



RPOA news

A publication of the Ross Property Owners' Association, representing Ross Residents since 1961.

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Mission

The Ross Property Owners' Association (RPOA) has represented Ross Residents since

1961. Our mission is "to provide funds and services for the benefit of the general community of the Town of Ross." Through the financial support of its members, the RPOA has worked to inform residents of important issues and to contribute to the continual improvement of the community.

The Association holds monthly meetings at 7:15 pm at the Town Hall on the Monday immediately preceding the Town Council meeting. RPOA members are encouraged to participate in our monthly meetings. Issues pertaining to Town matters are discussed, particularly those currently before the Council.

www.RPOAross.org

RPOA THANKS YOU!

The Ross Property Owners' Association (RPOA) was formed in the 1960's and presently has 325 Ross households as members and a Board of five Ross citizens.

The RPOA's charter is to help the Town of Ross by improving Town property and by sponsoring community improvement events to help make Ross a great place to live.

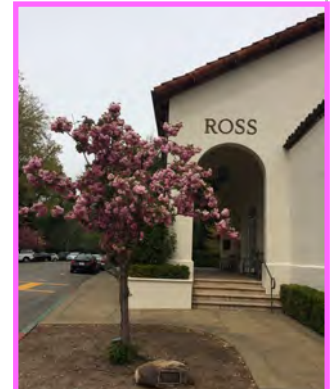
RPOA annually receives over 300 contributions. These funds are used for projects and events as follows:

- Construction of two light posts for the Town Commons
- Contribution to remodeling the Post Office
- Contribution to landscaping around Town Hall
- Construction, installation, ongoing placement of colorful banners in downtown area
- Construction and placement of new bulletin board kiosks
- Purchase and installation of bike racks in front of Post Office
- Christmas and 4th of July decorations throughout the Town
- Tree and bush trimming of lot at Sir Francis Drake & Lagunitas
- Installation and maintenance of "Eddie's Tree" in front of our Post Office
- Installation and ongoing replacement of "Doggie Bags" at Town Commons
- Sponsoring "Candidate Nights" during elections
- Sponsoring First Aid preparedness classes at Ross School

In addition to the above, the RPOA's two main projects in the months ahead are to:

1. Help the Town enhance and improve the lot at Sir Francis Drake & Lagunitas.
2. Help the Town enhance and improve Natalie Coffin Park by Phoenix Lake.

**WE THANK ALL OF OUR RPOA MEMBERS FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT AND
LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR HELP AND SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW THE RPOA
CAN BEST HELP MAKE ROSS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!**



A Forum for Bringing the Community Together

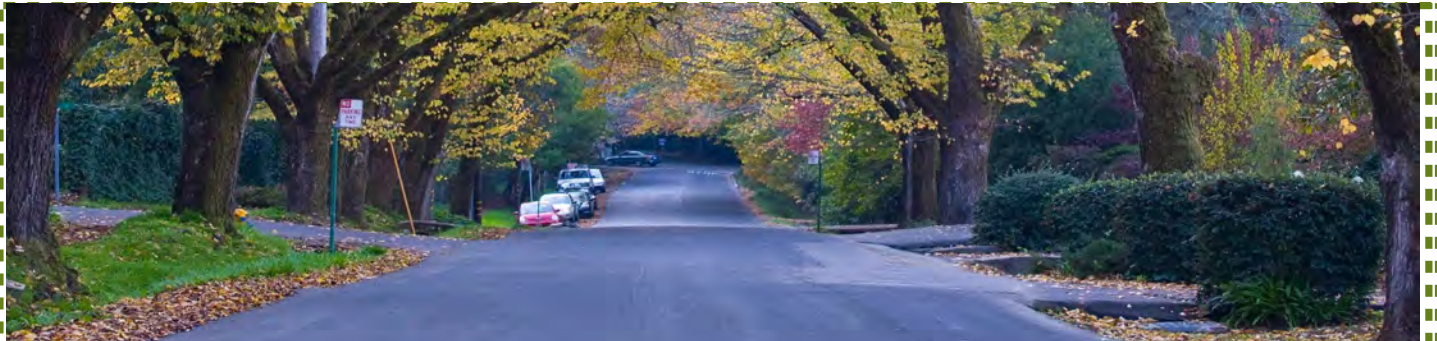
In addition to the various aesthetic improvements to the Town of Ross that the RPOA makes, we are also an organization which works for the homeowners in their relationship and concerns vis-a-vis the Town of Ross and amongst town residents.

