Ensuring Balboa Park’s Trees Thrive

Big Plans Guide the Park’s Future

Meet the Carousel Rides!

Spring 2018 Newsletter

Friends of Balboa Park

Your park. Our passion.
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Your Voice Matters

Since our founding in 1999, Friends of Balboa Park has been proud to channel the community’s passion for the park. By your demonstrated philanthropic support, attendance at our events, participation in our programs, and engagement in our planning efforts, you have helped Friends to be a strong advocate for Balboa Park, frequently, at times when the park needed us most.

So how are we doing?

We recently conducted an online survey to gauge the sentiments of Friends’ supporters – past, current and potential. Under the leadership of Committee Chair Wilda Wong, our Membership Committee ventured to gauge your perceptions and experiences with Friends. We compared your responses with those in the past to assess how we’ve grown and changed, and to identify opportunities to improve. We received almost 200 responses to our survey, translating to a response rate of nearly 10% – higher than the industry average of under 5%. We were pleased to get so much feedback, and we plan to use what we learned to build a more robust membership program and advocacy effort. Thank you for helping Friends of Balboa Park become a more effective organization by making your voice heard.

Park Funding Bill Presents Opportunity

One of the greatest challenges addressing Balboa Park’s many needs is lack of meaningful funding. Now there’s a real chance to address that. On June 5, 2018, California voters will have the opportunity to pass Proposition 68, authorizing $4.1 billion in general obligation bonds for state and local parks. If approved by voters, the “Clean Water and Safe Parks Act” would provide the first major infusion of funding to Balboa Park since 2002. Friends of Balboa Park strongly supports this measure and encourages others to join the voices of support of Proposition 68.

John Bolthouse
Executive Director

Board News

We are pleased to welcome two great community leaders as the newest members of Friends’ Board, adding significant talents to our efforts in Balboa Park.

Jonathan Shulman is Director of the Center for Excellence in Citizenship at La Jolla Country Day School, and former Chair of the school’s History Department. Passionate about instilling students with a greater sense of civic engagement, Jonathan has worked hard to connect his students to the work of civic organizations throughout the city, including in Balboa Park. He was the first K-12 educator to be elected President of the California World History Association and is an accomplished documentary filmmaker.

Doug Kerner is a commercial real estate attorney with the San Diego law firm Higgs, Fletcher & Mack, with more than 25 years in the legal profession. A resident of Chula Vista, Doug is a second-generation native San Diegan. Doug played a key role in Friends’ acquisition of the Balboa Park Carousel, providing countless hours of pro bono legal counsel during our due diligence phase in 2017. He has served on the boards of the Chula Vista Charitable Foundation and economic development councils.

Doug Kerner and Jonathan Shulman
Ensuring the Future of Balboa Park’s Trees

By Lucy Warren

One of the first things our city fathers (and mothers) did in Balboa Park was plant trees. They envisioned a beautiful shaded park where people could walk and play. In this time of discovery, they planted many species from throughout the world—not knowing which ones would easily adapt to our climate and growing conditions—easily accepting both successes and failures as they learned more about growing conditions in San Diego.

Turning the clock forward more than a century, we are now the beneficiaries of those adventurous horticulturists in our wonderful park. Their experiments are now aging and the arboreal centenarians are facing multiple challenges. Portions of the tree canopy are over-mature and declining. Introduced pests including the golden oak borer, shot-hole borer and South American palm weevil (to name a few) are wreaking havoc among the trees. Multiple years of severe drought have ravaged the stored soil water resources for these venerable trees. And water restrictions have reduced our ability to sustain beautiful but water-thirsty species.

As good stewards of a sustainable urban park, we face the increased maintenance of a mature urban forest. We are now the ones who must look forward for another century to take care of our tree legacy and envision the future. We now have the newly created Sandra B. Phelps-Wilson Horticulture Fund devoted specifically to horticulture projects in Balboa Park. Please make a donation today to make a difference for this urban forest.

