

Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury



PEACE ON PARADE

"Pacifica Peace People (PPP) will participate this year in the Pacifica Coast For Fest parade (our first time to do this). We are 'recruiting' marchers who may not be PPP members yet who share our passion that the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq end now. If you are available and would enjoy walking with us in the parade, please let me know. Children are very welcome, too! You can call me at 650-359-0339.

I will give precise details about where to meet as soon as I know. We have been advised that those who are marching will line up at the appointed location around 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 26. Everyone will be finished by 11:00 a.m., maybe earlier, depending on what number we draw in the lineup. We will also have a petition requesting that Congress and the Obama Administration end these wars. The petition will be available at our



Fog Fest booth. We urge you to sign the petition, too. Much love and peace and the 10,000 blessings." (Delia McGrath)

WEIRD WORLD OF WORDS

U.R. sent me an empty wrapper (thank God it WAS empty!) for a Hong Kong Golden Fuji product called "Burnedmeat Flavour Biscuits." The ingredients include flour, oil, sugar, and "degreased milk powder." The motto under the no-littering icon says "Cherish the setting." I like that thought. It kind of helps erase the bad mojo of "burnedmeat flavour."

GREAT BLUE

Patricia Delich snapped these pictures (see photos, below left) of a great blue heron catching a fish in San Pedro Creek, Linda Mar, on September 19, Coastal Cleanup Day. Herons are scavengers, a 100 percent sustainable activity. We like to think that the big prehistoric-looking bird was doing its part for coastal cleanup.

YOUNG EAGLE

I have written before about Evan Isenstein-Brand, 11, who loves flying and airplanes (see photo, above right). As Pacifica's youngest "eagle," Evan also has become quite a prolific aviation blogger and radio jock. Check out his site at evanflies.com to read and hear all his comments and pilot interviews. I have been posting Evan's stories and pictures on Pacifica Riptide for some time now. Look under Pacifica's Petit Prince.

PAMPAS PULLER

Scott McKellar loves to pull the hated pampas grass (see photo, right) that grows all over Pacifica's hillsides. This nonnative, invasive plant from South America particularly infests disturbed areas and drives out native plants. Scott, who wears the Black Apron and is sort of the MacGyver of backyard weed



whackers, says the easiest way to dispatch a fluffy, flowering tassel of pampas grass is to grab the stem and pop it straight out of its shaft, then bag and dispose of it before the seeds scatter. Unfortunately, some seed catalogs and nurseries still sell the dreaded weed as a decorative garden plant. If you happen to see such an ad, please tell the merchant to cut it out!

SWAMI SEZ

"There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats." (Albert Schweitzer)

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