



Hosted by  
East Bay  
Regional  
Park  
District  
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District

SPDF  
2019

# SPDF Newsletter



## BREAKFAST TALK!

Wednesday's breakfast will be focused on leading at the Capitol, legislative issues, and issues for parks. Learn how the East Bay Regional Park District has been a leading advocate for balanced park access.



## TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Mount Umunhum** – the long and winding road led to the former Air Force Station, which has been restored to its natural state, revegetated with native plants and opened for the public to enjoy the spectacular views of the valley below. Umunhum means resting place of the hummingbird, and the summit is central to the creation story of our partners the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band. Did you get to see the rattlesnake?
- **Bear Creek Redwoods** – a special sneak preview of this preserve set to open next month. A fierce grassroots battle saved the property from development into luxury homes and a golf course. Many braved the steep trail to the old growth redwoods, and learned about how these forests can help in combating climate change.
- **Downtown Los Gatos** – a great chance to share a meal with new friends and discuss the day's events before climbing aboard the buses for the trip back to Walnut Creek.
- **National Park Service Sites** – got inside the lives of two national figures, conservation advocate and writer John Muir and Nobel Prize-winning playwright Eugene O'Neill. John Muir is considered by many to be "Father of the National Parks." Tour also included an overview of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.





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### WEDNESDAY PREVIEW

*Tours leaves at 9am.*

**Point Pinole** – learn how this 2,315-acre park was created from the ashes of a former dynamite plant and how a \$46 million in investment has transformed this former industrial area into a model of cutting-edge recreation, habitat restoration, and environmental justice.

**Miller Knox** – hear about how a regional shoreline park serves as a nature oasis for residents living near industrial areas. Lunch will focus on legal issues and challenges, including land use, planning, and dealing with national railroad companies. You are only as good as your legal counsel!

**McLaughlin Eastshore State Park** – Learn how the Park District and East Bay community have worked to reclaim the bay shoreline for public use with improved recreational amenities and habitat restoration.

**Judge John Sutter Regional Shoreline** – See the newly renovated historic Bridge Yard building and the Park District's soon to open shoreline park. See how a new bay observation deck is being built from the remaining pilings of the old Bay Bridge.

### HOSPITALITY SUITE – ROOM 663!

Network in the Hospitality Suite nightly from 9-11pm!

Tuesday's "Yummy Umunhum" was a big hit and a great way to cap the day's visit to Midpen and Mount Umunhum.

"Shoreline Sangria" is on tap for Wednesday night and will recognize the day's numerous shoreline visits.

### ABOUT TUESDAY:

Did your ears pop? You traveled up to 3,488 feet with your visit to Mount Umunhum.

By 1910 nearly all the redwoods had been cut. Most of what exists in Bear Creek Redwoods is second growth forest that has grown since that time.



### HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS:

Breakfast starts at 7:30am. Speakers at 8am.

Water and snacks will be available on the bus and at the tour stops.

Once you leave the hotel, you won't be back again until after dinner! Make sure to bring everything you'll need while on tour (jackets, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, etc).





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### **GUEST DINNER SPEAKER – WEDNESDAY**

Hear Bob Doyle and Sam Hodder, president of Save the Redwoods League, on the history and synergy that connects East Bay Regional Parks of the movement to protect the beloved Redwoods in California. Although Jon Jarvis couldn't join us on Monday at Big Break, he will join Bob and Sam to talk about the future of the conservation movement! This will be a GREAT panel of parks and conservation leaders! This event will be held in EBRPD's newest venue, "The Bridge Yard."

Passing of the talking stick to our 2020 hosts and other special surprises are planned! Should be fun.



### **WE'RE HERE FOR YOU – CALL US!**

Change of plans? Not feeling good? Left your stuff in the bus? No problem. Call Brenda or Monique listed on your lanyard...or Carol Johnson (room 663) or Anne Kassebaum (room 667).

### **FEEDBACK WELCOME!**

There won't be any pop quizzes here, but we'd like to know what common interests or issues are being covered with the daily tours. Let us know by emailing us at [CJohnson@ebparks.org](mailto:CJohnson@ebparks.org).