

## Project Update

### OCTOBER STREET TREE PLANTINGS

by Dave Hyman

CityTrees volunteers had a busy month in October, holding two successful plantings. On October 15<sup>th</sup> over fifty people came out to plant over forty Red Oak, Sycamore, Ash and Maple trees on Brewster. Our planting captains led teams of volunteers from Peninsula Sunrise Rotary and Young Latino Leaders, and everyone was served a delicious lunch thanks to Encore Performance catering. Rumor has it their spicy potato salad is the best.



Volunteers at the October 15th Planting

Oracle volunteers celebrating their Volunteer Day came out with DES and some of our regulars to dig in on Vera Street October 29<sup>th</sup> and give fourteen Chinese Pistache and twenty other assorted trees homes in Redwood City. We give special thanks to Oracle for their volunteers and generous financial support to CityTrees over the past couple of years. We look forward to their future involvement with CityTrees.



Volunteers at the October 29th Planting



### CITYTREES AND REDWOOD CITY, A GREAT PARTNERSHIP!

by Gordon Mann

When CityTrees was first conceived, City staff saw an opportunity to expand the City's resources through cooperation with a non-profit organization. In 2000, Redwood City applied for \$39,000 in grants for 23 monthly tree planting events to fund CityTrees through two years of tree planting. The intent of the grant was to make the plantings a regular event. The monthly plantings challenged both City staff to find the spaces for trees and CityTrees to find volunteers to put the trees into the ground. The success of the planting program led to the development of the young tree pruning program.

The cheapest and best investment in a tree is to prune it during its young life. Correctly establishing a central leader to promote upright growth and thinning or removing branches can improve the trees' structure over its lifetime. This can all be performed in a few minutes per tree. City staff worked with CityTrees to offer a pruning seminar with hands on training to the public. Subsequent pruning events were held and were as successful as the tree planting events. The City wants to support additional young tree pruning and is looking to offer a flexible schedule to accommodate the pruner's availability - possibly during summer weekday daylight hours - to increase the number of young trees pruned.

Overall, the partnership is very successful from the City's viewpoint. The trees are planted by the public, which has a stronger ownership of the urban forest. The return on staff's time investment is good and more trees are planted by the volunteers than the support staff could plant on their own. Through CityTrees pre-planting efforts, more residents are spoken to in person about the tree planting. Lastly, The recent grants received by CityTrees to purchase trees has saved the City money. On behalf of the City, Thank you CityTrees.

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# Tree Times

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City Trees

a fiduciary project of Acterra

## Volunteer Spotlight

### CITYTREES' YOUNGEST VOLUNTEER

by Nancy Radcliffe

CityTrees' youngest volunteer, Mitch Roselli, has been lending a hand since the very beginning. Mitch started off helping his neighbor Nancy with folding, labeling and stamping CityTrees flyers for each of the plantings. For the last two years Mitch has assisted at the tree plantings. He starts out helping to set up the tent and table with all the food and promotional materials. Once the planting gets underway, he makes sure everyone has plenty of water and is more than happy to track down any tool needed by a team. After all the trees are in the ground, you can find Mitch sweeping up and making sure the areas are nice and clean. CityTrees is certainly lucky to have a volunteer like Mitch.



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Thank you for your support!

Checks should be made payable to "Acterra--

CityTrees" (Acterra is our fiduciary Sponsor)  
CityTrees is a 601(c)(3) non-profit organization. All  
contributions are tax-deductible as allowable by law.

## Inside Scoop

### CITYTREES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Karen Fine

There are currently 10 people volunteering their time and energy to work on the CityTrees Board of Directors. The Board meets on the first Thursday of each month, from 7-9 p.m., at the main library in Redwood City. Board members take responsibility for specific on-going activities and also serve as planting captains at tree planting and tree maintenance events. Board members work together to create policy, plan activities, write grants and publicize CityTrees events. The current Board members are:

Dan Beeder, CityTrees maintenance program coordinator, lives in Redwood City and is the father of two young daughters, ages 4 and 2. He works for Lockheed Martin as a Systems Engineer.

Tom Cronin, CityTrees public relations and marketing person, has been a resident of Redwood City for 25 years. He is currently self-employed as an Organizational Consultant on environmental issues. Tom has 3 daughters, one just out of college, one currently in college and another in high school. His family is hosting an exchange student from Turkey.

Karen Fine is a third-grade teacher at North Star Academy in Redwood City. She is currently the Chairman of the Board for CityTrees and a Redwood City resident. She has one son and a 2-year-old granddaughter. Karen is in charge of planning and running meetings and other organizational tasks for CityTrees.

Miles Hopkins, a Redwood City resident, writes grants for CityTrees and helps with plantings. He has 15 years experience as a programmer/analyst, 4 years as a registered stockbroker, and has served on Acterra's board since its merger with Bay Area Action. He has written several grants for CityTrees, with successful results. He is also a planting captain at our monthly tree plantings.