RPOA provides an open forum at our monthly meetings, where town residents can raise issues that can be aired without the pressure and formality of the Town Council meetings. A Town Council member always attends our meetings and often some of the town staff as well. Our meetings are relaxed, considerate and thoughtful; we try to hear all viewpoints and truly consider them, reflecting back measured answers and thoughts.

Our RPOA charter makes it clear what can be discussed. We don't take sides, nor are we political. We provide local knowledge; many of us have been involved in the Town and the County for a long time. We will look for information around specific issues; it's all interesting to us!

Recently Ross residents have raised issues at our meetings about tree ordinances, permit costs, flood issues, the downtown commercial area and more. RPOA Board members also attend the Town Council, the Design Review and the Leadership Council meetings. We do our best to communicate and integrate the different concerns and interests of our community.

So, if you have a Town concern, something you don't understand or an idea for making something better in Ross, please feel free to attend our RPOA meetings every month at 7:15 PM at Town Hall, on the Monday before the Ross Town Council meeting. We'd love to meet you!



Town Ordinance Regarding Right-of-Way Maintenance

Fall is here and with it comes a greater need for attention to detail regarding the right-of-way on our property line. The Town provides clarification that "all occupants and owners of property within the town are required to maintain the section of right-of-way from the property line to the edge of the road pavement". Further, "maintenance shall include removal of leaves and weeds which shall be disposed of away from the site...Maintenance of all landscaping shall be the responsibility of the property owners". Similar ordinances are in place for maintaining the driveway culvert (Chapter 12.10) and drainage ditches (Chapter 13.16) in front of or within your property.

For those who are interested in further reading on the maintenance of trees, RPOA directs you to Chapter 12.24 entitled "Planting Alteration, Removal or Maintenance of Trees." Section 12.24.040 discusses trees in the public right-of-way. Pruning, maintenance and removal of trees greater than 1" in diameter located in the right-of-way shall be performed by contractors who have on staff a certified arborist or other qualified person approved by the Town Manager or designee.

To review these ordinances and additional information on weeds, trees and vegetation, please visit Chapter 12.12.015 (a) (b) provided in the following link: http://www.townofross.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/administration/page/243/12.12_weeds_trees_vegetation.pdf

For Driveway Culverts: http://www.townofross.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/administration/page/243/12.16_driveways_driveway_culverts.pdf

For Drainage Ditches: http://www.townofross.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/administration/page/244/13.16_obstruction_of_watercourses.pdf



Back Row L-R: Jon Francis, Sherrill Miller, Zee Zee Mott, Kanna Abki, Laura Culver, Christin Coy

Front Row L-R: John Finger, Lissa Nicolaus, Bob Frank, Robert Steele.



RPOA—BayWood Artists Plein Air Benefit Show at MAGC

The BayWood Artists just celebrated their 20th Anniversary at the Marin Art and Garden Center on the weekend of October 6th with an art show featuring about 100 original plein air landscape paintings. They partnered with One Tam and had a very successful event, raising \$36,000 which they shared with One Tam.

One Tam is the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative Community Engagement Initiative. They have supported mountain-wide youth and community programs, restoration activities and citizen science opportunities. Their efforts benefit the increased stewardship of Mt. Tam's resources. This is the second year they have partnered with the BayWood Artists.

The BayWood Artists is a non-profit plein air group founded in 1997 when Mary Welch, then Founder and Director of the landscape show Marinscapes, suggested to Zee Mott, Lissa

Nicolaus and Sherrill Miller that they form a plein air painting group. The group's goal was to benefit the environment and bring attention to endangered lands through their artwork. Since then, countless volunteer hours have gone into producing these annual art shows and the small group of artists has tirelessly strived to bring awareness to many different organizations.

Some of the organizations that BayWood Artists has benefitted are: Save the Bolinas Lagoon, San Anselmo Open Space, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Marin Open Space, Marin Baylands Advocates, Golden Gate National Parks Association, Tamalpais Conservation Club, Bay Model Association, Marin Conservation League, Russian River Keepers, Marin Agricultural Land Trust, Angel Island Association, Save Mount Diablo, Point Reyes National Seashore Association, and Farallon Marine Sanctuary.

What a tremendous service they have provided to our community and the nature that we so cherish!

