



# Shady Times

from RUFF

## Loss of a Friend

The collective Roseville community lost a friend this spring. The majestic Blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), which had lived several hundred years at the corner of

Baseline and Junction Blvd. in Roseville, split apart and fell on April 7, 2003. Because it was a danger to the area and the roadway, the remainder of the tree was felled and has been removed. People in the area reported that the crash was felt across the street at the Brickyard. Now the site may be developed as commercial property.

## Gone But Not Forgotten

A preservation project to honor and preserve the tree is being spearheaded by RUFF. The Board, working with Roseville Electric and the RSTP staff, secured three slabs from the tree's trunk. Initially, the slabs have been treated for short-term protection, are in storage and will ultimately be offered to the City. Future plans include dating and preserving the rounds and then siting them at community locations. RSTP staff also rescued seedlings from the site before the oak remnants were removed. Four of the seedlings are growing in pots and although at this time they are but six inches tall the oaks may be big enough to replant when the project nears completion.

## Fiddymment Substation Workday Results in Restoration

Over 60 volunteers spent Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at a cleanup and restoration of Roseville Electric's Fiddymment Substation. The work party was composed of youth members of the Roseville area of the Latter Day Saints, their parents and supporters, RUFF Board members and RSTP staff. **Jerry Erickson** of the Latter Day Saints organized the event for the volunteers, and RUFF Board member **Sarah Egan** and RSTP Manager **Lani Houck** planned the project and directed the work.

Roseville Electric maintains the irrigation system and the site, but a review of the area noted that the it would benefit from a cleanup and because of its vernal pools, native trees and grasses would be appropriate plantings. The restoration project included vernal pool identification, native trees and grasses planting, site mulching and cleanup.

Work parties spent the day removing stakes and pruning existing trees, planting native trees and grasses around the substation and spreading mulch over the existing landscaping. The volunteers planted 58 native

*continued on page 4*



*RUFF is spearheading a preservation project to honor and preserve the fallen Blue oak at Baseline and Junction Blvd. in Roseville.*



*Roseville Electric's Fiddymment Substation undergoing a cleanup and restoration on June 14<sup>th</sup>.*



**Roseville Urban Forest Foundation**

**Board of Directors**

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| President            | Janet Zeitman       |
| Vice President       | George Connor       |
| Secretary            | Martha Riley        |
| Treasurer            | Katherine Palatinus |
| <i>Board Members</i> | Sarah Egan          |
|                      | Audra Flynn         |
|                      | Wayne Kelly         |
|                      | Michelle Mahan      |
|                      | Michael Phillips    |
|                      | Tina M. Treis       |

**Staff**

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Director            | Amelia Oliver |
| RSTP Manager        | Lani Houck    |
| Technical Assistant | Jim Muck      |

**City Representatives**

- Patrick Morrison, Roseville Electric Dept.  
 Carla Johannesen, Roseville Electric Dept.  
 Jim Ball, Parks & Recreation Dept.

**MISSION**

To establish and promote tree programs that foster the importance of the urban forest through proper tree planting and stewardship; education and training; volunteer citizen forestry; and community partnerships.

**GOALS**

- Inspire active partnerships, community leadership and environmental responsibility
- Increase awareness of the benefits of a healthy urban forest
- Assist coordination of planning, planting and maintaining urban trees
- Provide opportunities for students to learn about the community

**HISTORY**

- Founded in 1993 as an advisory committee to the Shade Tree Program
- Incorporated on July 7, 1995 as the Roseville Community Tree Foundation
- Changed name to Roseville Urban Forest Foundation on December 22, 1995
- Assumed Roseville Shade Tree Contract in July 1996
- Received tax-exempt status from both the State of California Franchise Tax Board and the federal Internal Revenue Service in January 1997
- 10,000 tree milestone spring 2002

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS**

- The Board represents local citizens, financial, legal and tree professionals and city representatives.
- At least one-third of the members are Roseville residents.
- Honorary directors include representatives from the Roseville Electric and Parks and Recreation Departments.

**MEETINGS**

Regular meetings are held monthly on the first Tuesday. The annual meeting is held on the first Tuesday of May.

**APPA Grant Broadens Shade Tree Program**

**Rental Properties Targeted to Receive Trees**

Roseville Electric received a \$2,500 *Tree Power Grant* at the June 2002 annual meeting of the American Public Power Association. The grant was assigned to the Roseville Shade Tree Program to be used during the year for innovative tree planting programs. Shade Tree Director **Amelia Oliver** developed a new program targeted at rental property in the Roseville Heights area for use of the *Tree Power Grant*. The traditional Roseville Shade Tree Program is geared to homeowners who reside in their homes year-round. This *Tree Grant* program was aimed at absentee landlords and stressed an increase in property value, reduced energy costs, comfort of residents and noted that trees make a neighborhood more inviting. Funds from the grant were used exclusively for the purchase of trees.



