dynamic sports empire. For three decades, I roamed the halls and grounds of Morse's first resort at Del Monte, now the Naval Postgraduate School. I met with admirals and other notables in his former office; participated in meetings in a small conference room that was once the hotel's art gallery; gave presentations with the magnificent paintings of Francis McComas as a backdrop; and, escorted dignitaries and open house guests on tours of the grand hotel.

Morse's office on the eastern side of the mezzanine floor provided him with an elegant verandah view of the nearby Roman Plunge swimming pool -- designed by Lewis Hobart and constructed in time for travelers going to the Pan Pacific Exposition in San Francisco in 1915 -- and several Spanish Revival cottages by Hobart and Clarence Tantau nestled within a native oak and Monterey pine grove. Morse imagined the Roman Plunge while the executive in charge of the Pacific Improvement Company and built the cottages during his tenure as president of his Del Monte Properties Company, the forerunner of today's Pebble Beach Company.

Hobart crafted several projects for Morse at Hotel Del Monte, including the interior design of the Roaring Twenties resort, a timeless masterpiece that integrates the dramatic art of Francis McComas, Daniel Sayre Groesbeck and Ferdinand Burgdorff with architecture that portrays an Old World spirit.



The Tap Room murals by Armin Hansen and Paul Whitman, who illustrated the hotel cookbook mentioned in the article. Mike Whittington (wearing archival gloves), then executive director of the Monterey Museum of Art, cleared the Pacific Street gallery to lay these out for the author who invited Neal and Bettina Hotelling and other friends to attend. Photo credit Javier Chagoya, Naval Postgraduate School

After the repeal of Prohibition, Morse commissioned artist friends Armin Hansen and Paul Whitman for a series of playful murals that lined the walls in the Del Monte Tap Room, a ground floor space that had served as a children's play room during the dry years. Multitalented etchers and painters, Hansen and Whitman created art for Hotel Del Monte parties, including the inaugural Bal Masque, and other hotel projects. Whitman carved a world globe for Morse and illustrated the cover of Cerwin's fanciful cookbook.


The Navy adapted the tap room, making it a soda fountain during World War II, when Morse and the sea service agreed to convert the resort into an emergency naval training command.

The Hansen and Whitman murals were later removed and the majority are now in the Monterey Museum of Art collection. Whitman's globe holds a central place in Terry Trotter's museum/gallery in Pacific Grove along with a notable collection of Hotel Del Monte realia and ephemera.

Morse's equestrian partner and Abalone League baseball teammate Jo Mora created the evocative La Novia diorama in a banquet room near the tap room. Exquisitely crafted in a carved black walnut case, his diorama continues to grace the room, dedicated the La Novia Room by the Navy and used for both official purposes and private parties.



Detail of Jo Mora's La Novia diorama. Mora was Morse's friend and Abalone League teammate. Photo John Sanders

Though I've concluded my service at the Naval Postgraduate School, I continue to study the history of Hotel Del Monte and the people who shaped it. My recent book, *An Illustrated Introduction to Historic Hotel Del Monte*, published in collaboration with Trotter Galleries, Inc., provides a succinct examination of that history; my current project, *Dawn of the Seventeen Mile Drive*, is an in-depth look at the drive's origins, early influence and global impact. 

Mushrooms. These fun little guys are hiding all over Pebble Beach if you are willing to look on the forest floor and get your hands a bit dirty. There are thousands of species of mushrooms in California alone. The Del Monte Forest is a prime location for mushroom foraging because of its climate. The consistent fog and seasonal rainfall allow fungi to flourish. The best time to search for mushrooms is within a two-week period after a precipitation event, as mushrooms take days or weeks to come up, depending on the species.