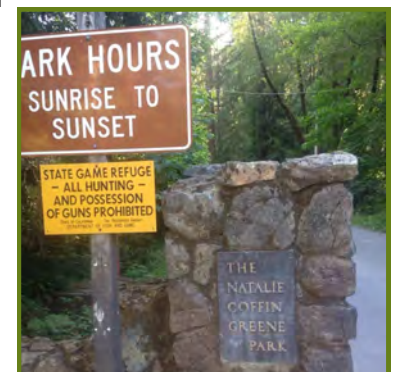
THE TOWN OF ROSS' NATALIE COFFIN GREEN PARK

An Important Gateway to Phoenix Lake, Mt. Baldy and all of Mt. Tam

Tens of thousands of visitors annually access the Town of Ross' Natalie Coffin Green Park. The Park is both a great place to picnic and to visit nature. It is also an important gateway to Phoenix Lake, Mt. Baldy and all of Mt. Tam's recreation areas. On any given day you will see hikers, mountain bikers, joggers, cross-country running teams, dog walkers, youngsters and oldsters using Natalie Coffin Green Park.

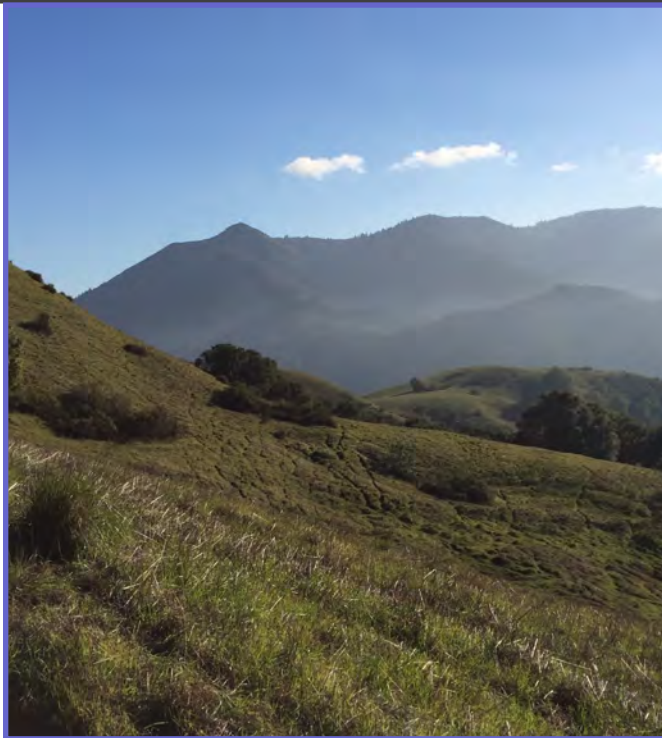
Natalie Coffin Green Park is a significant asset of our community. The Town of Ross and RPOA are beginning community discussions regarding the renovation of Natalie Coffin Green Park. In addition to the Town of Ross, several agencies manage parts of Mt. Tam including the MMWD, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, California State Parks and the non-profit agency "One Tam." All of these agencies will be engaged in the conversations about Natalie Coffin Green Park's renovation.

The RPOA invites you to give us your input as to the renovation of Natalie Coffin Green Park as we work together with the Town of Ross and all of these agencies. The RPOA looks forward to contributing to the enhancement and renovation of the Park and to improving the access to the Phoenix Lake and Mt. Baldy area and to all of Mt. Tam's many recreation areas.