Lucy Warren is a member of Friends of Balboa Park’s Board of Directors, Chair of the Friends’ Horticulture Committee, a Master Gardener, and author.
Thank You for the Support towards the Balboa Park Carousel

Capital Campaign Donors as of March 31, 2018

$200,000 +
- J.W. Sefton Foundation

$100,000-$199,999
- Tom and Jo Hazard
- Legler Benbough Foundation
- Robert and Andrea Peash
- Walter J. and Betty C. Zable Foundation

$50,000-$99,999
- Peter LaDow
- Dorothea Laub
- Kathy Lazzaro
- Carole Sachs

$25,000-$49,999
- Ruth Hayward
- The Parker Foundation
- San Diego Woman’s Club
- Darlene Marcos Shiley
- The Colonel Frank C. Wood Memorial Fund at The San Diego Foundation

$15,000-$24,999
- Balboa Park Conservancy
- Trip Bennett; Bennett and Associates (in-kind)
- Downing Family Foundation
- Reuben H. Fleet Foundation Fund at The San Diego Foundation
- Cyndi Furlong
- Doug Kerner; Higg; Fletcher and Mack (in-kind)
- Bill and Lori Walton

$10,000-$14,999
- Carol & Henry F. Hunt Fund at The San Diego Foundation
- Mike and Marilyn Kelley
- Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
- Harley Safton

$5,000-$9,999
- Ben and Nicole Clay
- John Garbaczewski
- George Hardy
- Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund of The San Diego Foundation
- Jim and Carmend Hughes
- Kathryn and Michael Kim
- Gayle Breibart Kluksy
- Neighborhood Reinvestment Program at the recommendation of Supervisor Greg Cox
- Allison and Robert Price Family Fund
- Neil Waltz

$1,000-$4,999
- The Thomas C. Ackerman Foundation
- John and Melissa Bolthouse
- Deborah Calhoun
- John and Libby Carson
- Vicki Cooke
- Costco Executive Matching Program
- Dean Crowder
- Lorraine Frigoli; Compass Rose, Inc. (in-kind)
- Tange and Tom Gavin
- Ruth Hayward
- in honor of Betty Peabody
- Canny Jamison
- David Marshall; Heritage Architecture and Planning (in-kind)
- Elizabeth Moore
- National Carousel Association
- Betty Peabody
- Price Philanthropies
- Ryan Family Charitable Foundation
- Paul Scripps
- Arlene Simpson in memory of Henry (Harry) Simpson
- Alan and Nancy Spector
- William and Donna Steen
- Gene Trepte
- Nancy Vaughan
- Gretchen Vl; Larry Clapper in honor of Betty Peabody
- Don and Jeanette Yeckel
- Bob Wallace
- in honor of Betty Peabody
- The Patricia and Christopher Wel Family Foundation
- Wimmer Yamada & Caughey

$500-$999
- Reid Abrams and Midi Olin
- Sully Ault
- Boyd and Rita Collier
- Ted Daub
- Diane Edge
- Gronow Construction
- Rick, Tony, and Luke Gulley
- Jerome’s Furniture
- Kerri Kapich
- Kelly Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation
- Ron and Gaye Lingley
- Paul and Maggie Meyer in honor of Betty Peabody
- Ross Porter and Ray de Vries
- Tom* and Bonnie Scott
- Lisa Vieira

$250-$499
- Glen and Betty Broom
- Ronald Eger in honor of George Eger
- Andy Fishthorn
- Bobbi Hardiman
- Carol Howe in honor of Donald Ward, Randy Ward, Donna Lewis, and Elizabeth McCann
- Gail Karsgard
- Leigh Kyle
- Nana’s Heavenly Hot Dogs
- Fred and Carol Orton
- Bob and Beverly Russell
- Al and Kathleen Steele
- Ted Struck
- Paula Taylor and Bernie Kulchin
- Mike and Jaleine Van Horn in memory of AI and Thelma Van Horn

