

BPWA at BAHA

Watch for our booth at the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association Spring House Tour, "Benvenue and Hillegass," on Sunday, May 4, from 1 to 5 PM.

BPWA Guided Walks

Unless otherwise noted walks begin at 10 AM, rain or shine and last 2-3 hours. They are free and open to all.

Saturday Walks

April 19 - Carquinez Bridge/Crockett Walk - Paul Grunland

RSVP to Keith Skinner 510 528 3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

On a reprise of a popular Wed. walk, we will cross the new Carquinez Bridge on the pedestrian path, enjoying sweeping Bay views. On the other side, we'll explore the informal paths of quaint Crockett. Because the paths are narrow, this walk is limited to 20. RSVP for meeting place and start time.

May 10 - Hidden Gems of Berkeley
Co-Sponsored by Berkeley Partners for Parks (BPFP) 510 848 9358

Visit BPFP projects related to the old Santa Fe rail route on this level walk with many stops. New "gems" include a volunteer-built park, a playground transformed by young artists, and native plantings. Meet at the observation railing on Codornices Creek on the Ohlone Greenway, opposite 1200 Masonic, near Santa Fe Ave. We'll end in Strawberry Creek Park with a bring-your-own picnic.

June 7 - Northside Gardens
Colleen Neff & Sandy Friedland
colleenneff@earthlink.net
ssf@comcast.net

This hilly walk with some steep steps will take us to gardens — large and small, native and exotic, formal and wild — in all their June glory. Meet at the Rose Garden sign on Euclid Ave. No dogs, please.

Wednesday Walks and Special Evening Walk - Page 2

Berkeley's PATHS

Vol. 11 No. 1

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Spring 2008

Mending a Heart by Walking the Paths

— Sandy Friedland

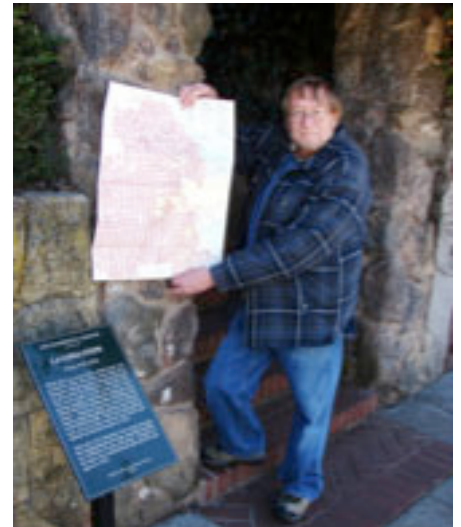
When Andy Datlen retired in May of 2004, walking just two blocks left him gasping. He had recently recovered from several life-threatening illnesses and had a new heart valve, but he still had asthma and an erratic heart rhythm. "I knew if I didn't kick back, relax, and get as fit as possible, I'd soon be dead," Andy recalls. So the former director of computer systems development for EBMUD and dedicated non-exerciser set out "to smell every rose in Berkeley."

Last month, just shy of his 65th birthday, Andy completed that only slightly metaphorical goal: He finished walking every street and path in the city. "Actually, I probably walked 150 percent of the city," Andy says, "because of the unavoidable backtracking."

It wasn't easy. Using a pedometer to clock his distance, he took several weeks to work up to a mile. After two months, he could do four miles on flat terrain. Even though his pace was - and still is - slow, he began to feel better than he had in years. "Walking has been such a tonic for my heart," says Andy, who also used the time on his feet to exercise his brain by learning French from CDs on his Walkman.

He tackled West Berkeley first, walking from his home near San Pablo Park to the start of each route. After he had finished about half the city, he read an article about Berkeley Path Wanderers and ordered a copy of BPWA's *Berkeley's Pathways* map.

Andy marked off the streets he had completed, and began scanning and enlarging the section he planned to cover on each walk. As his routes got farther from home, he drove to the starts. Once



Andy Datlen with his filled-in BPWA map

the map was two-thirds filled in, Andy headed for the hills and began tackling the steepest paths.

"I would do the uphill parts first while I was fresh," he says, adding that in hilly areas, he could manage only two miles. Maryland Path was especially difficult. "I sat down at the top panting and looked out at the gorgeous Bay view. I thought, if I die, so what? This is a nice place to go!"

On Andy's favorites list are strolling along Wildcat Canyon Road, Grizzly Peak Blvd, and the streets between them. He also enjoyed exploring the Thousand Oaks neighborhood because of all the boulders punctuating the landscape. Wilson Walk, "the most difficult to find," was his final path.

These days Andy is on a new quest: to walk every street and path in Berkeley that parallels or crosses the Hayward fault and photograph evidence of

Continued on Page 3

First Wednesday Walks

April 2 — Pt. Richmond Walk
Susan Schwartz 510 848 9358
f5creeks@aol.com

Explore Pt. Richmond's quaint and curious architecture, hillside staircases, and spectacular waterfront viewpoints. Meet at the statue in the triangle bordered by E. Richmond, Park Place, and Washington Ave, in the business center. Wear comfortable shoes; dress for all weather; bring water. Optional no-host lunch at local restaurant follows walk.

May 7 — Recently Completed Paths
Jacque Ensign, Pat DeVito 510 524 4715
jacqueensign@earthlink.net

Accompany two of the founders of BPWA and path-builder Charlie Bowen on a survey of paths built over the past ten years. Jacque and Pat will provide a history of our current path map and how the path-building program began. This walk begins at the Berkeley Rose Garden, climbs up to Grizzly Peak, and returns via different paths. The route includes steep sections, but the pace will be moderate.

June 4 — Architecture Walk
Rodney Wong

Details to follow in our monthly e-newsletter and on our website, www.berkeleypaths.org

Evening Walk

Monday, June 2 — Tour of Recent Trail Plantings (In conjunction with Friends of Five Creeks) 510 848 9358
f5creeks@aol.com

Join us for a sunset walk in the upper Codornices watershed to tour new and old paths and our recent trail plantings of natives on what will eventually be an interpretive route. Meeting place and time to be announced on our website and monthly e-newsletter.

BPWA Volunteer Opportunities

Work in Booth - lbrad5501@sbcglobal.net
Build Paths - charlie_paths@comcast.net
Plan / Lead Walks -
keithskinner.public@gmail.com
Spruce up a Path - colleenneff@earthlink.net

BPWA Board Meetings

The BPWA Board meets on the third Thursday of each month (except in September and December) at Music Sources, 1000 The Alameda (at Marin). Observers are welcome. Please enter via the side door at 1842 Marin Ave.