2017 RPOA MEMBERS to date (\$100 or more contribution indicated in bold caps)

SHADI & PAIGE ABOUKHATER* Sandra & Darr Aley MICHAEL ALVAREZ* Elizabeth Amini MARY AMONETTE* ABBY & STEVE ANDERSON* Gordon & Pam Andrews JEFF & CATHERINE BABCOCK* SONIA BADALAMENTI* Kimberly & Quinn Bakker THE BALMASEDA FAMILY* Sandy & Geoff Barnett Piers & Danielle Barry John & Michelle Battelle Tim Baughman & Julie McMillan JERILYN & CREGG BAUMBAUGH* Jules & Jody Anne Becker Skip Berg JEFFREY & LESLIE BERGHOLT* Lorraine & Robert Berry Noah B. Berry TOM & SANDY BERTELSEN* Jim & Xochitl Birchenough Dick Bobo & Ann Sorgen Julie & Todd Boes Meade & Terri Boutwell Daniel & Alanna Brady Paul & Ann Brenner Mary & Peter Bricca DENNIS & LESLIE BRUSH* Carla Buchanan Kevin Buckholtz & Ruth Krueger JOEY & BILL BUCKINGHAM* MARY & JIM BUIE* TOM BYRNES* BILL & JEANNE CAHILL* Megan Callahan & Erik Pavelka THEANI CALLAHAN* MATT CARBONE* Lee H. Carson Cedars of Marin PETER & SUE CHASE* Janis & John Chittick JENNIFER & SAMUEL CHRISMAN* David Churton JANELL & JOE CIATTI* Scott Clark & Holly Tate RUTH & FREDERICK COE* A. Cognato Susan & Mitchell Cohen COLBY & CASKIE COLLET* MARIE & BRIAN COLLINS* Lionel Conacher & Joan Dea Danielle & Baird Conner BILL & LAURA CONROW* CECILIA CONTE* Gay J. Conway MICHAEL & ADRIANNA COX* William Curtiss & Marta Osterloh Munzer Dajani JENNIFER & JERRY DAL BOZZO* John & Laura Dannerbeck Tenki Davis JUDY DAWSON* Astrid Deet & Bob P. Stehlin JASON DEITCH* DUDLEY & MICHAEL DELBALSO* MARTHA DELGADO & JOHN COAN* Don & Marlene Delong Bill & Sarah Devlin Mohammad Diab & Mary Jane Elliott Jennifer Dickinson & Luca Mota Jack & Beverly Domet Eric & Kathleen Doney FRANK & DIANE DOODHA* PATRICIA DUFFY & LES SHERMAN* Monica Duflock Daniel & Andrea Elkort Robert & Gilda Elliott PAT & HAROLD ENGLE* BOB & CHRIS FEIBUSCH* Bill Feigenbaum	Ken & Thana Fineman Tallie & Tom Fishburne GREGORY & YVONNE FISHER* JOSH & KARA FISHER* Gil & Kelli Fleitas Cathy & John Fobes William Cash & Meghan Forman Beth Foster & Paul Furusho Lynne & Michael Foster Margaret Francis Ken Frankel & Susan Nielsen Geoffrey Franklin Daniel S. Fredrich BARBARA & TOM GAFFNEY* Lee and Jane Gammill Loreta Gargan & Catherine Wagner LEN & NANCY GARRISON* Rose E. Gehm MIKE & SUSAN GILLFILLAN* Nancy & David Gilmour Harvey Glasser DANIEL GLUCK & MIKE STREET* Joy & Bruce Goldberg Theo & Kara Goldin CHARLES & BARBARA GOODMAN* Lisa Gorham Rolando & Gloria Gotti Eric & Carmel Greenberg Jeff Greenberg Peggy & Richard Greenfield Diane Grialou Margie & David Guggenhime PEGGY HAAS* RICHARD M. HALL* DIANA HAMMER* JIM & STEPHANIE HARLEEN* Bruce & Elizabeth Hart STEVE HAUSER & ELIZABETH ROBBINS* Frank & Lenore Heffernan LENI & DOUG HERST* ROBERT & ANNE HICKEY* Judith A. Hiltner WILLIAM & JANELL HOBART* JAMES & HELEN HOBBS* RICH & KATIE HOERTKORN* Nancy Wayne Holter MARCEL & LIORA HOUTZAGER* Kevin & Dyanne Howley WENDY & JAY HUCK* C. Wray Humphrey J. Patrick & Irene Hunt Thomas M. 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MARTIN, III* Zach & Leigh Maurus CHARLES & CLAIRE MCBRIDE* BARBARA & RELTON MCCARROLL* BETSY & ED MCDERMOTT* Chris & Mary McFadden Sally McGivern Dr. Marilyn H. McGovern KATY & FRANCIS MCGOVERN* IAN & JULIA MCGUIRE* MARK MCLAUGHLIN* BRUCE & JANET MCLELLAN* Leroy & Esther Meshel Paige & Chad Meuse Horst & Helen Meyer Mrs. Lambert Meyer JEFF & KATELIN MEZZETTA* Joan Mickle TOM & JOY MISTELE* Lynn & Henry Moody Doug & Michael Moore AMELIA & KEN MORRIS* Peter & Amanda Mortimer JANET MOURNING* Erin & Darius ZARA & DENNIS MUREN* CARLA ROTH & DAVID NASAW* David & Monica Nelson Geoff & Julian Nichol Bill & Carland Nicholson Wendel & Lissa Nicolaus Carol & Stepehn Nimelstein Liz & Pedro Nogueiro LEE & STEPHANIE NOTOWICH* Kathy & Bill Nunan Kimberly Nunes Brien & Katrina O'Connell JAMES O'HARA & CYNTHIA WELDON* Susan & Dan Ohlson MEKHALA & MICHEL OLTRAMARE* Arlene S. O'Neill Garth & Jacqueline Osterman CLYDE & JANET OSTLER* KEN & CANDICE OVERMAN* CONNIE PANSINI* Drs. 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JOEL RENBAUM*	RICHARD & MARILYN RIEDE* THE RIEDEL FAMILY* DAVID RILEY & SARAH FRIAR* Kate & Zeb Ripple Kristin & Jim Robillard CHRIS & STEPHANIE ROEDER* John Rogers & Sue Schwarzgruber MARTIN & BETSY ROSEN* James & Heather Rosenfield Dan Rosenthal ROSS HISTORICAL SOCIETY/MOYA* Martha & Paris Royo RUS & DIANE RUDDEN* Doug & Julie Ryan PAUL & DEBBY SAGUES* Brian & Suzi Salmen DONALD SAUNDERS* GARY & JANET SCALES* BARNEY & TEMPLE SCHAUBLE* SUSAN & DICK SCHLIEMANN* Robert & Diane Schneider Charles & Sally Secor Bill & Janet See Charlie & Renee Sheppard CAROL & HAROLD SHERLEY* PATTI & BEN SHIMEK* Lyle Shlager & Andria Langenberg John & Mary Siebel KEN & JUDY SIEBEL* Marcia & Michael Skall Javier Soltero & Emily Morris Leo & Ingrid Stadnick A. WILLIAM STEIN & LESLIE BOYER* ELLIS M. STEPHENS* Gita & Nick Stiritz Tracy Stott & Richard Torney David & Sarah Swain Kristen & Ben Swann STEPHEN & JACQUELINE SWIRE* BILL & SUE TALMAGE* Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. 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“One Tam” helping unify Mt. Tam Preservation and Renovating the Log Cabin at Phoenix Lake!