$100-$249
- Pamela Baumgart
- Barbara Benko
- Eric and Anne Best
- Casey and Kathy Bitt in honor of Betty Peabody
- Jack and Jackie Carpenter
- Jerry Cesak
- Chris and Sue Christen in honor of Betty Peabody
- Don and June Conner
- Konnie Dadmun
- Caroline DeMar
- Rodger and Barbara Dishong
- Richard and Colleen Doering Family Fund
- James and Janet Dot
- Richard and Byrne Eger Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation in honor of George Eger
- Connie Englert
- Iris Engstrand
- Arthur Everett
- Elin Fisher
- Fleischli Family in honor of Betty Peabody and in memory of Bea Evenson
- Patricia Fleming
- Lester and Lynn Gardner
- Michael and Jane Gilbert
- Robert Halliday
- W. Thomas and Anita Harless
- James and Marla Harrigan
- Phil and Kay Harry in honor of Nancy Carol Carter
- Michael and Marie Huff
- Kathy Kalab
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- Peg Marston and Anne Marston
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- Lyle Merthew and Eileen Swirsky
- Tricia Moulton
- Tonta Moss
- Toni Nickell
- James and Sue Ogil
- Herman and Sharon Parker
- Andrea Robinson
- Jean Samuels and Chester Yamaga
- Judy Hagar Schons in memory of Ben William Hager
- Roger and Carol Showley
- Joe Silverman
- Carol Sing
- Elaine Sommermeyer
- Jean Stein in honor of Max Tiklander, Julia Tiklander, Somerset Now-Stein and Jim Carr
- Pam Stevens
- Julie Stone
- Susan Straub
- Christine Sullivan in memory of Richard Bradshaw
- Super Detail, Inc.
- Frank and Nancy Thompson
- Michael and Suzanne Tumer
- Helen Wagner
- Sandra Wairud
- Randy Ward
- Ken and Julie Warren
- Lucy Warren
- James Woodward
- Shela Wisk
- Allan and Bev Zukor

$99 and under
- Raymon and Vicky Abbott
- Becky Adams
- David Archibald
- Meirda Balkom
- Laurielynn Barnett
- Susan Batt
- Nancie Beste
- Linda Bonham
- Colleen Burks
- Marc and Tonya Carlos
- Carrie Flowers
- Leila Champ
- Bette Cohen in memory of Tom Scott
- Ann Cole
- Katherine Coop
- Kelsey Dale in honor of Nancy Vaughan
- Sharly Edwards
- Gerry Eide
- Sarah Evans
- Phil and Lyn Gildred
- Patricia Green in honor of Peter and Joan Suffrenh’s 50th wedding anniversary
- Sandra Harding
- Mari Huff
- Kenneth and Janet Jaworski
- Galia Jennings
- Carolyn Johnson
- Deidre Kleske
- Patricia Kreder
- Howard and Susan Labow
- Richard and Wendy Ledford
- John and Florence Lestrange
- Wade Lindberger
- Joni Pietkielek Marske
- Ric and Brenda Matthews
- Judy McMorow
- Virginia Morse
- Diane Moss
- Cody Nelson
- Nikki Orth in honor of Wendy Ledford
- David and Arline Paa
- Charles Panner
- Chloe Pedersen
- Jim and Cathy Potter
- Charles Rees
- Teri Reeves
- Butch and Suzanne Richardson
- Cynthia Robinson
- John Robinson
- Nicholas Rogers
- Anne Rosser
- Matthew Schiff
- Ronald and Bonnie Sealey
- Lisa Sides
- Susanne Simpson and Sammy Feuerlicht
- Steven Smith
- Aileen Teague in honor of Virginia Long
- Ken and Mary Tranbarger
- Catherine Tyre
- Kathy Velshak
- Ruth Vorhies
- Gary Wilcken
- Linda Ybarra

*Deceased
MEET THE RIDES OF
THE BALBOA PARK CAROUSEL!

The first in a series of profiles of sponsored rides at the historic Balboa Park Carousel.