Meet the Paths:

Indian Trail — Colleen Neff

One of my favorite Berkeley paths is probably the oldest. Indian Trail, in the Thousand Oaks neighborhood of North Berkeley, supposedly was worn into the hillside by the Native Americans who roamed the rock-strewn hills thousands of years ago. The top faces Great Stoneface Park, where San Fernando Ave. meets Yosemite Road.

I recommend first walking down this rustic path. Before you begin, savor the view. Two large pine trees flank the entrance, and even though there are houses on either side, you feel like you are heading into the woods with a high canopy of branches overhead. An old rock wall runs parallel to the path on the right as you meander along. Halfway down the trail, the path curves to the left, around a large rock ledge that actually is the roof of a small cave visible from below. More stone steps take you around several protruding rocks. The wall will be on your right now and covered with ivy.

At the bottom, as you emerge onto The Alameda, a graceful six-foot-tall stone urn stands on your right. It is the last of more than 20 that once graced the paths and main intersections of Thousand Oaks. On the other side of the hedge on your left, look for a much smaller reproduction. What happened to the missing large urns is the stuff of legend: Some say they were tipped over and rolled down the hills. The Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association is raising money for five replicas. They hope to return one to the top of the path.

It is well worth reversing your route to enjoy the path from the opposite direction. As you climb back, note the rock-strewn yards and the stately houses on either side, and pause halfway up to look inside the shallow cave.



When you reach the top, you can take a stroll to see some of the other historic houses and gardens nearby, many of which include huge rhyolite boulders. Of special note is the turn-of-the-century, chalet-style brown shingled house at 1865 Yosemite. The original owner was Mark Daniels, a writer and the landscape architect and civil engineer for John Hopkins Spring, the developer of Thousand Oaks.

If you cross Yosemite, you can explore Great Stoneface Park. From the path that hugs its south side, peer into one of the finer gardens in the area. At the top of the park, turn right onto Thousand Oaks Blvd. At 1936 is Villa della Rocca (1912), which John Hudson Thomas designed and at 1937 is a 1915 house with no right angles, designed by Julia Morgan.

From here you can continue south on Yosemite to Frederick Park and the two-part Yosemite Steps which will return you to The Alameda. From there, you can turn right and head north to the double El Paseo Path. Or continue to the end of The Alameda to Vincente Walk which runs down to the north end of Vincente Ave. At its intersection with Visalia Ave. just to the south, you will find Visalia Steps, the canted path pictured on the cover of the new BPWA Berkeley's Pathways map.

Take the AC Transit 65 to Explore Our New Paths

— Charlie Bowen



When you take a walk, you usually start and end at the same point. A loop walk is certainly pleasant, but both the number of paths and the distance you can cover are limited. However, if you use the AC Transit bus lines creatively, you can do longer one-way walks and also explore different parts of town. As a bonus, you can take the bus uphill to avoid some of the longest, steepest slogs, enabling you to create a walk with your preferred mix of hilly and level terrain. You can even include a stop at a café or bakery.

A great line for exploring many of our paths is the 65, which runs from downtown Berkeley into the hills every 30 minutes. It skirts the campus on Hearst Ave, turns north onto Euclid Ave, and runs all the way up to turn south on Grizzly Peak Blvd, where it passes Lawrence Hall of Science. You can get off at various stops on Euclid and take paths up or down. But, because I'm in charge of path building, I recommend going to Griz-

zly Peak and getting off at one of these stops near the newest paths:

- **Latham Lane.** Go down Poppy Path to Remillard Park, then choose either Pinnacle Path with its fabulous pottery mosaic dragon or Keeler Path, aka "the wildest path in Berkeley." Then aim for path #50 (really Upper El Mirador), which has no sign yet.

- **Muir Way and Stevenson Ave.** Either go down Anne Brower Path and continue to the brand new Whitaker Path (no signs yet). Or walk south a bit to Stoddard Path, and then go down the two Stevenson Paths. Finally, head down Covert Path and appreciate the new native plants near the top. Stop at the bench under the redwoods, and plan the rest of your walk.

- **Arcade Ave.** Take Arcade down to the top of three-part Glendale Path. Note the variety of native plants added last winter.

Among other lines that reach our paths in different neighborhoods are the 7 and 67. Check www.actransit.org for the all AC routes and schedules.

Don't forget your BPWA map and exact change!

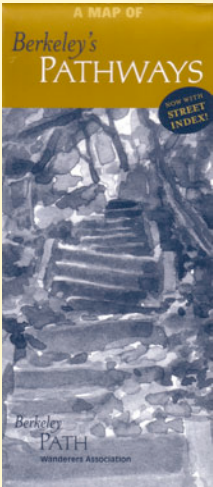
Heart Mending (from Page 1)

"creep." He has become an earthquake buff, reciting facts about plate tectonics and previous earthquakes and offering tips on preparing for "the big one." Thanks to his computer skills, he has merged maps of the fault with satellite views of the city to create a new, highly detailed walking map with an ominous red line running under and between houses, through parks, and along streets.

"In retrospect, the most interesting paths — Santa Barbara Path, Chester Lane, Easter Way, Oak St. Path, Rose Walk, Hilgard Path, and La Vereda Steps — were near or across the fault," he said on a recent morning after inspecting La Loma Path. "They reveal the geomorphology of the land, the twisted and tortuous remnants of earthquakes of the past."

To read about Andy's walks, follow his progress along the Hayward Fault, and find informative links, visit his blog (<http://walkingthefault.wordpress.com/>).

BPWA Map



This attractive and accurate map shows all the 135+ paths of Berkeley as well as all the streets. It is printed on sturdy, water resistant paper and is only \$6.95. To order see our web site. The map is a wonderful gift for anyone who plans to drive, bike, or hike in Berkeley.

Household memberships in the BPWA are \$5.00 and cover one calendar year. If you can give more, please consider a donation. Benefits include a newsletter and other BPWA mailings and emails. You can join or donate by sending a check, payable to BPWA along with the form, to:

BPWA
1442-A Walnut Street - #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

BPWA Membership/Donation Form

Please print clearly

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone Number (optional) _____

I am enclosing \$5 for membership new renewal

I am also enclosing a donation of _____

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Spring 2008

Dedicated to the creation, preservation, and restoration of public paths, steps, and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all.

The Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, an affiliate of Berkeley Partners for Parks, is a volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the City of Berkeley's pathways. Our activities include guided path walks, the mapping of Berkeley's path network, the building of paths that are proposed, and the restoration of those that need maintenance.



