

CANOPY

TREES FOR PALO ALTO

Canopy is a non-profit advocate for Palo Alto's community trees and works to educate, inspire and engage Palo Altans as stewards of new and existing trees.

FALL 2005

3921 East Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

PHONE 650.964.6110

FAX 650.964.6173

E-MAIL info@canopy.org

www.canopy.org



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Contributors:

Writing/Editing

Ann Bilodeau
Jana Dilley
Katie Hasnain
Roy C. Leggitt III
Catherine Martineau
Forest Preston, III
Susan Rosenberg

Photography

Jana Dilley
Catherine Martineau
Jane Stocklin

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIR

by Ann Bilodeau

IN JULY SUSAN ROSENBERG WAS NAMED CHAIR of Canopy's Board of Directors. Susan recently sat down to answer some questions of interest to Canopy members.

Q. How did you get interested in the urban forest? In Canopy in particular?

A. I was a kid who loved trees. The small town I grew up in the Salinas Valley had a population of 450 people but there were thousands of trees, mainly oaks. I somehow got the idea in my head as a kid that those gnarly old oaks were wise old people. So, here I am in Palo Alto, in a community with incredible old oak trees, working to keep them alive and healthy as long as possible.

When the City Council convened the Tree Task Force to study the decline of Palo Alto's urban forest in the early 1990s I was headed to Massachusetts for a master's program in landscape design. When I returned home I knew I wanted to be involved in learning about Palo Alto's urban forest, something quite unique in the Bay Area not only for its oaks but for its collection of trees from around the world.

Q. What Canopy activities have you been involved with?



Canopy's new Board Chair Susan Rosenberg examines a Chinese elm as part of the Tree Care Survey in 2004.

A. Well, I was in on choosing the name of the organization. (Bill Courington, also part of the Tree Task Force, came up with the name "Canopy" after hours of what-should-we-name-this-organization meetings.) The first neighborhood tree planting was organized by my fellow College Terrace neighbor and founding board member, Susan Wilson. Susan, who's a graphic designer, and I worked with Kevin Raftery and Dave Dockter to develop many of the original Self-Guided Tree Walks. There are now 13 Tree Walks available on Canopy's website.

Continued on page 2

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIR — continued from cover

Q. What Canopy accomplishments are you most proud of?

A. Canopy is firmly rooted in Palo Alto, pun intended, but attempts at humor aside, it is very heartwarming to see how Canopy has become a well respected member of this community. We're recognized by residents as the place to call for tree questions, and we have a very good working relationship with the City's tree department and Public Works. And in the past year and a half Canopy's website has received over 450,000 hits, which means it is a resource for people far beyond Palo Alto's borders.

Q. What would you like to see Canopy accomplish next under your leadership?

A. The one thing I'd really like to see happen on my watch is for more businesses to recognize the value Palo Alto's healthy urban forest brings to their customers and employees. And with that recognition I'd like their financial support so Canopy's annual budget could increase by 25% and put it on a stronger professional footing.

Q. Why do you think it's important for Palo Altans to support Canopy?

A. Palo Alto's early residents were truly innovative thinkers. They saw the wisdom in the City owning its own utility department, in building parks throughout the city and in planting trees where roads and houses were built. I value that visionary thinking; it's a large part of what has made Palo Alto the exceptional city it is. In a nutshell, our trees and the canopy coverage they provide bring Palo Alto significant value; they increase property value, they clear carbon monoxides from the air, they protect us from ultraviolet rays, and they're a beauty to behold. They should not be taken lightly.

Canopy's Ivy Buster Workday

On September 17, 92 volunteers came to Mitchell Park and cleared 37 trees of ivy during Canopy's Ivy Buster workday. Here, Girl Scouts from Troops 647 and 684 cart away the ivy they removed.



Canopy in the Digital Age

Would you like to be the first to know about Canopy events such as Tree Talks, Tree Walks, workshops and volunteer workdays? Be sure you're on Canopy's e-mail list! Canopy sends out announcements by e-mail one to two times per month on all upcoming events. You can also help Canopy save money and trees by choosing to receive your newsletter electronically as a pdf file. Hard copies will still be mailed to those who want them. If you would like to join our e-mail list or receive your newsletter electronically, send an email to info@canopy.org with your request.



