



WE CAN HAVE SAFE RELIABLE POWER WITH TREES

MEMBERSHIPS:

1 year \$20
 3 years \$50
 Sponsorship levels \$100 - \$1000

RAFFLE TICKETS:

1 Free with renewal or new membership
 1 for \$1.00
 6 for \$5.00
 13 for \$10

LOCAL BUSINESS

RAFFLE DONATIONS:

- * Whole Foods Market
- * Almaden Valley Nursery
- * Lunardi's Market
- * Charlie's Cheesecake Works
- * Trader Joe's
- * Avid Coffee
- * C'est Si Bon Bakery
- * Myle Nails
- * Starbucks
- * Pinnacle Animal Hospital
- * Peet's Coffee
- * Almaden Pet Salon
- * Round Table Pizza
- * La Playita Restaurant
- * Legend's Pizza
- * The Little Gym
- * Papa Murphy's Pizza
-and more.....

REFRESHMENTS TO PURCHASE:

Cupcakes \$1
 Coffee \$.50
 Cookies \$.50
 Small water \$.50
 16 oz. water \$1

Heart of the Park IV

Sunday, August 18 2:00-4:00 PM

Jeffrey Fontana Park, corner of Meridian Ave. and Oakglen Way

MAJOR FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!!!

Bring CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD!!

- Renew your membership
- Win raffle prizes donated by local businesses
- Enjoy cookies and designer cupcakes
- See MFPA displays of past, present, & future projects
- Learn about PG&E's actions in our parks
- Meet your neighbors
- See how you can volunteer to help your park

Shaded seating and restroom facilities will be provided.

NEW! MFPA Logo Shirts



MFPA has new logo shirts which will be available at our Heart of the Park celebration:

* Adult \$20 * Child \$15

These T-shirts can also be purchased through our website, www.saveourparktrees.com

All proceeds go to the Martin-Fontana Parks Association for use in our two parks.



Why Join MFPA?

Early in 2010, PG&E announced their intention to cut down 140 shade trees in our two parks over the next two years, located under the high-tension power lines. In July 2010 their tree crew came out and cut down 13 trees. They would have kept going, taking our Tree #13 also, but a group of neighbors came out in protest to stop them.

By August 2010 that group had formed a non profit with the mission of protecting the trees and enhancing the clear-cut areas. That August, we began with 46 members and now have grown to almost 150. Once we organized, the City began to recognize the community power and PG&E recognized MFPA as an entity with whom they needed to work.

Each year PG&E presents a list of 10 to 20 trees they want to remove. Each year we have kept the loss at an average of two per year, only because they are interested in good community relations. Our membership gives us the basis of strength in the community necessary to push back against the relentless drive of PG&E to clear-cut the park.

Help us by renewing your membership, participating in our raffle, and bringing your friends and neighbors to learn about MFPA. Join with us to support TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana Parks and preserve our remaining shade trees.

FUNDRAISING WITH CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

Wednesday or Thursday, September 18 & 19
Valid all day long
on dine in or take out orders.

For the second year in a row, California Pizza Kitchen has teamed up with MFPA to help raise money for the 2013 projects and expenses. They have an extensive menu and friendly, attentive wait staff.

The enclosed flyer can be used for dine in or take out orders, one flyer per order. The restaurant will donate 20% of each order directly back to MFPA. Feel free to make copies and distribute to family and friends!

Since 2011 MFPA has planted nearly 100 new trees in areas approved by PG&E and the Parks Dept. Each new tree requires hand watering weekly for the first three years. We have neighbor volunteers watering many trees, but have contracted with Our City Forest for watering services for nearly 50 trees at a cost of \$1200 per year. Help us raise the funds necessary to continue this service, as well as plant more native plant gardens in the barren areas of the park. We also plan to continue replacing dead and dying trees in TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana Parks in 2014.

ADDITIONAL FLYERS AVAILABLE AT
HEART OF THE PARK IV AUG. 18

Renew Your Membership

Initial, 2011, three Year memberships expire December 31, 2013 and renewal letters have been sent out.

There are three ways to renew:

- * Use PayPal on our site,
www.saveourparktrees.com
(Click on "Make a Donation")
- * At the Heart of the Park celebration
- * By mail

Help support our parks, please renew today!

SCCAOR Becomes a MFPA Gold Level Founding Sponsor in 2013

The Santa Clara County Association of Realtors became a major sponsor of MFPA last April when they "adopted" the Jeffrey Fontana Memorial Garden on the west side of McAbee Ave.