“HONEY”
Giraffe
Sponsored by the J.W. Sefton Foundation

“TIGGER”
Tiger
Sponsored by Dorothea Loub

“TWILIGHT”
Horse
Sponsored by the Legler Benbough Foundation

“PARKER”
Cat
Sponsored by The Parker Foundation

“LIL’LAZZARO”
Goat
Sponsored by Kathy Lazzaro

“SHILEY”
Horse
Sponsored by the Shiley Foundation

NATIONAL CAROUSEL DAY

July 25, 2018
11 AM–3 PM

Celebrate the 2nd Annual National Carousel Day at the historic Balboa Park Carousel with FREE carousel rides all day! Join us for family friendly activities, food, face painting, and entertainment by:

- Fern Street Circus
- The Hullabaloo Band
- J7 Productions
- Kathryn the Grape
- San Diego Model A Club
- And so much more!

To learn more about event sponsorship opportunities or volunteering, contact events@friendsofbalboapark.org

The Balboa Park Carousel has entertained our family for decades. My wife and I rode as children growing up in San Diego, and later our children delighted in riding the jumping menagerie and stretching for a brass ring. We are proud to sponsor the Brass Ring game at the the Balboa Park Carousel so that our grandchildren and the citizens of San Diego may continue to be challenged and delighted by this unique San Diego gem.

— TOM AND JO HAZARD

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities of the Carousel, contact (619) 232-2282
Balboa Park’s Future Guided by Visionary Plans

By George Hardy

Balboa Park began as 1,400 acres of land set aside on May 26, 1868, by visionary civic leaders in San Diego, then populated by only 2,310 people. Known as “City Park,” the scrub-filled mesa that overlooked present day Downtown San Diego sat without formal landscaping or development for many years, as citizens fought off early attempts to reduce its size. Less successful in subsequent years, Balboa Park has been reduced in size to 1,078 acres.

The first steps in Park beautification were made in 1892, largely due to the contributions of Kate Sessions. Just after the turn of the century, a master plan for Park improvements and beautification was formally introduced. Supported by a City tax levied in 1905, the process began in 1903 and continued through 1910. Water systems were installed, planting continued, roads were built, and the Park began to take on some of the familiar layout of today. No city tax dedicated to Balboa Park has been levied since then.

The Panama-California Exposition of 1915 and the California Pacific International Exposition of 1935 were the two largest influences on the Park’s architecture, setting the tone for the Spanish Colonial Revival style prevalent in the Central Mesa, and the Southwest and Art Deco styles found in the Palisades area. Largely ignored, part of the East Mesa was eventually used as a landfill.

The year 2018 marks the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of San Diego’s crown jewel, now a global destination for arts and culture and a regional resource for recreational and horticultural experiences.

Looking to the next 150 years, we dream of sufficient resources to maintain our crown jewel and to implement the wonderful, pedestrian-friendly vision already approved by San Diego’s City Council. The latest Master Plan was adopted in 1989, and amended several times thereafter. Both the Central Mesa (between hwy 163 and Park Blvd.) and the East Mesa (between Park and 28th St.) have been the subject of Precise Plans.

All of these planning documents have excellent ideas for the better utilization of all of Balboa Park. As we mark the 150th anniversary of the visionary decision to create our crown jewel, isn’t it time to move forward with these ideas?

George Hardy is the Chair of Friends of Balboa Park’s Board of Directors

To learn more about the many plans for Balboa Park, visit our website: www.friendsofbalboapark.org/balboa-park-plans/
Thank You to Our Generous Donors

Arbor Day Tree Dedications

Donations received between December 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018

IN LOVING MEMORY

IN MEMORY OF

Thank You for your support.
2018 EVENTS

ANNUAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE (Fiesta Botanica)
Saturday, May 26, 2018
10 AM–3 PM
Zoro Garden

NATIONAL CAROUSEL DAY
Wednesday, July 25, 2018
11 AM–3 PM
Balboa Park Carousel

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Tuesday, August 7, 2018
5:30 PM
Spreckels Organ Pavilion

18TH ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON
Friday, October 19, 2018
11 AM–1:30 PM
Balboa Park Club

The proposed gateway monuments at south Park Boulevard. Rendering by Robert Watts