**Program Approach Geared to Proper Planting and Maintenance**

The program provided not only trees to the property owners but also the materials and information needed to successfully plant the trees. Staff helped owners and maintenance workers in selecting the best trees for their property with correct planting techniques and maintenance procedures.

The Roseville Heights neighborhood included 160 rental properties with 114 absentee owners. Those owners were mailed information letters in December 2002 and the *Program* concluded in June 2003 with 30 owners responding to the program and 64 trees planted. The trees were planted at 22 sites and benefited 63 households.

Although the APPA *Tree Grant* funds are exhausted, rental property owners have continued to call about the opportunity to receive trees. After a review of the results and needs, the RUFF Board has agreed to continue the concept and target other rental neighborhoods in Roseville.

**Updates**

**Acorns to Oaks**

Some of the acorns at the Taylor Street site are three years old and have grown to over three feet in height. Eight planting sites were seeded with acorns over the past three years and although natural selection, rodents, drought stress and genetic disposition have thinned the hundreds of acorns originally planted, there are still a number of trees alive. Oaks grow at a rate of about six inches per year and approximately 60 to 75 percent are expected to survive.



To ensure that the project continues successfully several activities were held this year. **Webelo Pack 507** planted an additional 2,500 acorns in November. Shade Tree Director **Lani Houck** and Pack Leader **Gail Jones** led 37 Cub and Boy Scouts with parents and leaders to plant at the site. **Houck** also provided a short educational program about acorns and the planting process before the event. An acorn workday preceded the May RUFF Board meeting when members met at the Taylor Street site and cleaned and weeded the acorn plots. The Board also contracted for watering the plants throughout the summer months.

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## Another Year, Another 1,000 Trees

The Roseville Shade Tree Program completed the 2002-2003 fiscal year by again successfully adding over 1,000 trees to the City's canopy. Homeowners received over half of the trees with the remainder sited at schools, parks and commercial properties. There were 567 trees planted at 231 households in the fall and 522 trees at 266 households this spring. Since the program's inception over 11,000 trees have been planted in Roseville. The Shade Tree Program also reached 215 households through their 17 community meetings held during the planting seasons. It is through cooperation with the Roseville Elementary School District, the Dry Creek Elementary School District, the Roseville Joint Union High School District and the City of Roseville that it is possible to reach residents of the community. Use of these public facilities for community meetings remains an important and valued part of the program.



### ROSEVILLE Shade Tree Program

A partnership between Roseville Electric  
and Roseville Urban Forest Foundation

#### Commercial Properties Included in Totals

This year the following commercial properties also received trees through the program: Sierra Gardens Apartments, 13 trees; Capital Drum, Inc., three trees; Sutter Terrace Senior Apartments, seven trees; Roseville Green's, two trees and Sierra View Townhouses, 12 trees. Woodbridge Elementary School also received three trees for their playground.

#### Private Street Tree Project First for Program

The RSTP staff implemented a private Street Tree Program this spring. After a resident of Heritage at Diamond Oaks received trees through the Shade Tree Program, he encouraged their Association to request park strip trees for their gated community. The process included an extensive review by a panel of residents, landscapers and RSTP staff to determine tree species, size, adaptability to the area and cost. Subsequently 84 trees were provided to the residents of the Heritage at Diamond Oaks Homeowner's Association who arranged for their planting and care. Because most trees were larger than typically provided by the program, a fee was assessed to pay for the additional tree cost. Trees sited on the park strip included Little Leaf Lindens, Red Maples and Chinese Pistache.

#### Pruning Clinics Provided Through Program

An important component of the RSTP is the stewardship and care of young trees. A series of pruning clinics for young trees is provided each year to community residents to assist them in the early training of their trees. This year's program featured a special clinic for school custodians held at Woodbridge School in January with certified arborist **George Connor** leading the class. **Patti Kiehl**, **Julie Averill-Martin** and **Ken Menzer**, all certified arborists, provided resident pruning clinics at various sites in February and March. Over 25 households participated in the clinics this year.

## Updates

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### Railroad Trees

RUFF member **Ernie McPherson** brought a plan to plant trees throughout the Union Pacific Rail yards to the Board in January. Staff, working with McPherson and Union Pacific management, reviewed areas of concern and although the idea has met with enthusiasm, until project management, water concerns and agreements and site plans from Union Pacific are received the project remains on hold.



## Gift of Books Commemorates Arbor Day 2003

Students at 17 Roseville public elementary schools received a set of four tree books for their libraries this year in celebration of April's Arbor Day. This is the second year that funds from the Roseville Shade Tree Program, the Roseville Urban Forest Foundation and the City of Roseville's mitigation fund have been used to purchase books to educate and inform students about trees. The books this year targeted fourth through sixth grade students. A set of the same books was also donated to both City libraries.