This giant urn marks the bottom of Indian Trail (See page 2).

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association
1442-A Walnut St. #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

www.berkeleypaths.org

Board Members

LORI KOHLSTAEDT, president
CHARLIE BOWEN, path building
LINDA BRADFORD, external events
JEN ENGLISH, walks
STEVE GLAESER, path building
ANNE HENNY, treasurer
MARY LYNCH, membership/administration
DALE MILLER, newsletter editor
COLLEEN NEFF, vice-president
WILL SCHIEBER, web master
MARILYN SIEGEL, secretary/internal events
KEITH SKINNER, walk coordinator
JERRY WACHTEL, image librarian/archivist
BARBARA WEST, nominating committee chair

BPWA Guided Walks

Most walks begin at 10 AM, rain or shine and last 2-3 hours. They are free and open to all. Please check online a few days before each walk for any changes.

Saturday Walks

July 26, 10:30 AM — Garden Classrooms & Spiral Gardens

in conjunction with Berkeley Community Gardening Collaborative
Beebo Turman 510 527 3773
beebot@pacbell.net

Travel the southern end of the Santa Fe Right of Way past school gardens, where children interact with nature, to the Spiral Gardens farm and gardening center. Then return to Strawberry Creek Park for lunch. Bring a bag lunch or buy something from the nearby cafe. Meet on the paved portion of the Santa Fe Right of Way at Delaware (near McGee). This is a great opportunity for the entire family to spend a few hours together.

August 16, Multiple departure times — Summer Path-a-Thon

Colleen Neff, Jen English, Dale Miller
510 528 3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com,
jen_english@yahoo.com,
millbush@pacbell.net

Three morning walks from Live Oak Park. Full story in the article on this page.

Sept 6, 10 AM — Hayward Fault Walk

Andy Datlen and Barbara West -
510 528 3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Tour part of the Hayward Fault, observing houses, schools, playgrounds, and walkways that have been built atop the fault. Get the inside scoop on what has been learned about the fault in the past few years, and what has been done - or not done - to mitigate the effects of the next great earthquake. Our leader will be a retired EBMUD cartographer and former emergency preparedness officer who has studied the fault extensively. We will start and end at the playground in Codornices Park. There will be some steep grades, but the pace will be moderate.

<http://walkingthefault.wordpress.com/>

Wednesday Walks and Special Evening Walk - Page 2

Berkeley's PATHS

Vol. 11 No. 2

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Summer 2008

BPWA Path-a-Thon Saturday August 16th

— Sandy Friedland

Put on your hiking shoes, pack your lunch and join the Berkeley Path Wanderers at Live Oak Park (on Shattuck Ave. between Rose and Eunice) on Saturday, Aug 16th for a path-a-thon. Three BPWA board members will lead separate walks that vary in length and difficulty. The groups will leave at staggered times and return around 12:30 PM for a bring-your-own picnic lunch. The BPWA will provide cake and lemonade.

You can follow one of these leaders:

- Jen English, who last December completed her quest to walk every street and path in Berkeley, has planned the most difficult route. She will depart the park at 9:45 via Berryman Path and hopes to cover more than 20 paths in the Berkeley hills. She will focus on the ones that wind up to the Tilden Park border and will stay south of Marin. She will include the remote Fred Herbert & Crescent Park Paths as well as some recently completed ones.

- Colleen Neff, who also has walked every path in Berkeley, will leave the park at 10:15 for a more moderate walk. She will head toward Terrace and Fountain Walks to reach the rustic paths in Thousand Oaks. These include her favorite, Indian Rock, along with Yosemite, Indian Trail, El Paseo, Visalia, Vincente, Tun-



All three walks should leave or re-enter Live Oak Park on this ramp

bridge, Chester, and more. Some of the steps on these paths are uneven and steep, but the pace will be moderate.

- Dale Miller, who lives in the Live Oak Park neighborhood where he walks his dog twice a day, will lead the easiest and shortest route. He will leave the park via Shattuck Ave at 11:15 and cover some of the nearby paths, including Terrace Walk, the Short Cut and Berryman Path. Depending on the physical condition and desires of the group, he might include Fountain Walk, Mendocino Path and Indian Rock. This walk will be suitable for families though not for strollers.

Please arrive 10 minutes before the scheduled departure time. All groups will rendezvous on the Shattuck Ave side of the park. While we're out walking, we'll watch for missing signs and paths badly in need of repair or cleaning, so we advise bringing a pad and pencil.

For questions, contact Colleen Neff, colleenneff@earthlink.net.

First Wednesday Walks

July 2, 10 AM - Kensington Treasures
Susan Schwartz 510 848 9358
f5creeks@aol.com

Explore Kensington's historic Sunset View Cemetery, UC Berkeley's Blake Gardens Estate, and little-known El Cerrito paths on a vigorous walk with great views. Plan on a snack or lunch at Fat Apple's afterwards! Meet at the entrance to Sunset View Cemetery, Colusa at Fairmount (101 Colusa, Kensington; AC Transit 79).

August 6, 10 AM - Music on the Paths
Barbara Robben 510 524 2383
keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Join Barbara Robben for interesting musical treats on the paths. This moderately paced walk is an excellent opportunity for a family outing. Meet at the playground at Codornices Park.

September, TBA — Rosie The Riveter
WW II Home Front National Park
Bruce Beyaert 510 528 3246
keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Tour this recently designated memorial in Richmond on the SF Bay Trail. The park contains a number of historic buildings and memorials to working women and men of WW II, as well as sweeping bay views. Check www.berkeleypaths.org for the date and time and other details. Home Front National Park info at - <http://www.nps.gov/rori/>

Weekday Sunset Walk

Monday August 25 at 6 PM
Berkeley Rock Parks
David Weinstein 510 528 3246
keithskinner.public@gmail.com

We are fortunate to have the author of **Berkeley Rocks** leading this sunset tour. Please check www.berkeleypaths.org for more details.

BPWA Board Meetings

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The Story of Pinnacle Path's Gorgeous Mosaic

— Colleen Neff

Few Berkeley homeowners have embraced their neighborhood path as fully and whimsically as Steve Juniper and his late wife Irene did with Pinnacle Path. Located between Regal Road and Poppy Lane in the North Berkeley hills, this gently sloped path is an unexpected delight for all who pass by.