Some popular edible species that grow on the central coast are Porcinis (*Boletus Edulis*), Chanterelles (*Cantharellus Cibarius*), Candy Caps (*Lactarius Rubidius*), Lion's Mane (*Hericuim Erinaceus*) and Morel (*Morchella Esculenta*). Porcinis are known for their easy identification and rich, nutty flavor. Chanterelles have a peppery or fruity flavor and are admired for their beauty. Candy caps are easily identified with their scent and physical attributes, emitting a white lactation that stays white when exposed to oxygen as the forager runs a fingernail through the mushroom's gills. Gills, also called lamella, are the papery rib under the cap of some mushroom species. Morels have an earthy, nutty or smoky flavor. Lion's mane mushrooms are known for their beautiful delicate structure and seafood-esque flavor.



Porcini (*Boletus Edulis*)

All of these species are known for being fairly simple to identify, however, they do have some look-alikes that can be poisonous or cause stomach discomfort. It is advised that anyone who forages, especially beginners, practice extreme care prior to ingesting any wild mushroom. Before you

go, take time to do research on fungi in your area. As you learn, pick up mushrooms that you are unsure of and bring them home using spore print color to properly identify them. A spore print can be made by laying the underside of the mushroom cap on paper or foil. Spores will release within 12 to 24 hours.



Fly Agaric (*Amanita Muscaria*)

Standard mushroom hunting etiquette is to carry your harvest in an open basket, cloth, or paper bag allowing the spores to spread as you walk around. Let the biggest mushroom you find continue to grow, and remember to leave some for others! This ensures that spores are spread

and mushrooms continue to grow each year. If you are inquiring about where to find mushrooms, please be respectful when someone does not want to share this information. It is known that fungi can fruit in the same spot for hundreds of years consecutively. So finding a spot that fruits your favorite kind of fungi is valuable to keep secret.



Use sunscreen, stay hydrated and have fun. Happy hunting!

Artist Claus Caspari 1962



Morel (*Morchella Esculenta*)



Chanterelle (*Cantharellus Cibarius*)

NEW PEBBLE BEACH WEATHER STATION - LOCAL DATA IN REAL TIME

- Engineering Department, Pebble Beach Community Services District

The Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) completed the installation and commissioning of a new weather station at Forest Lake Reservoir in late January 2022. Installed on the reservoir's outlet structure, the weather station will provide District staff and residents of Pebble Beach with local temperature, rainfall, air pressure, wind speed/direction, relative humidity and solar radiation measurements. The weather station will give staff the ability to study local weather conditions and how environmental factors can affect Forest Lake Reservoir operations. Weather station information is publicly available via Weather Underground (online service), at the following web link:

<https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KCAPEBBL40>

Elev 397 ft, 36.59 °N, 121.94 °W

PBCSD Weather Station - KCAPEBBL40

FORECAST FOR PEBBLE BEACH, CA

Station Summary

Online(updated 3 minutes ago)