Ross Hotchkiss handles the CityTrees website. He lives in Redwood City and is the father of two teenage daughters. Ross is a software developer for Thomson Scientific in Sunnyvale.

Dave Hyman, a dynamo tree planter and planting captain, is a San Bruno resident and runs his own catering business, Encore Performance Catering. He has a college-age daughter. He is the past president of Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club.

Nancy Raddiffe, a Redwood City resident, is the owner of Lulu's, a new gift store at 846 Main Street in Redwood City. She is also on the Redwood City Planning Commission. Nancy helps to organize plantings and supplies refreshments for our volunteers.

Jack Stephens, Vice Chairman of CityTrees, is one of the two founders of CityTrees. He is the father of a 3-year-old daughter and lives in Redwood City. He is a computer consultant at Gradient Systems on Bair Island Road in Redwood City. Jack is also the current President of the Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club.

Mary Stewart, a Belmont resident, is the editor of the CityTrees newsletter. She is a new mother of a 3-month old son and has just returned to work as a landscape architect at Callander Associates Landscape Architecture, Inc.

Jane Taylor, CityTrees treasurer, is one of the two founders of CityTrees. She is a Redwood City resident and currently is the stay-at-home mom of two daughters, ages 4 and 2. She keeps involved in local environmental, school and city planning activities.

Two people who are not on the CityTrees Board of Directors do work for CityTrees. Paulette Dolin is the Administrative Assistant to the Board. She takes minutes at Board Meetings, does mailings, and maintains our files. She lives in Menlo Park and is the mother of a young son. John Hofland takes care of the trailer that is used to haul the tools to planting events. He maintains the tools and the other equipment necessary to get the trees planted. He is a Redwood City resident.

There are open Board positions for people who are interested in furthering the goals of the organization and we encourage people to become involved in our work. We specifically could use a grant writer and a photographer but other talents will also be appreciated.

## Got Trees?

### CITYTREES AND REDWOOD SHORES... A BLOSSOMING OPPORTUNITY?

by Tom Cronin

As many of our long time supporters and sponsors know, CityTrees is a volunteer public benefit organization started in May 2000, which promotes and supports planting and maintaining trees along the streets, at schools and in other publicly owned land in Redwood City.

Since our inception, CityTrees has planted over 1400 trees throughout Redwood City that now provide shade, clean the air, create wildlife habitat and help beautify the City. These enhancements to Redwood City have been accomplished due to a partnership with many local businesses and organizations donating funds and equipment and hundreds of volunteers from the community coming out to plant.

To date, one very significant neighborhood of Redwood City, Redwood Shores, has not had the benefit of any plantings by CityTrees. This is soon to change. CityTrees has finally discovered Redwood Shores and we are excited about the many possibilities for plantings in the Shores. Recently an article featuring CityTrees was published in the Pilot, the Redwood Shores Community Association's (RSCA) monthly newsletter, and CityTrees was on the agenda at their October board meeting.

CityTrees is beginning to work with RSCA to identify an appropriate neighborhood that could be our inaugural planting site in 2006. We are really looking forward to working with the various homeowners associations and neighbors to help enhance even more one of the most attractive neighborhoods in Redwood City.

If you are interested in collaborating with CityTrees or have some ideas on good locations for plantings in Redwood Shores, please contact us.

## Market News

### THE 2005 GREAT TREE GIVE-AWAY

by Tom Cronin

During this past summer, various representatives from the CityTrees board had the opportunity to give away dozens of free tree saplings to residents of Redwood City. How could this be possible, that a small struggling non-profit could be so generous to provide citizens the possibility to plant these trees on their own property? Well it turns out it was really pretty easy. A very willing tree supplier Jonsteen Trees (<http://www.jonsteen.com/StoreFront.bok>) provided CityTrees with the Japanese Maple saplings at a very deep discount. We then brought the trees to our booth at the Redwood City's Farmers Market and proceeded to offer these saplings to interested shoppers. It was like giving candy to kids. People loved the chance to have one of the small saplings to take home and plant in their own yards.

The Japanese Maples are a beautiful tree. As the Jonsteen website states, "Japanese Maples stay fairly small, (usually around 25 feet tall), and provide year-round interest. Young spring growth is glowing red; summer's leaves are soft green; fall foliage is scarlet, orange, or yellow; and slender, leafless branches in greens and reds provide winter appeal!"

CityTrees concentrates our work on public trees on the streets, parks and schools of Redwood City. Over the past 5 years we have contributed nearly 1500 trees to the urban forest of our City. Our foray into assisting residents with planting trees on their own property comes as we learned recently that in an average city, 80% of the tree canopy comes from private trees. We hope that the folks that received the Japanese Maples this summer are taking care of the trees and nurturing them to become real assets to their property and to Redwood City's urban forest.

Look for us again next spring at the Farmers Market, you may find us back with more free trees to add to the beauty of your neighborhood!