Steve Juniper with the mosaic he masterminded

Thirteen years ago, to celebrate Irene's 60th birthday, Steve and her friends and family devised an ingenious, interactive party for her. They planned to create a mosaic of a serpent-like creature on the wall beneath Irene's prized garden, which borders Poppy Lane. To prepare for the party Steve covered the bare concrete blocks of the wall running along the lower end of the path with a layer of cement, creating a blank canvas for the abstract mosaic. On top of this he sketched a rough undulating outline.

Party goes then spent the afternoon filling in his outline with bits of tile, shells, mirrors, multi-colored fragments of plates and cups, and other interesting found items. By the end of the party, the mosaic ran more than half the length of the 40 foot wall. Steve grouted in the cracks, and the wall remained half finished for many years. Last year, volunteer artists met two times to finish the fanciful creature with the Junipers' grandson Jesse, aged 9, joining the effort. The newer, upper end of the mosaic now features a large dragon's head with a cobalt blue plate for an eye. What the rest of the project looks like is in the eye of the beholder. Some see a mermaid; others see a large fish and waves of water.

Passers-by have great fun pausing by Irene's wall to inspect all the weird and wonderful bits and pieces that comprise the mosaic. One particularly sweet part is the small section in the middle where mirror

shards surround a pink rose and the words "Happy 60th Irene" that are etched into the surface.

Sadly, Irene passed away last spring, but she did get to see the entire mosaic finished, and it serves as a wonderful tribute to her. Her husband Steve remarked that the wall is a great conversation piece for folks walking on the path and that he and Irene always enjoyed the friendly interaction.

The wall mosaic is not the only charm of Pinnacle Path, however. Beautiful roses spill over the fence that runs above the wall, and a large lemon tree arches over part of the path. The sound of the gurgling fountain in Irene's koi pond adds to the pleasures of Pinnacle Path. Climb the steps of Pinnacle Path and you'll find more great paths worth exploring. Head to the right at the top of Pinnacle Path and walk a ways to Remillard Park, which features a large rock outcropping that is popular with climbers. From there, you can either continue up the hill on the recently constructed Poppy Path or head into the trees on the very rustic Keeler Path.

BPWA Volunteer Opportunities

Work in Booth - lbrad5501@sbcglobal.net

Build Paths - charlie_paths@comcast.net

Plan / Lead Walks -
keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Spruce up a Path - colleenneff@earthlink.net

Path Building Update and Other News

Under the leadership of Charlie Bowen and her hard-working volunteers, we in the BPWA have had a productive winter and spring building paths. We're poised to make more progress before the year ends.

Mountain Hardwear sent a team of employees to help us finish installing steps at the upper segment of El Mirador Path (50), and signs are now up. The Path has a small but tranquil grove of redwoods lining the Southern fence. We have nearly completed Bret Harte Lane (72), which is passable even now. There is an excellent view of the bay from the top of the Path, at Grizzly Peak Blvd.

We have started on the lower half of Covert Path (53), but because of its steep slope, placing steps is harder than usual. This scenic path crosses a creek and ends near the Codornices Creek waterfall on Keith Ave. It will be a welcome addition to the system.

We also have continued adding steps to the steeper parts of Wilson Walk (96) and hope to replace the old buckled brick steps at the bottom of Poppy Path (38) this summer.

Berkeley Hills Realty has offered to sponsor the improvements on Summit Path (92), and we hope to start on it this fall.

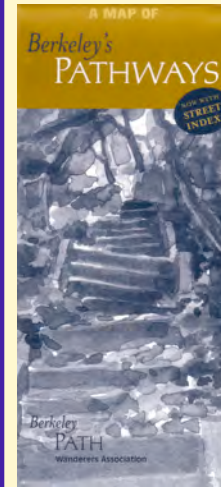
If you would like to help, please contact Charlie_paths@comcast.net. Most work parties are on the weekends, but we have started some small weekday ones as well.

The Panoramic Hill Association recently approached the BPWA to discuss the process we use to improve the Paths. Members of the PHA are considering whether they might use our techniques for installing wooden steps to build an emergency egress route from high on Panoramic Hill down to the section of Dwight Way that intersects with Fernwald road.

Berkeley did not get the Caltrans Grant city officials had applied for in order to finish improving the Santa Fe Right of Way, but city staff are continuing the search for funds. Some neighbors are hoping to start a Berkeley Partners for Parks nonprofit: Friends of the Santa Fe Greenway. They intend to apply for grants and coordinate volunteer work. Their priorities include lighting and improving the path surface.

The City has completed acquisition of the 9th street section of the old railroad right of way. It will pass through the parking lot for the new Berkeley Bowl that is being constructed, cross Ashby and connect the Emeryville Doyle Street Greenway to the 9th street Bicycle Boulevard. Berkeley's Associate Transportation Planner Kara Vuicich expects the pedestrian and bicycle greenway to be completed by the summer of 2009. The path is fenced off right now between Murray and Folger for sewer repairs.

BPWA Map



This attractive and accurate map shows all the 135+ paths of Berkeley as well as all the streets. It is printed on sturdy, water resistant paper and is only \$6.95. To order see our web site. The map is a wonderful gift for anyone who plans to drive, bike, or hike in Berkeley.

BPWA Note Cards



This set of four note cards with envelopes features Rose Walk (above) and three other paths. The cards are gorgeous reproductions of watercolors by Karen Kemp. The set is only \$7.50 and makes a wonderful gift. You can order sets from our website www.berkeleypaths.org

Tax-deductible household memberships in the BPWA are \$5.00 and cover one calendar year. If you can give more, please consider a donation. Benefits include a newsletter and other BPWA mailings and emails. You can join or donate online at www.berkeleypaths.org or by sending a check, payable to BFPF (Berkeley Partners for Parks) along with this form, to:

BPWA
1442-A Walnut Street - #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

BPWA Membership/Donation Form

Please print clearly

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone Number (optional) _____

I am enclosing \$5 for membership new renewal

I am also enclosing a donation of _____

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Summer 2008

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Charlie Bowen (far right) and her U.C. crew on Upper El Mirador

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COLLEEN NEFF, vice-president
WILL SCHIEBER, web master
MARILYN SIEGEL, secretary/internal events
KEITH SKINNER, walk coordinator
JERRY WACHTEL, image librarian/archivist
BARBARA WEST, nominating committee chair

BPWA Guided Walks

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Saturday Walks - 10 AM

October 11 - Old and New Emeryville
Sandy Friedland - 510 655 5773
ssf@comcast.net

Meeting Place: In front of Old City Hall at the intersection of Hollis and Park. On this flat walk, you'll learn how Emeryville evolved from what Earl Warren called "the rottenest city on the Pacific Coast" to a city known for its biotech, software, and film industries and its big box stores. Optional lunch to follow at Rudy's No Fail Cafe.