CURRENT CONDITIONS

60.2 °F

Feels Like 60.2 °

W

WIND & GUST
2.7 / 6.9 mph

DEWPOINT

41.4 °F

PRECIP RATE

0.00 in/hr

PRESSURE

29.92 in

HUMIDITY

50 %

PRECIP ACCUM

0.00 in

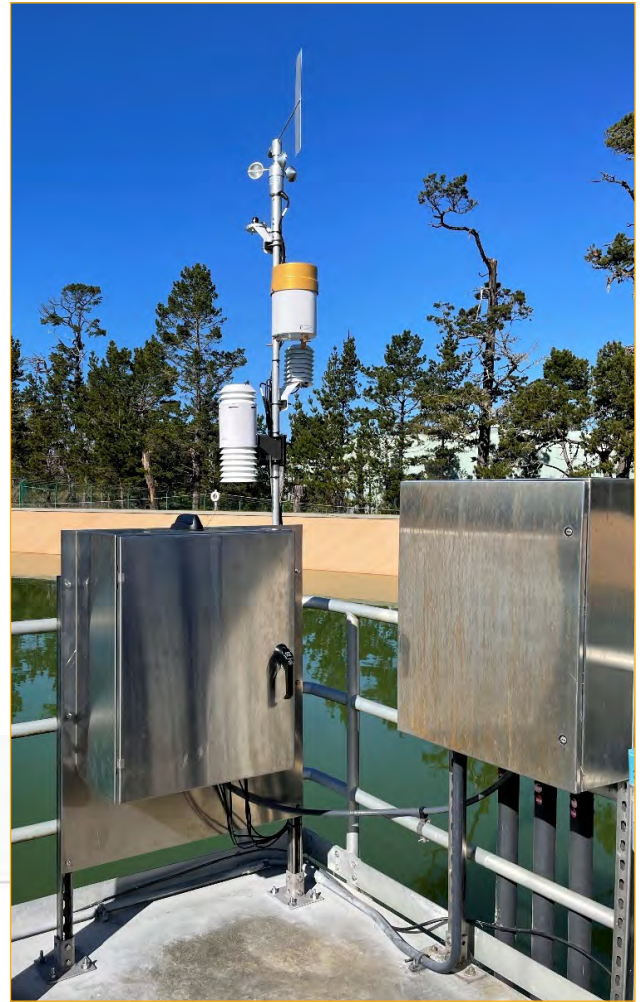
UV

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MAP



View WunderMap



Above: The new PBCSD weather station at Forest Lake Reservoir where recycled water for golf course irrigation is stored. PBCSD has added an evaporation component that was not included with the station. Evaporation and the weather station components play an important role in comprehensive management of the reservoir to conserve potable water.

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HOW THE NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL CAME TO MONTEREY

- HY ROTHSTEIN

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) has been a fixture on the Monterey Peninsula for a very long time. How the school became part of the local landscape by re-purposing “The World’s Most Elegant Seaside Resort,” the Del Monte Hotel, is a worthwhile story.



The idea of advanced education for U.S. naval officers began to emerge in the late 19th century. Advanced technologies and capabilities like Marconi’s invention of the “wireless” in 1901, the Wright brothers’ flight in 1903, and the global trek of the steam-powered Great White Fleet from 1907 to 1909 resulted in Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer signing General Order No. 27 in 1909 establishing a School of Marine Engineering at Annapolis, MD. This small program would later become today’s Naval Postgraduate School.

In the late 19th century and a continent away from Annapolis, in Monterey, CA, railroad pioneer Charles Crocker opened one of the finest luxury hotels in North America, the Hotel Del Monte. The hotel was an immediate success. Scenic 17-Mile Drive meandered through the 7,000-acre Hotel Del Monte Park Reservation (today’s Pebble Beach), along the Monterey Bay shoreline, past the Chinese Village and Presidio of Monterey, passing landmark buildings such as Monterey’s Colton Hall and the city’s early Spanish adobes. Crocker’s 17-Mile Drive helped save several significant Spanish colonial and Mexican period buildings.

Sadly, fire destroyed the hotel in 1887, but the second one was constructed at the same location and was more magnificent than its predecessor. In 1924, fire again devastated the hotel. Reconstruction of a more modern building

began immediately. By this time, Samuel F.B. Morse, the president of the Del Monte Properties Company (today’s Pebble Beach Company), had acquired the hotel and began developing Del Monte as a “sports empire”

where guests could enjoy playing golf, polo, tennis, swimming, yachting and deep-sea fishing. Morse built some of the world’s most renowned golf courses and created a vibrant, athletic resort so guests could live life to its fullest. The hotel played host to world leaders, dignitaries, American presidents, film stars and famous artists.

The December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor would not only alter the trajectory of world history, but also changed the destinies of Hotel Del Monte and the small naval advanced education program at Annapolis. Del Monte struggled through the first year of World War II. In late 1942 Del Monte’s management offered the hotel to both the Army and Navy to support the war effort. The Navy acted quickly opening a pre-flight school for aviators on the grounds in February 1943. The Navy lease contained an option to buy.