Workshop attendees listen as Canopy's Program Director Jana Dilley and City of Palo Alto arborist Dave Dockter present the first session in the Community Tree Steward Workshop Series, *Understanding the Miracle of Community Trees*.

Canopy Launches a Smashing New Tree Steward Workshop Series

ON AUGUST 27, CANOPY LAUNCHED a new series of workshops designed to give participants the skills and resources necessary to maintain the trees on their property and the urban forest as a whole. The Community Tree Steward Workshop Series features five sessions completed over nine months. Workshop leaders include City of Palo Alto arborist Dave Dockter, local arborists John McClenahan, Kevin Raftery and Dave Muffly and Canopy Program Director Jana Dilley. Participants who complete all five workshops will be given Community Tree Steward certificates. The workshop series is a result of a generous grant Canopy received from California ReLeaf and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Registration for the remaining workshops is full and there is currently a waiting list. We would like to repeat the series next year, so if you are interested, stay tuned!

Volunteer Spotlight: Kacie Draeger

by Katherine Hasnain

A VOLUNTEER FOR CANOPY FOR EIGHT YEARS, Katherine Claire Draeger (better known as Kacie to her many friends at Canopy) is finally departing for her chosen college, the University of the Pacific. Sad though she is to leave Canopy, Kacie cannot help but feel excited to embark on this next, new exciting part of her life.

When asked whether she will worry about leaving Canopy, she confidently says, "I feel that I've left Canopy in good hands"—which is quite true. Throughout Kacie's duration at Canopy, the organization has thrived and spread its roots deep into the community.

"Canopy has strong ground to run on. After all if you find something good, you stick with it," Kacie says. "All that I know about trees is from Canopy. I've learnt planting techniques, that planting pots can suffocate trees, that ants can herd aphids, and a little bit of pruning." In response to the question whether Canopy has given her a lot, she nods and says, "Yes, but I've also given a lot back."

Perhaps Kacie will continue volunteering at college. But Kacie's time at Canopy is finally up and we must say goodbye. As her mother, Canopy Board Member Anne Draeger, says, "I'm excited for her. And she'll still be coming back occasionally in the holidays to help out."



Mother-Daughter team Anne and Kacie Draeger as they set out to survey young trees in June 2005.

Editor's note: Kacie Draeger is a Project Leader for Canopy and has been involved with the Tree Care Survey for a number of years. In 2003, she was given Canopy's "Out on a Limb" volunteer award. Katherine Hasnain has been helping with the 2005 Tree Care Survey and contributed this article to the newsletter.

Donors List 2004-2005

BUSINESSES, CORPORATIONS AND FUNDS

\$10,000 or more
P.G. & E - SafeTree

Forest level - \$5,000 to \$7,499
Court House Plaza Company

Grove level - \$2,500 to \$4,499
California ReLeaf

Sequoia level - \$1,000 to \$2,499
Roche Palo Alto
The Care of Trees
Chilcote Trust
Agilent Technologies Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto
Morton & Associates
Palo Alto Weekly
Jensen Landscape Corporation

Redwood level - \$500 to \$999
RL Trucking
Greater Bay Bancorp Foundation

Oak level - \$250 to \$499
Hewlett Packard
Whole Foods Palo Alto
Davey Tree Expert Company

Sycamore level - \$100 to \$249
Kepler's
Google

INDIVIDUALS

Sequoia Level - \$1,000 to \$2,499
Marty & Judy Deggeller
Nancy Drapkin
Brooks & Marilyn Nelson
Billy Prior
Susan Rosenberg
Roger Smith
Sally Stillman
Jane & Bill Stocklin