November 1 - History and Renewal, BART to BART

Susan Schwartz - 510 848 9358
f5creeks@aol.com

Meeting Place: El Cerrito Plaza BART station.

Join the President of Friends of Five Creeks to explore history, preservation, and restoration on Albany Hill, in University Village, and along Cerrito and Codornices Creeks. This four-mile walk to the North Berkeley BART station entails climbing 300 foot Albany Hill, crossing a creek on stepping stones, and clambering over a fallen oak. Wear sturdy walking shoes and long pants, as some poison oak comes close to the trail. Bring return BART or bus fare.

December 6 - Holiday Power Walk

Colleen Neff - 510 848 2944
colleenneff@earthlink.net

Meeting Place: At the Rose Garden sign on Euclid near Eunice

This will be a vigorous walk from the Rose Garden up to Atlas Path, high in the hills and back. It will be fast paced and challenging. (Colleen's article on page 2 describes part of this walk.)

"The thing to remember when traveling is that the trail is the thing, not the end of the trail. Travel too fast and you miss all you are traveling for."

- Louis L'Amour

Berkeley's PATHS

Vol. 11 No. 3

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Fall 2008

BPWA To Mark First Decade September 18

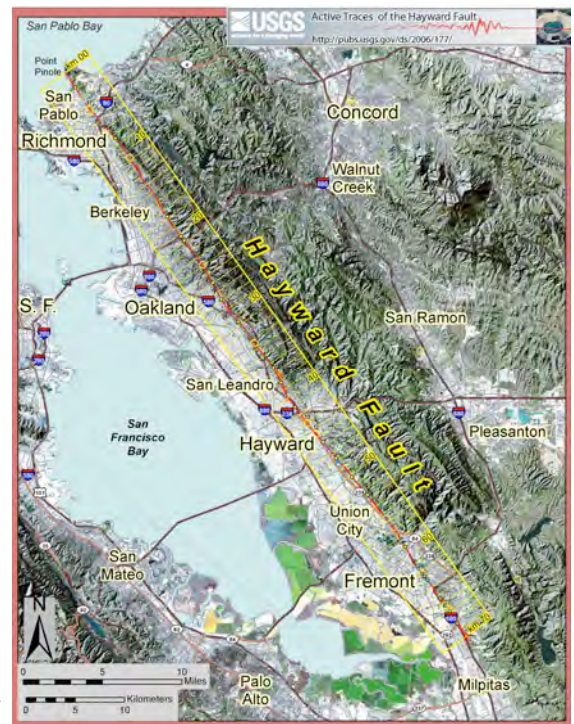
— Sandy Friedland

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association will celebrate its 10th anniversary at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 18, at the Berkeley Hillside Club (2286 Cedar). With the help of Mayor Tom Bates, BPWA will also pay tribute to retiring City Council member Betty Olds, one of the staunchest supporters of Berkeley's path system. The program begins at 7 PM.

The keynote speech by earthquake expert Katherine Stillwell will mark yet another milestone: the 140th anniversary of the last major rupture on the Hayward Fault. This anniversary is noteworthy because 140 years is the average interval between each of the last five large earthquakes on the fault, meaning it could rupture again at any time. In her illustrated talk, *The Hayward Fault: Living on the Edge*, Ms. Stillwell will highlight the history of the fault, trace its 50-mile path through the East Bay, and explain the likely consequences of another large quake. Such a disaster, she notes, could cause triple the financial loss and affect six times as many people as Hurricane Katrina.

Ms. Stillwell will include a hands-on demonstration of how earthquake stress builds up within the earth as well as specific tips on how people can best prepare themselves, their houses, and their communities to survive and recover from a big temblor.

"Many of us have retrofitted our houses and stocked emergency food and water, but there's much more that we need to do," says Ms. Stillwell, a struc-



Hayward Fault Expert to Give Keynote Speech

tural engineer and Berkeley resident who lives at the bottom of South Crossways path. She specializes in designing new buildings and retrofitting older ones to withstand the forces of a major earthquake. She also serves on the boards of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California and the Northern California chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, which leads the Hayward Fault Initiative to reduce the region's seismic risk.

BPWA began ten years ago when four public-spirited women who loved to walk began discussing how to preserve Berkeley's pedestrian pathways. In response to their flyer seeking other path

(Continued on page 3)

First Wednesday Walks - 10 AM

October 1 - Claremont/Uplands

Colleen Neff - 510 848 2944

ColleenNeff@earthlink.net

Meeting Place: Landmark plaque at northeast corner of The Uplands and Claremont Ave.

Walk the curvy streets and historic paths of Berkeley's first "private residence park," where you'll see distinctive hard-scape, architectural gems, and long sections of Harwood Creek. The route includes some steep stairs and ramps and hilly streets.

November 5- Alvarado Area of Wildcat Regional Park

Keith Skinner - 510 528 3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Meeting Place: Picnic area just past Park Office and just before the stone bridge.

On this moderately paced walk we'll explore this quirky end of Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. You can park on the street outside the park or use some of the limited parking inside the park (fee area). AC Transit #68 stops at Arlington & McBryde - a short distance from the park.

December 3 - North Berkeley Churches and Paths

Barbara Robben 510 848 9358

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Meeting Place: Live Oak Park - picnic table in the lower half of the park (between Walnut St. and Shattuck Ave.)

Get into the holiday mood with Barbara Robben, who will lead a walk on North Berkeley paths with visits to adjacent neighborhood churches. Come prepared for rain, though we will be indoors part of the time.

BPWA Volunteer Opportunities

Work in Booth - lbrad5501@sbcglobal.net

Build Paths - charlie_paths@comcast.net

Plan/Lead Walks -

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Spruce up a Path - colleenneff@earthlink.net

BPWA Board Meetings

The BPWA Board meets on the third Thursday of each month (except in September and December) at Music Sources, 1000 The Alameda (at Marin). Observers are welcome. Please enter via the side door at 1842 Marin Ave.