By the end of the war, it had become apparent that the facilities of the Marine Engineering School at Annapolis, would be insufficient for the Navy’s future needs. Congress passed legislation to make the school a fully accredited, degree-granting graduate institution separate from the Naval Academy. In 1947, Congress authorized the purchase of Hotel Del Monte. In December 1951, with a massive logistical undertaking, the Postgraduate School moved from Annapolis across the country to Monterey, CA.

As you walk along the shore in Del Monte Forest you notice a splash of white in the distance. It is tall, slender, and stationary. So still, it could be a statue. As you get closer you start noticing the clear features of a bird.



The bird is next to reeds, the neck is drawn into its shoulders but it suddenly displays its full length as it strikes down and grabs something out of the water. The bird is over three feet tall, with a long pointed yellow beak and black legs, the feet are in the water... It has grabbed a small frog... lunch time! The Great Egret is one of two egrets commonly found in our area. The smaller egret, called the Snowy Egret, can be distinguished from its larger cousin by a black beak, black legs and oh so wonderful sparkly gold feet!



Both birds have beautiful snow-white feathers. During the breeding season they grow long plumes on their back. Unfortunately, these feathers contributed to their near total demise. At the end of the 19th century large numbers were killed so their feathers could be used to adorn hats, yes hats! Federal laws were passed to protect the birds but it was only in 1918 that the Migratory Bird Treaty Act finally made it “unlawful to possess, hunt, capture, kill ...any migratory bird.”

Egrets belong to the larger family of herons. They can be found in the temperate zones of

the United States, Mexico, and Central America in ponds, lakes, rivers, marshes, and along the coast. They are also found in several other continents. We are lucky, because in our area they can be seen year-round. Their diet consists of fish, frogs, crabs, and insects. Egrets often nest in colonies. The male starts building


a nest before finding a female. The impressive nest consists of sticks and twigs and will contain one to six pale greenish-blue eggs. The Great Egret builds its nest in trees high above ground, up to 90 feet; the Snowy nests much lower in shrubs or trees.

All of these birds are still facing threats due to pollution, loss of habitat, pressure from invasive species, as well as overfishing and changing climate.

Hopefully, on your next adventure along the shoreline, you will be able to identify them and enjoy these beautiful birds!



Photos by Jerry Loomis & Paul Fenwick

Brought together by the calamity of the Second World War, the grand resort Del Monte on the west coast, and the school for marine engineering on the east coast, forged what is today's premier graduate school for US military officers. Re-purposing of Hotel Del Monte as a military graduate school has not reduced the hotel's position in history. The U.S. Navy takes pride in maintaining the historic relevance of the school's grounds and buildings. In its present-day surroundings, the spirit of Del Monte is unchanged. 



DEL MONTE FOREST PROPERTY OWNERS

A NON-PROFIT CALIFORNIA CORPORATION

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SALINAS, CA

A new State climate law now requires food scraps be placed in yard waste bins. Free kitchen compost pails are available at Pebble Beach Community Services District during business hours for Pebble Beach residents on a first-come, first-serve basis.



Participate in the Del Monte Forest Property Owners survey at <https://dmfpo.org/survey>. See info below.

DEL MONTE FOREST PROPERTY OWNERS Semiannual Meeting

**Sunday, May 22, 2022
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

**Inn at Spanish Bay Main Ballroom
Mary Adams, 5th District Supervisor**

Supervisor Mary Adams has represented our area since 2017. She has proven to be a capable leader on issues ranging from disasters to economic recovery to pandemic pandemonium. Her years of experience as the CEO of United Way Monterey County has helped her find creative solutions to our County's homeless and housing crises. Supervisor Adams will provide an update on the myriad of issues facing Monterey County and how they are being addressed.



This event is for 2022 DMFPO MEMBERS ONLY

Please send questions in advance to office@dmfpo.org

SURVEY

Paperless Delivery?

Del Monte Forest Property Owners is surveying members concerning alternative methods of delivery for the Forest News newsletter and/or the annual membership renewal notifications. Emailing has the potential to save significant printing and mailing costs.

To participate in our survey, go to

<https://dmfpo.org/survey>

