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2000th TREE

CITYTREES PLANTS ITS 2,000TH TREE

by Jane Taylor

On a beautiful sunny fall afternoon, CityTrees held a ceremony in Stafford Park to commemorate the planting of the 2,000th tree by CityTrees volunteers. The event was well attended by both young and old members of the community, as well as local City staff and elected officials.

Tom Cronin, the Chairperson of the CityTrees Board of Directors, gave a light-hearted review of the history of CityTrees and the work they have done. He stressed the significance that all



City Council members help plant 2,000th tree

of our projects were made possible by the individuals and groups of volunteers from organizations and corporations, as well as our partnership with the City of Redwood City.

After Mayor Rosanne Faust and her daughter tossed in the first shovelful of dirt, the other children attending picked up shovels and tried their hand at filling in the hole, followed by the rest of the guests.

The 2,000th tree was a 48" box size *Quercus lobata* (Valley Oak), a species native to the area. The tree was so large that a large backhoe was used to lift it into place. The 2,000th tree was planted next to the 1,000th tree which was itself planted in 2003. This tree will join 3 other stately mature Valley Oaks and will represent the next generation of trees to bring beauty and shade to park goers.

Since the year 2,000, CityTrees has been working hard planting and caring for trees and promoting the importance of trees in an urban environment.



Jane Taylor and Jack Stephens (cofounders of CityTrees)



2,000th CityTrees tree planting



Tom Cronin (CityTrees Chairman)

THANK
YOU!

LOCAL BUSINESSES SPONSOR CITYTREES' CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL PARK(ing) DAY

by Georgi LaBerge

A park on a downtown street? That's what happened the weekend of September. 19th when several spaces on the 700 block of Middlefield were transformed into a beautiful park, complete with trees, shrubs, birds, and furniture for relaxing. The centerpiece of the park was a magnificent valley oak, the 2,000th tree destined to be planted by CityTrees since the organization was launched in 2,000. The oak was planted the following Sunday in Stafford Park at the corner of Hopkins and King streets.

This was Redwood City's first participation in National PARK(ing) Day, an event that is gaining popularity in cities throughout the nation. The celebration, whose purpose is to highlight the value of an urban forest, was planned and created by CityTrees working in cooperation with the City's Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff. Chair of the event was Jane Taylor, one of the founders of CityTrees.

A number of local businesses provided funding or in-kind donations for this milestone event. Their donations will support the purchase of trees and equipment to insure that Redwood City will retain a healthy urban forest. The major PARK(ing) Day donor was Oracle Corporation, whose contribution will be memorialized on a plaque placed at the base of the 2,000th tree.

"We are deeply indebted to Oracle and our other sponsors who make our work possible," said Jane Taylor, "We could not make this important contribution to Redwood City without them."

Other sponsors included the *Palo Alto Medical Foundation, the Peter and Paula Uccelli Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Wegman's Nursery, Norcal Waste System, Redwood City's Public Works Department, United American Bank, First National Bank, The Pauls Corporation and Redwood City Peninsula, Port of Redwood City, Seaport Industrial Association, Harwood Home Builders, Kastrop Architects, Applebees, and Frank Bartaldo.*

In-kind donations were provided by *Boething Treeland Farms, Tom's Outdoor Furniture, and Sigona's Market.*

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TREES PLANTED

TREE PLANTING UPDATE

by Tom Cronin

CityTrees spring planting season began in April with a big planting on Valota Ave and St. Francis St. The volunteer groups helping at the planting included Sun, Oracle and students from the Phi Theta Kappa fraternity at Canada College. In just under three hours we planted 41 trees including Pistache, Purple Ash, Red Maple and Red Oak. The funding for the planting was provided by one of our major sponsors, California Department of Forestry.

The May planting consisted of 36 trees that were planted on Hampton Ave and at Kennedy Middle School. The big volunteer group that supported CityTrees, Muslim American Society-Youth Give, came out in full force for the fourth year in a row. A first for this planting was that we helped celebrate Langley Topper's birthday with 18 kids helping plant 10 trees at Kennedy. We all congratulated Langley for having the party with us during the planting. We are hoping that having a 'green' birthday party with CityTrees will become all the rage with the elementary school set.

Our June planting presented a new challenge for CityTrees in that we had two area plantings at the same time. As we continue our planting in Redwood City, we will have fewer opportunities to have a single large planting. With great coordination from our planting lead and planting captains, we were able to plant 46 trees at Chestnut/Broadway and over a mile away on Hoover and Fifth Ave. A new volunteer group, Kaiser Permanente, came out in force and provided 35 eager and willing planters. The tree selection for the planting included Tristania, Red Maple, Sycamore, ornamental Pear and Chinese Pistache.

LOP & LUNCH

TREE PRUNING UPDATE

by Dan Beeder

To take advantage of the longer daylight hours, CityTrees held 3 "Prune & Pub" events on selected Thursday evenings during the Summer of 2008. For each event we pruned street trees for approximately two hours, then gathered afterward at a local restaurant. The result of this summer work was approximately 100 more trees pruned on 6 streets, bringing us to a total of approximately 750 trees that we've cared for since we began the pruning program. Furthermore, we have nearly finished maintenance sweeps of all trees planted in 2002 and will soon be moving on to streets planted in 2003.

Now that shorter days are here, our prunings are switching from Thursday nights to Saturday mornings, starting at 9 a.m. As usual, we provide bagels and coffee at the start. Since we typically go out to lunch after finishing, (and since CityTrees board members are fond of alliteration), we refer to each of these Saturday events as a "lop and lunch." (or how about "bagels and branches")?

COME JOIN US FOR THE LAST CITYTREES EVENT OF 2008

Join us for the final event of the year, a "lop and lunch" pruning event. Our last pruning is scheduled for Saturday, **November 15th** at 9:00 a.m. at Page Street and Haven Avenue. All are welcome to attend, even those with no pruning experience. (We will provide on-the-job training).

...AND JOIN US IN FEBRUARY FOR OUR PRUNING SEMINAR

CityTrees will be holding our 3rd annual free pruning seminar on **February 21st, 2009**. Stay tuned for an announcement or visit us on the web at www.citytrees.org for the most current event schedule.

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Wegman's Nursery

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact Georgi LaBerge via e-mail: GLaBerge@aol.com

Open Volunteer Positions

CityTrees is currently looking for tree enthusiasts to fill the following volunteer positions:

Outreach Volunteers, Photographer and as always Tree Planters and Pruning Volunteers. To inquire, please call the CityTrees hotline at 650-556-9380, ext 4.