Meet the Paths:

Atlas and Scott Newhall Paths

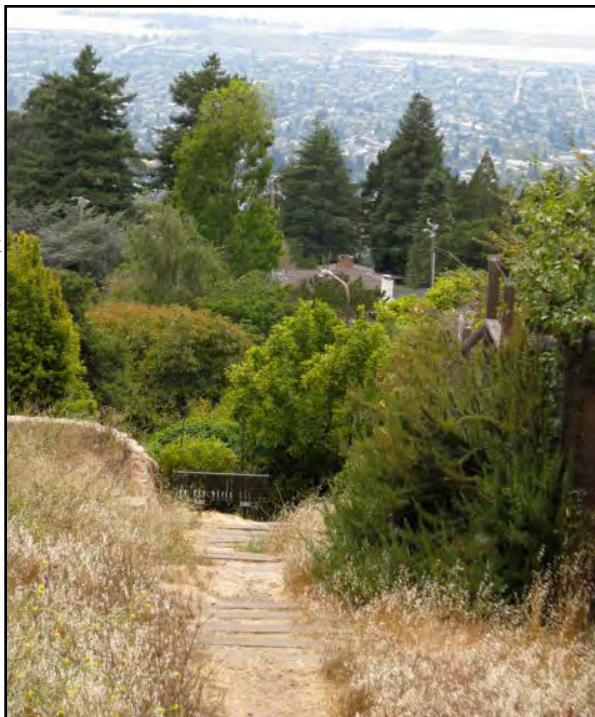
— Colleen Neff

Some of Berkeley's paths are truly hidden treasures. Two of the more difficult to find, Atlas Path and Scott Newhall Path, are well worth the effort.

You have several ways to reach the bottom of Atlas Path, which begins near Grizzly Peak Blvd. and Arcade Ave. The easiest is to take the AC Transit 65 bus directly there. A more strenuous option is to get off the 65 at Euclid Ave. and Hawthorne Terrace. Walk uphill to Rose Walk, then Rose St., and finally Rose Steps to La Loma Ave., which ends at Glendale Ave. Follow Glendale to its intersection with Campus Drive and the top of Glendale-La Loma Park. (This would be a good place to park if you prefer driving.) Go up all three parts of Glendale Path. Turn right at the top to reach Arcade Ave., which goes to Grizzly Peak and our starting point.

Cross Grizzly Peak and look for #1311. Head up the driveway (it's okay with the owner) where, just to the right of a brown retaining wall, you'll spot the rustic wooden steps of Atlas Path. Climb to the lovely curved, dark-green metal bench. As you take in the sweeping vista, from the Bay Bridge to Mt. Tamalpais, you might be tempted to lift your arms and embrace the heavens like the Greek god himself.

From the bench, continue up the steps between the two large houses perched on the hillside. Do turn around at the top to enjoy the view one more time. Then go left onto Hill Road, and walk to the end to reach another tricky-to-find path named after Scott Newhall. (He was editor of the San Francisco Chronicle from 1952 to 1971, an unsuccessful candidate for mayor of San Francisco, and an environmental activist.) At the end of Hill Road, take the driveway on the left for about ten feet. Next to a large stump on your right, you will spot the start of the path. It



Atlas Path

follows the ridge line, dropping off sharply on the left. The path narrows where a fence starts on the left and dense shrubbery grows on the right. You will emerge on the continuation of Hill Road, where you can look between the houses for another great view.

See the Spring, '08 edition of the BPWA newsletter for more suggested path walks that start along the 65 bus route.

As always we recommend taking along your BPWA Berkeley's Pathways Map.

Thank You Eagle Scouts!

Atlas Path was built in 2001-2002 by three Eagle Scouts from Troop 19 — Nathan Delmer, Leo Maheu, and Theodore Ziemba. After carefully surveying and planning the project, they cleared the brush and dug in the wooden-rail steps. A grant from Berkeley Partners for Parks paid for the bench, which Leo installed. BPWA is very grateful for all the hard work the Scouts have contributed on this and other projects, and we look forward to more partnerships with them.

BPWA Returns to the Solano Avenue Stroll

Look for our booth at the Solano Stroll on Sunday, Sept. 14, where we will be selling maps and note cards and giving away newsletters. We'll be ready to chat and answer questions.

This is one of our favorite events with great food and music, scores of interesting booths, and wall-to-wall people having a great time.

We will be on the south (even numbered) side of the 1700 block of Solano between Wells Fargo Mortgage and Pharmaca.

BPWA Annual Meeting (Cont'd)

devotees, 55 people turned out for a meeting on May 20, 1998. A decade later, BPWA is a well-respected community presence with over 550 household members. The group has sold nearly 22,000 copies of its popular path map, *Berkeley's Pathways*. It was the first map to show the entire path network, including about 40 city-owned rights of way that were set aside for paths that were never built. BPWA volunteers — working closely with local officials, Boy Scouts, and civic organizations — have now completed 25 of those.

From the earliest days of BPWA, Mrs. Olds has backed its efforts to finish the missing paths and lobbied for the city to maintain the older ones. This year *The East Bay Express* named her "Best Politician in the East Bay," calling her the "queen of common sense."

BPWA's annual meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Path Building Update

So far this summer, our wonderful path-building volunteers have finished putting in steps on Bret Harte Lane (#72), removed the buckled brick steps at the bottom of Poppy Path (#38), and replaced them with our new steps. Expect to see borders installed along the flat portions of these paths early this fall. Street signs should be up on Bret Harte Lane this month.

We're postponing work on Lower Covert Path (#53) until the fall rains start. We hope to begin improving Summit Path (#92) soon.

If you would like to help us build paths, please contact Charlie Bowen: charlie_paths@comcast.net

BPWA Web Site - Better Than Ever

Thanks to Web Master Will Schieber, you can now access important information about each path on our web site. To see what he has done, open your web browser, go to www.berkeleypaths.org, and click on *The Paths* at the top of the page. This will take you to our paths page. Click Path List on the left to bring up a table of all our paths with the path name, the house addresses at the top and bottom, and a brief descriptive note. Clicking on the path name will open a page dedicated to that path with high quality photographs taken by Colleen Neff and links to more detailed stories, articles and routes.

Of course you can still surf our site to renew your membership, order maps, read past newsletters, catch up on path building, and learn about upcoming events.

BPWA Map



This attractive and accurate map shows all the 135+ paths of Berkeley as well as all the streets. It is printed on sturdy, water-resistant paper and is only \$6.95. To order, see our web site. The map is a wonderful gift for anyone who plans to drive, bike, or hike in Berkeley.