Mount Tamalpais stands adjacent to the Ross community and is core to the natural heritage of Marin. Although Mt. Tam's plants and wildlife live in protected open spaces, the mountain's health is threatened by invasive species, habitat fragmentation, plant diseases, and pollution. At the same time, the number of visitors has multiplied to about 6 million people per year.

The non-profit agency "One Tam" provides unprecedented opportunities for the various land managers of Mt. Tam to work together with the community to care for this beloved place at a mountain-wide scale in the face of these threats, and is helping renew the spirit of philanthropy that has been so fundamental to Mt. Tam's preservation over the past century.

One Tam priority projects include forest, trail corridor, creek and wet land wet land restoration.

Donate—Contact:

mleffert@parksconservancy.org

Volunteer:

www.onetam.org/volunteer





ROSS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 747
ROSS, CA 94957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ROSS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to ALL RESIDENTS of the Ross community, including those living in Kentfield within the Ross School border. We encourage all to attend the once-a-month meeting to voice your opinion on town matters.

We hope you will support the Association this year and help to insure that the RPOA continues its great tradition of service to the community.

General Membership Dues: \$35.00; Friends of the Ross Bear: \$100.00 or more (any amount over \$35.00 is tax deductible). Please make your check payable to: Ross Property Owners' Association and mail to: RPOA, P.O. Box 747, Ross, CA 94957.

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Town Hall

RPOA MEETINGS

Held at 7:15 pm on the Monday preceding the Town Council Meeting in the Town Hall

TOWN'S EMAIL

To join the Town's email list and receive Town notices, Contact Linda Lopez: llopez@townofross.org



Please visit RPOA's website to view this newsletter and for more information about our organization:
www.RPOAross.org



2017 RPOA BOARD
(Left to right)
Iris Winey, Anne Hickey,
John Kieckhefer,
Diana Hammer, Jeff Koblick

Ross Post Office Box Holders:

Many of you have contacted the RPOA about problems related to the U.S. Post Office. We have communicated these problems to the Postmaster.

Should you continue to have problems, please contact Rep. Jared Huffman's office at 415-258-9657 or email Michelle.Garcilazo@mail.house.gov. They have been very helpful and want to hear from you directly.



ROSS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSN.

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