The sets for this year were:

- *While a Tree Was Growing* by Jane Bosveld (RUFF funds)
- *Meeting Trees* by Scott Russell Sanders (RSTP funds)
- *Jonathon's Red Apple Tree* by Alton Pryor (RSTP funds), and
- *The Oak Tree* by Gordon Morrison (mitigation funds).

**Janet Zeitman** prepared bookplates for all of the books and joined **Martha Riley**, **Amelia Oliver** and **Lani Houck** in distributing the books in classrooms, at school libraries, during assemblies or at staff meetings at each school.



## Sacramento Valley Urban Forest Council Meets to Plan

During the last year, RSTP Staff and Board Members have met regularly with other urban forest community members associated with the Sacramento Valley Urban Forest Council (SacValley UFC). SacValley UFC is one of a number organized throughout California by the California Urban Forestry Council to promote the proper planning, planting, and management of urban and community forests in California.

This past year has been spent in discussion of an urban forest plan for the Sacramento Valley area. Spearheaded by Sacramento Tree Foundation's **Ray Tretheway** and **Rob Kerth**, members of the SacValley UFC have developed a list of tree goals and a preliminary tree plan. The plan will provide a step-by-step program that encourages all levels of government to participate in urban forest planning and programs. The plan suggests that by doubling the tree canopy in the region in 35 years improvement in air and water quality standards could meet the federal government's environmental standards. A presentation is on tap to the Sacramento Area Council of Governments in October. Information will subsequently be distributed to the area governments in the next year.

## Fiddymt Substation

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trees and shrubs, and plugs of native purple needle grass and deer grass by each tree. City of Roseville's Mitigation Fund provided the money for purchase of materials. This is the first RUFF project to plant native grasses in conjunction with the trees and **Egan** reported at the August RUFF Board Meeting that the grasses are successfully adapting to the area. RUFF plans to continue to monitor the project and replace trees if necessary.

## Experienced Leaders Continue Service on RUFF Board

The Annual Meeting of the Roseville Urban Forest Foundation held June 3 featured a Mexican theme, a continuation of organizational experience, and recognition of volunteer and board excellence. **Michelle Mahan** and **Lane White** hosted the dinner meeting at their home.

RUFF Annual Meeting business included election of the following slate of officers for the year: President **Janet Zeitman**, Vice President **George Connor**, Treasurer **Katie Palatinus** and Secretary **Martha Riley**. All served in those positions for the 2002-03 year. Board memberships for **Zeitman** and **Mahan** were also renewed.

**Zeitman** took the opportunity to boast of RUFF's activities and accomplishments for the year. They ranged from administering the successful Shade Tree Program to presentation of Arbor Day books to local elementary schools. (*Information about RUFF's various programs is featured elsewhere in this newsletter.*)

Annual Meeting highlights included presentations to volunteers, staff and board members. Volunteer **Bob Kraft** was recognized for his support of the program and for providing mulch to various planting sites in cooperation with Adelante High School. Member **Ken Menzer** was presented with a Superman memento and commended for rescuing RUFF on several occasions with his knowledge and **George Connor** received the Board Member of the Year Award for his wholehearted help and expertise on RUFF's behalf. **Martha Riley** was acknowledged for ten years of service to the organization. Program staff **Amelia Oliver**, **Lani Houck** and **Jim Muck** were presented with gift certificates and thanked for their continued efforts and excellence on behalf of the Shade Tree Program and RUFF projects

## School Custodians Targeted for Back to Basics Workshop

The RUFF Board redirected its spring stewardship workshop to *Back to Basics* for school custodians. After a number of years of providing workshops for the green professional industry that focused primarily on trees and landscaping concerns, the Board noted that school maintenance continued as a priority. Planning for the event included timing the program to take advantage of the spring holiday when custodians could attend and holding the workshop at a local school for the hands-on program.

*Back to Basics* was held in the morning on April 15 at Woodbridge School and was hosted by its principal **Dave Phillips**. Custodians were invited from Roseville Elementary, Eureka, Roseville Joint Union High and Dry Creek Elementary School Districts. RUFF Board members **Michael Phillips** and **George Connor** and RSTP staff presented the program.

The morning sessions included a number of practical experiences with the curriculum including tree and shrub pruning, discussion of low maintenance plantings to enhance school sites, tree planting and trouble shooting tree problems. Fourteen school representatives participated in the program. They received hand pruners, tree information materials and refreshments courtesy of RUFF.



## RUFF & RSTP Stuff

### Bits and Pieces of information

Roseville Shade Tree Manager **Lani Houck** received her Certified Arborist professional designation in 2002.

Roseville Shade Tree Director **Amelia Oliver** participated with Eagle Radio in *Make a Difference Day* at the Police Athletic League building. The Shade Tree Program supplied the four trees planted that day.