BPWA Note Cards



This set of four note cards with envelopes features Rose Walk (above) and three other paths. The cards are gorgeous reproductions of watercolors by Karen Kemp. The set is only \$7.50 and makes a wonderful gift. You can order sets from our website www.berkeleypaths.org

Tax-deductible household memberships in the BPWA are \$5.00 and cover one calendar year. If you can give more, please consider a donation. Benefits include a newsletter and other BPWA mailings and emails. You can join or donate online at www.berkeleypaths.org or by sending this form and a check, payable to our fiscal parent BFPF (Berkeley Partners for Parks) to:

BPWA
1442-A Walnut Street - #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

BPWA Membership/Donation Form

Please print clearly

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone Number (optional) _____

I am enclosing \$5 for membership new renewal

I am also enclosing a donation of _____

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Fall 2008

Dedicated to the creation, preservation, and restoration of public paths, steps, and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all.

The Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, an affiliate of Berkeley Partners for Parks, is a volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the City of Berkeley's pathways. Our activities include guided path walks, the mapping of Berkeley's path network, the building of paths that are proposed, and the restoration of those that need maintenance.



Recognize this sculpture? Tell us where it is, and win a BPWA map and a mention in our next newsletter. Email your answer to ColleenNeff@earthlink.net or send it to the address below, Attn: Colleen Neff. We will choose at random if we receive multiple correct answers.

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association
1442-A Walnut St. #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

www.berkeleypaths.org

Board Members

LORI KOHLSTAEDT, president
CHARLIE BOWEN, path building
LINDA BRADFORD, external events
JEN ENGLISH, walks
STEVE GLAESER, path building
ANNE HENNY, treasurer
MARY LYNCH, membership/administration
DALE MILLER, newsletter editor
COLLEEN NEFF, vice-president
WILL SCHIEBER, web master
MARILYN SIEGEL, secretary/internal events
KEITH SKINNER, walk coordinator
BARBARA WEST, nominating committee chair

BPWA Guided Walks

Walks take place rain or shine and last 2-3 hours unless otherwise noted. They are free and open to all. Please check online a few days before each walk for any changes.

Saturday Walks - 10 AM

Jan 3 - New Year's Waterfront Walk
Susan Schwartz - 510 848 9358
f5creeks@aol.com

Meeting Place: Shorebird Nature Center, 160 University Ave. (South side., west of Adventure Playground) **AC Transit #9 bus.** View wintering waterfowl and discover how Berkeley beaches are rebuilding themselves. Binoculars are recommended. Walk is leisurely and level but not wheelchair accessible. Optional coffee/tea stop at Sea Breeze Deli.

February 7 - Geocaching on the Paths

Mike Zinser - 510 528 3246
keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Meeting Place: Top of Fountain Walk, Marin (Arlington) Circle. AC Transit #7 bus
If you haven't tried your hand at geocaching — essentially treasure hunting with a GPS unit — here's your chance. We will share GPS units and hunt for caches on and around the paths. www.geocaching.com has more info on this popular pastime.

March 7 - Power Walk

Colleen Neff - 510 848 2944
colleenneff@earthlink.net

Meeting Place: Picnic area of Indian Rock Park. AC Transit #7 bus

This will be a challenging, fast-paced fitness walk through John Hinkel Park, on Acacia Walk, and past Grizzly Peak Blvd. to Vistamont with a return via Easter Way.

Wednesday Walks - Page 2

BPWA Winter Program

Thursday, February 19 - 7 PM.
Redwood Gardens (2951 Derby St.)
Susan Schwartz will speak on *Habitat Rehab: Restoring Bay Area Nature from Mountains to your Downspout.*
(Full details on page 2.)

BPWA Volunteer Opportunities

Work in Booth - lbrad5501@sbcglobal.net
Build Paths - charlie_paths@comcast.net
Plan/Lead Walks - keithskinner.public@gmail.com
Spruce up a Path - colleenneff@earthlink.net

Berkeley's PATHS

Vol. 11 No. 4

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Winter 2008-09

President's Year-End Message

— Lori Kohlstaedt

The mission statement of the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association reads "Dedicated to the creation, preservation and restoration of public paths, steps, and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all." Implicit in our mission is another goal: To make walking in Berkeley an easy and pleasant, perhaps even joyous, experience.

Most of Berkeley's paths are in the hills, where they serve a utilitarian purpose. They significantly shorten commuting distances for walkers and provide important emergency access and egress. Yet walking along Berkeley's pathways can also be a pure pleasure. These hill paths provide breathtaking views and glimpses of distinguished Berkeley architecture and beautiful gardens.

Far fewer public pathways lie in the flatter parts of our city, where streets form a regular grid. Nevertheless, many interesting and lovely spots lie in this section of Berkeley, and often our guided walks take place below the hills. Because BPWA recognizes that walking should be safe and pleasurable throughout city, we often partner with other groups to, among other things, improve the Ohlone Greenway, open other railway rights of way to pedestrians, upgrade crosswalks near paths, and install borders of native, drought-resistant plants.

Our own program of path creation and improvement continued to add new walking routes in 2008. Our path-building teams include everyone from high school students to retirees.

Under the direction of our principal path builder Charlie Bowen, two new paths were opened this year. UC Berkeley students and a crew from Mountain Hardware helped us finish one, Upper El Mirador (#50). The other, Bret Harte Lane (#72), offers a fine view of the Bay from its upper end at Grizzly Peak Blvd. You may also have noticed that the broken brick steps at the bottom of Poppy Path have disappeared. With the help

(Continued on page 3)



One of the highlights of this eventful year was the November City Council meeting, at which Charlie Bowen (above) was honored with a City of Berkeley proclamation recognizing her leadership in the building of 23 of Berkeley's pathways. That meeting also marked the retirement of our long-time champion, Council Member Betty Olds.

First Wednesday Walks - 10 AM

Jan 7 - Monkey Island Park Neighborhood

Colleen Neff - 510 848 2944

ColleenNeff@earthlink.net

Meeting Place: Monkey Island Park - Claremont Blvd. & Garber St. AC Transit #7 bus

Tour the Monkey Island Park neighborhood, including Avalon Walk and Oak Knoll and Tanglewood Paths. This will be a fairly easy route with some stairs and some uphill. We will finish on College Ave. at Ici for an ice cream cone.

February 4 - Emeryville Public Art

Keith Skinner - 510 528 3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Meeting Place: Ruby's Cafe - 6233 Hollis St (63rd), Emeryville. Transit: Emery-Go-Round Shuttle from Macarthur BART station

Discover the wealth of public art in Emeryville, sponsored by city's Art in Public Places program. This walk will be flat and the pace moderate.