Redwood Level - \$500 -999
Ann & Ken Bilodeau
Ann Bowers
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Kate Feinstein
Cynthia & John Gunn
Joe & Bette Hirsch
James & Margaret Ann McClenahan
John & Cynthia McClenahan
Mary & Walt McCullough
Scott McGilvray
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Forest Preston III
Glenn Rennels & Peggy Forsyth
Shulamith Rubinien
Gail Schubert
Liz Schwerer-Duffie & Kingston Duffie
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Oak Level - \$250 to \$499
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Bill Courington
Joseph & Meri Ehrlich
Leland & Susan Faust
Stephen & Janelle Fodor
Sally & Whit Heaton
Julie & Jon Jerome
Mary Kennedy
Betty & Bob Meltzer
John Perkins
Nancy Peterson
Carolyn & Bill Reller
Maddy & Isaac Stein
Rick Stern
Don & Anne Vermeil
Eric & Kathryn Verwillow

Sycamore - \$100 to \$249
Betsy & Nat Allyn
John & Nell Anton
France & Dennis Bark
Brigid Barton
Katherine Bass

George & Betsy Bechtel
Bern Beecham & Cheryl Lathrop
Keith & Atsuko Bennett
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Casey Cameron & Randy Mooney
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Agnes Devin
Matthieu Devin & Catherine Granger
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Anne & F. John Draeger
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Sandy Eakins
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Sarah Hainstock & Jennifer Levinson
Stephen & Susan Hansen
Marge & Robert Harrington
R. Dennis Harvey & Paula Sandas-Harvey
Jerry Hearn
Georgia, Jeff & Katherine Herzog
Kelly & Randolph Hicks
John & Sue Howe
Carrie Hudiburgh
Jeff Justice
Jeanne Kennedy

Donors List 2004-2005 continued

Larry Klein
Liz & Rick Kniss
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Philip Green
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Michael & Ellen Turbow
Suzanne & Peter Voll
Edgar & Gee Gee Williams
Susan Wilson
Marcus Wood
Jeffrey Yost
Arnold Zwicky

Tree and Care Gifts 2004-2005

Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Harlan Smith
Nancy Peterson
in memory of Hans Wolf -
One of Palo Alto's Tallest Trees
Nancy Peterson
in memory of Hong Ja Stern
Susan Rosenberg
five trees in honor of
Betty Meltzer for her work on
the Trees for El Camino
Project
Jerry Hearn
in honor of the Upper School
Teachers at the Peninsula
School

Sarah Hainstock &
Jennifer Levinson
in honor of Billy, Carly, Parker
and Reade
Betsy Allyn
in memory of Adam Ojakian
Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Adam Ojakian
Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Rose Druker
Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Ray Russom
The Canopy Board of Directors
in memory of Adam Ojakian
Clint & Marilyn Smith
in honor of the late
Lorraine Horn

Sandra Drake
in honor of Kim Brian
Gillespie
Madeline J. Stein
in memory of Elizabeth
English
Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Harry Druker
Marty & Judy Deggeller
in memory of Bobby Dery
Lanie & David Wheeler
in honor of Gershon Wheeler
Jeanne Kennedy
in honor of Susan Wilson

Tree Gifts 2004-2005

Stephen & Susan Hansen
in honor of Carol Lovell
Harlan Pinto, M.D.
in honor of
Thomas E. Davis, M.D.
Pat Blumenthal
in honor of Doug Murray
Miriam Cespedes
in honor of E. Yanosh Alt
Judy & Jim Kleinberg
in honor of the Honorable
Liz Kniss

David & Shulamith Rubinien
ten trees in memory of
Bernadette Inkeles
Leland & Susan Faust
five trees in honor of
Anna Rose Taylor
Joseph & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Elizabeth
Cohen
Belinda Hopkinson
in honor of
Jenny Hopkinson,
for Mothers' Day

Joe & Bette Hirsch
in honor of the marriage of
Judy Craddick and
Howard Maccabee
Joe & Bette Hirsch
in memory of Hans Wolf
Marty & Judy Deggeller
in memory of Bob Stern
Dana L. Frownfelter
in honor of Glenn C. Scott
Beverly & Donald Kobrin
in honor of Prof. George
Alexander's retirement



Top: Nathan, Gillian & Patrick Lui
pose with their surveying equipment.