President Dave Walsh of Alain Pinel Realty presented MFPA with a \$3000 sponsorship over a three-year period to fund the restoration and upkeep of the garden that was established in 2010 as an Eagle Scout Program. The Memorial Garden fell into disrepair over the years as park maintenance staff was repeatedly reduced.

Their members also pledged two work days a year, in spring and fall, to weed, mulch, deadhead the roses, and replace sick or dying plants. In April 2013 over 25 realtors and their families went to work in the garden planting new roses, feeding plants, mulching, and weeding. The work days are coordinated by Grace Garland, Sereno Group Real Estate, and MFPA's Patrick Pizzo, a Project Leader in Jeffrey Fontana Park.

You have seen the result of the spring work day already in the beautiful array of new roses. MFPA is very appreciative of the funding and effort put forth by SCCAOR.

THANK YOU SCCAOR!



New Fence at Island A

Next time you walk through Jeffery Fontana Park take a look at the new split rail fence around Island A. Some of our MFPA members spent several hours one Saturday in June constructing the fence. It looks great!

Thank you to our volunteer work crew for your hard work and thank you to all the donors who made it possible!



L. to R., Chris Reed, Larry Sasscer, Dave Poeschel, Sunny Wagstaff, Patrick Pizzo, Vince Piazzisi, and Mike Kalashian (not in picture)

Use Your Lucky SHARES Cards

2013 first quarter earned MFPA \$208.30
2013 second quarter earned MFPA \$428.01

Thank You Chuck Haywood, who distributed nearly 50 SHARES cards to friends and neighbors in the second quarter!

Get your Lucky SHARES Card at Heart of the Park IV!

Heart of the Park IV Program

2:00 Welcome: Linda Wilson
2:05 Keynote speaker:
James Reber, San Jose Parks Foundation
2:20 Featured speaker:
Johnny Khamis, Councilmember
San Jose, District 10
2:00 - 3:15 Raffle & Final Drawings, Exhibits,
Kid's Crafts, Food & Merchandise for sale
4:00 Closing



PG&E Using Faulty Logic Does Not Follow "Trim, Don't Cut"

Following a blackout on the East Coast in 2009, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) adopted a new Vegetation Management Plan. The plan stated that there must be a minimum clearance of at least ten feet between vegetation and high-tension wires.

PG&E chose to require up to a 40 foot clearance. This was followed by the requirement that no tree under the center (230kv) set of lines be over 17 feet tall at maximum growth.

MFPA has worked with the rationale of annually measuring tree height and span clearance to develop a policy of trim, don't cut.

Discussions with PG&E in 2010, 2011, and 2012 resulted in agreement that under the smaller, 115kv lines, and in close proximity of the towers, the PG&E requirement could be reduced. We worked cooperatively to identify "at risk" trees, and slowed our tree loss. PG&E agreed to save Tree #13 by pruning, and pruned several others on Golden Oak Way.

Personnel changes at PG&E brought a new team in 2012. The requirement reverted to

the hard line of "wrong species, wrong location" no matter what the tree height or clearance.

Recently MFPA found a statement by the Chairman of FERC. The entire text can be found on our website, www.saveourparktrees.com. The following are two paraphrased excerpts that validate our belief in "Trim, Don't Cut".

The current reliability standard requires a viewable transmission vegetation management plan and an annual implementation plan.
PG&E refuses to make their plans public.

FERC continues to receive complaints that utilities are over-cutting in order to comply with the reliability standard, even when it does not apply. The standard only requires that a minimum clearance (10 feet) be maintained. Companies should not misrepresent the reason for vegetation action by overstating the requirements or applicability of the standard.

PG&E is overstating. MFPA will use all the community, agency, and political resources it can to get this relationship back on track.

MFPA Initiates Tree Trimming Program

The City of San Jose annually trimmed the park trees under the PG&E wires for several decades. In the early 2000's the City stopped the practice, citing cost and reduced budgets. This was followed by PG&E's decision to clear-cut the trees under the transmission lines in 2010.

MFPA has sought permission from the City since 2010 to let us fund an annual tree-trimming program. This year we were successful! We identified twelve trees at risk of being removed by PG&E and paid the city contractor, using your donations, to trim them.

Four of the trees were on PG&E's cut list for 2013, two Blue Oaks and the two Golden Rain trees between the Fontana statue and the street. PG&E had stated their intent to cut the Golden Rains in February 2014, but has consented to look at the pruned trees and reevaluate that decision.

It is our intention to continue this program to save our trees. We need your memberships and donations to achieve this goal. Come out to the Heart of the Park August 18 from 2-4 to buy your raffle tickets, refreshments, and renew your memberships. Bring your friends and neighbors to join in raising our funds for the pruning program.

**Watch for MFPA's
Super Raffle
coming this Fall**