Mar 4 - UC Campus Outdoor Sculpture

Alan Kaplan - 510 528-3246

keithskinner.public@gmail.com

Meeting Place: UC Campus - North Gate entrance. AC Transit #52L bus

A continuation of Alan's art and architecture walks, this moderately-paced tour will focus on the interesting sculpture dotting the UC-Berkeley campus.

BPWA Map



This attractive and accurate map shows all the 135+ paths of Berkeley as well as all the streets. It is printed on sturdy, water-resistant paper and is only \$6.95. To order, see our web site. The map is a wonderful gift for anyone who drives, bikes, or hikes in Berkeley.

Santa thinks maps and note cards make excellent holiday gifts

February 19th Winter Meeting To Focus on Creeks and Watersheds

— Sandy Friedland

Susan Schwartz, long active in restoring local creeks and watersheds, will speak at BPWA's winter program on Thursday, February 19, at 7 PM at Redwood Gardens (2951 Derby St.). Her talk, Habitat Rehab: Restoring Bay Area Nature from Mountains to your Downspout, will take you on a slide tour of the amazingly varied efforts aimed at protecting and restoring nature in our area, the largest estuary on the West Coast. The program is free and open to the public.

A dedicated community activist, Susan has a knack for attracting and motivating volunteers to join efforts to improve the local environment. She is president of Friends of Five Creeks, a group that works to restore and preserve clean water and healthy watersheds from North Berkeley to Richmond. She also leads work parties, walks, and community meetings. Every Tuesday, her dedicated Weekday Weed Warriors battle invasive plants at varied restoration sites.

She has helped form coalitions both locally and regionally and to spread the word about their efforts. In 2006, Susan organized Greening Berkeley, collaboration among five citizen groups – including BPWA and UC Berkeley students – to create more green spaces in Berkeley. She recently launched a new website featuring “blue-green” developments – homes, schools, churches, parking lots, shopping malls and more designed to minimize impacts on the environment. She is producing an online map that gives information on the dozens of Bay Area projects where volunteers can join hands-on efforts to improve the environment.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* recently gave Susan a Jefferson Award for Public Service and ran a spotlight feature on her on October 8.

"It's magical to watch water," she told the *Chronicle*. "As we live more in cities, and with global warming, we



Our Winter Program Speaker Susan Schwartz

need to be able to have nature close at hand without driving for hours with our internal combustion engine."

Susan is a former journalist, editor, and teacher of scientific writing. She has been an active member of BPWA almost since it began ten years ago. She started BPWA's path-building program, in which adult volunteers, students, and other groups clear long-lost paths on city-owned rights of way and install wooden steps. That effort, now led by Charlie Bowen, has added 25 new paths to the system.

Want to Lead a Walk?

If you have an idea for a walk, please contact Keith Skinner – 510 528 3246 keithskinner.public@gmail.com.

BPWA Board Meetings

The BPWA Board meets on the third Thursday of each month (except Feb, Sept, and Dec) at Music Sources, 1000 The Alameda (at Marin). Observers are welcome. Please enter via the side door at 1842 Marin Ave.

President's Year-End Message (Continued)

of a neighboring homeowner, we are replacing them with wooden ones.

BPWA bid a fond goodbye to one of our major supporters, Betty Olds, who just retired from the Berkeley City Council. We honored Betty at our Annual Meeting in September by giving her a set of beautiful path photos taken by BPWA Vice-President Colleen Neff. Many people who love the paths also attended Betty's last council meeting to thank her for her efforts on behalf of the path system.

At the same council meeting, Charlie Bowen was honored with a City of Berkeley proclamation recognizing her leadership in building of 23 of Berkeley's pathways. (see photograph on page 1).

The path ahead for BPWA has many opportunities and obstacles. Many of the city-owned rights of way that were reserved for paths but never developed are very steep or pose other serious challenges. However, work is underway on some of these difficult paths. Charlie and crew are cutting switchbacks and fashioning a retaining wall in the steep lower section of Covert Path. Next year they will tackle the rest of this path, which traverses rugged terrain. Please show your support for the paths by joining one of Charlie's work parties. Sign up to help on our website.

As 2008 ends, it is time for those of you who don't see "Mem '09" after your name on the next page, to renew your BPWA membership. Please con-

sider also making a donation to further our path building. Although these grim economic times have us all tightening our belts, a small gift to BPWA goes a long way. You can join and donate at www.berkeleypaths.org. All BPWA workers and officers are volunteers, and our overhead is extremely low. This is your organization, and I invite you to become more involved by volunteering. You can help with path building, offer to lead one of our two guided walks each month and with a variety of other activities, such as publicity and map sales.

Watch our website and our print and e-newsletters for volunteer opportunities. I also invite you to show your support for both the Path Wanderers and the environment by putting your feet on a path whenever you can. Happy walking!

"Afoot and light hearted I take to the open road, Healthy, free, the world before me, The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose. Henceforth, I ask not good fortune, I myself am good fortune. Henceforth, I whimper no more, postpone no more, I need nothing. I'm done with indoor complaints, libraries, and querulous criticisms. Strong and content I travel the open road."

— Walt Whitman

BPWA Note Cards



This set of four note cards with envelopes features Rose Walk (above) and three other paths. The cards are gorgeous reproductions of watercolors by Karen Kemp. The set is only \$7.50 and makes a wonderful gift.

You can order sets from our website www.berkeleypaths.org

Our Photo Contest Was a Big Hit

The winner of the photo contest we began in the last newsletter is BPWA member Geoff Chandler. He received a free BPWA map when his correct answer was chosen at random from the dozen we received.

The fall photo was an elephant sculpture located on Scenic Ave. near Cedar St. The prize pachyderm is named Penelope. She was created by Berkeley/Oakland native, Roxanne Urry, with a Sawzall, screws, and 100 recycled tires. Steel-belted radials comprise the body, and dragster tires the ears. Muffler pipes are the tusks.

Contest rules and the latest mystery photo are on page four.

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BPWA
1442-A Walnut Street - #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

BPWA Membership/Donation Form

Please print clearly

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone Number (optional) _____

I am enclosing \$5 for membership new renewal

I am also enclosing a donation of _____

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Winter 2008-09

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COLLEEN NEFF, vice-president
WILL SCHIEBER, web master
MARILYN SIEGEL, secretary/internal events
KEITH SKINNER, walk coordinator
BARBARA WEST, nominating committee chair

If you don't see "Mem. 09" after your name above, it's time to renew your membership. You can renew online or by sending in the form on page three.