Canopy Completes Its Annual Young Tree Care Survey

Volunteers poured out in early
June to help Canopy complete
its annual Young Tree Care
Survey. Through this program,
Canopy volunteers visit all street
trees planted in the City of Palo
Alto in the past five years. Trees

are checked to be sure they are
receiving the right care, including
proper watering, and information
is left with residents. Results of the
tree care survey will be sent to the
City of Palo Alto's Tree Division
next month.



Right: Program Director
Jana Dilley walks volunteers
through a training for the annual
Young Tree Care Survey.

Ask the Arborist

Do you have a burning tree question—one you have never known whom to ask or how? Well, we’ve got the solution for you. Send your question to Canopy at ask@canopy.org. We’ll compile some of the most interesting and thought-provoking questions and publish the answers from arborists. Here’s this issue’s question:

Is my tree getting too friendly with my house?

by Roy C. Leggitt III, a Consulting Arborist working in Palo Alto on residential and commercial properties. His work includes diagnosis of tree health, hazard tree assessment, tree inventories and management planning, and tree protection planning for construction projects. He may be reached at RCL3@mindspring.com or 415.606.3610.

Trees get bigger every year, kind of like some of us, but by increasing root and limb length as they add layers of wood. Sometimes a tree simply outgrows its location. There may not be any real problem with a tree, but your plumbing, driveway, foundation, retaining wall or roof may be competing for space.

Limbs overhanging your home may pose a problem. Leaf and debris accumulation can shorten the useful life of the roofing material, and debris in your gutter

could cause a backup that overflows where it shouldn’t. Trimming back limbs is one approach, but most often it is best to just plan on an annual cleanup that includes the roof and gutter. Have a Consulting Arborist inspect larger trees and limbs for health and safety where pruning, cabling and bracing are options.

Root impacts are rarely an issue with a modern foundation, but may cause damage to older homes, usually by growing against the foundation wall and pushing it inward. In a similar vein, retaining walls that are not engineered can often be pushed over by roots. Surface concrete such as driveways and walks may be lifted at a seam or a corner, tilting up a large area. This kind of damage is less likely to occur, less extensive and easier to fix if you choose another type of surfacing such as interlocking pavers. A root will occasionally damage your plumbing, but most often it is the other way around where the sewer line is first leaking and is then entered by roots. What could be better for a root than soil that has aeration, moisture and nutrition from your sewer?

Always check with a Consulting Arborist before your contractor, plumber or landscaper starts work. Roots may be your problem, but they are also important to the health and safety of your tree. A Consulting Arborist can consider options and help you find ways of mitigating damage to the tree.

A TREEmendous Idea for a Gift

NO MATTER WHAT THE OCCASION—birth of a baby, a birthday celebration, to honor a favorite teacher, the holidays, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, graduations, or to honor the memory of a dear friend, a Canopy Tree Planting Gift will never be duplicated. It’s a one-of-a-kind gift that makes it possible for Canopy to plant

a new tree in a park or street in Palo Alto. Your honoree will receive a card with your personalized message and the gift will be recognized in the Canopy newsletter. You may choose to give one or several Canopy Tree Planting Gifts for \$50 each, or one or several Canopy Tree Planting and Care Gifts for \$100 each.

To make a Canopy Tree Gift, call the office at 650.964.6110 or use the form below:

☐ I would like to have a tree planted in honor of a friend. Enclosed is my \$50.00 donation

☐ I would like to have a tree planted and cared for in honor of a friend. Enclosed is my \$100.00 donation

☐ In honor of: _____

☐ On the occasion of: _____

☐ In memory of: _____

Please notify: _____

Address: _____

Mail this with your check to: Canopy, 3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303
Due to City of Palo Alto policy, trees are not individually identified at the site where planted.

Coming Events

Saturday, September 24
9 to 11 a.m.
Improving the Health & Longevity of Your Mature Tree

Saturday, November 5
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Selecting & Planting Young Trees

TBA
Briones Park Planting

Thanks to Our Generous Business Donors

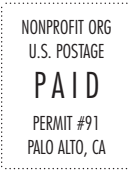
Canopy has recently received a significant gift from the following business: **Court House Plaza Company**

Canopy’s Leadership

Staff	Board of Directors	Advisory Committee
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