Twelve students in the **Sierra College Arboriculture** program planted six trees at the North Roseville Recreation Center on October 23, 2002.

**Houck** and **Oliver** presented a stewardship program for Sun City residents in January on watering and tree care.

RUFF members and staff and Roseville Electric staff participated in the American Cancer Society's *Relay for Life* in July. Roseville Electric sponsored the team that included **Janet** and **Phil Zeitman**, **Patrick Morrison**, **George Connor**, **Amelia Oliver**, **Tom** and **Iris Bookholtz**, **Amanda Johnson** and **Jim Muck**.

**Houck** held a two-hour class for the Placer-Nevada Agriculture & Natural Resources Cooperative Extension class in Auburn in March.

In March **Jan Spencer** and **Oliver** pruned a number of the street trees on Main Street.

**Michelle Mahan** staffed the Earth Day display at Kaiser Hospital in Roseville in May.

Roseville's Earth Day Celebration held in April at the City Center included an RSTP planting and a Shade Tree booth staffed by Board members **Mahan**, **Wayne Kelly**, and **Martha Riley**.

**Janet Zeitman** provided RSTP materials and information at the Regional Water Authority homeowner's landscape class held in April at the Maidu Center. It was one of a series of three classes offered by the Authority with funds provided by the CAL FED 2001 Water Effectiveness Grant.

RUFF Board members and volunteers **Riley**, **Zeitman**, **Mahan**, **Spencer**, and **Sarah Egan** and Roseville Electric's **Carla Johannesen** and RSTP's **Oliver** attended the City of Roseville's Volunteer luncheon held in April. Five-year awards were presented to **Riley**, **Zeitman** and **Spencer**.

## Celebrations Feature Plantings

### Schools and Community Groups Involved in Events



Two schools celebrated Arbor Day 2003 with plantings this year. **St. John's School** received nine trees at their school in April. Each of the school's classes was responsible for planting and care of a tree. **St. Alban's** pre-school class sponsored a tree that was added to its *Reader's Grove* of trees also in April. Students and parents report that the trees planted last year in the *Grove* are growing successfully. **St. Alban's** also received five trees for their playground.

The **Green Thumb Garden Club** honored Arbor Day with the purchase of two willow oaks. The trees were planted in June at Veteran's Park.

A final ceremony honoring veterans was held by the **Daughters of the American Revolution** when one tree was planted at Veteran's Park in November 2002.

## Find Us

### On the Web

[Rosevilletrees.org](http://Rosevilletrees.org) is your Internet link with RUFF and the Shade Tree Program. Board member **Michelle Mahan** established, designed and maintains the site that now features all of the trees provided by the RSTP as well as FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) on general tree care and information. The site received over 500 hits per month during the spring planting season due in part to its relevance and information. In addition to leaf and full tree pictures the site provides a profile of the tree and suggestions for siting at a residence. Users can also find out about community meetings and plantings and are provided a page of useful links to other tree-oriented sites. An electronic copy of RUFF's *Shady Times* also appears on the site.

### By Email

[Shadetree@Roseville.ca.us](mailto:Shadetree@Roseville.ca.us) is the Internet mailing address for the Roseville Shade Tree Program staff. Staff fields questions, concerns and provides information received via this method.

### By Phone

There are several phone numbers that may be of use to you. The **Roseville Shade Tree Program**, **774-5647**, includes a choice for callers to leave a message or to hear a recording of the community calendar meeting dates and sites. The RSTP staff number is **774-5666** and if they are unavailable, there is an opportunity to leave a message. You may also reach the program by contacting Roseville Electric.

**Roseville  
Urban Forest  
Foundation**



Since 1995, planting for tomorrow...today.

## Join Us Today

**YES!** *I would like to become a member of the Roseville Urban Forest Foundation! As a member I will receive an informative newsletter that will keep me informed about the programs presented by RUFF and provide opportunities for me to help my community and the urban forest.*

**Annual Membership Level (please check one)**

Corporate (\$1,000+)  Small Business (\$100+)

Family (\$35)  Individual/Senior (\$25)

Member / Family or Business Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU! Your membership support makes a difference!**

Fill out and mail this form today or call RUFF at 774-5666. Make checks payable to:

**Roseville Urban Forest Foundation • P.O. Box 1209 • Roseville, CA 95678-8209**

**[www.Rosevilletrees.org](http://www.Rosevilletrees.org) Taxpayer ID #68-0367267**

### BE A VOLUNTEER!

I am interested in volunteering for (please check all that apply):

- Site Visits  Tree Planting  Administrative Assistance  Educational and/or Outreach Programs  
 Public Relations  Fund Raising  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### BE A PARTNER!

I am interested in donating:

- Equipment  Services  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### BE A SPONSOR!

I am interested in sponsoring a(n):

- Event  Educational Program  Special Project  Purchase  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_