

Timber Cove

May 2023

R
A
I
L
S
U
P
P
O
R
T
E
R
S

Umland-Smith Court Loop Now Open!

We are very pleased to announce that the entire Umland Circle-Smith Court Loop reopened on April 16th! It is stunning from start to finish: gorgeous views and sylvan treasures the entire way. Although not yet officially measured, it is approximately 2 miles, with easy to moderate terrain. The new stairway near Umland Circle is steep, but provides a short aerobic kick to start or end your hike. It is as safe as *any* County or State Park trail, and has gotten rave reviews already.

We have placed trailhead signs at both the east and west entrances at Smith Ct., and one near 22188 Umland Circle. An [annotated TCHA Trails Map](#) will show you the locations of trailheads we have established so far on the John Sperry and Umland-Smith Ct. trails. See our "[Project Progress](#)" page for specific instructions and helpful information.

Thanks to our volunteer workers who helped us finish in only two very long days: Roger Simpson, Ruth Marshall, George Melo, Yarrow Drake, David Yusem, and Mark Richardson. We would also like to thank the following property owners for their community spirit and help: Richard Mogford, Lyn Kalani, John Tidwell, Stuart Drake, and Sandrine and Eric Kurhman.

And a big posthumous **thank you** to Richard Clements, who in 1965 made sure these lovely paths were deeded to Timber Cove property owners for as long as there is a Timber Cove!

Your Property Values Just Went Up!

If you own a property bordering or near a well-maintained Timber Cove trail your property values just went up last month. A consensus of economic sources indicates that well-designed trails and other community assets can raise property values significantly. Most research indicates increases in property values close to trails are between 5 and 20 percent. Find out more at our website below.

timbercovetrails.org

Community Spirit

Timber Cove trails were a source of pride and camaraderie until about 2008. We hope to restore both the trails themselves and the spirit of connectedness that created them in 1965.

Although our TCHA was made responsible for the maintenance of these easements in 1965 in Clause VIII of Timber Cove Subdivision CC & Rs, the current board does not support them. So we would like to plan annual events to support the trails and other types of community improvement in the months and years ahead.

If you have ideas about such events and would like to help, please contact us at the email below.

Thank You Donors

We need the help of everyone in the community to restore and improve our six miles of private trails. Our appreciation goes to recent donors:

Anonymous (\$1,500; Kris Kilgore (\$1,000);;

Ruth Marshall and Roger Simpson (\$627); Kaitlin Gerds (\$500);

George Melo (\$500); Richard Murphy (\$300); John and Susan Williamsen (\$200).

Retrospect: Story of Bob Tomlin

contributed by Michael Beardsley, michael@upsideproperty.com.

My mother "Hatsy" Beardsley helped to sell land parcels located at Timber Cove for Dick Clements the founder and developer of Timber Cove Properties and who also designed and built the Timber Cove Inn over 50 years ago. During this period, there were many nature loving, kind, and generous neighbors who already lived in the Timber Cove community.

One of them was Bob Tomlin who was the official patrolman for Timber Cove properties. Bob would drive around his jeep and check on other friends and neighbors in the Timber Cove community and provide security for their



Trailhead at Umland Circle

Marshall and Roger Simpson (\$627); Kaitlin Gerds (\$500);

George Melo (\$500); Richard Murphy (\$300); John and Susan Williamsen (\$200).

contact: timbercovetrails@gmail.com

properties at Timber Cove. [Just as Nick Lee did up until 2018-ed.]

Bob Tomlin was married to Lois who was blind and had been so for many years. They lived in a cabin on Ruoff Road which I believe Bob had built himself. Bob and Lois loved nature and wildlife and had both been active in the Audubon Naturalist Society. They had an impressive array of books on birds, nature, and wildlife at their house on Ruoff Road which we would look at when they often hosted my mother, brother (Burke) and I for dinner.

Bob was an expert hunter and fisherman and he had this inflatable raft which he and I would take down to Kelly Cove near Kelly Court. We would go out 100 or 200 yards off shore near the "Studio", later called the "Glass House", built by architect John Bolles, who designed Candlestick Park in San Francisco. There we would "jig" for ling cod, cabezon, and other

rock fish using lures that Bob had constructed himself. We would also often fish off the rocks in Cemetery Cove near the Studio which was adjacent to Kelly Cove. The best bait at that time was the intestines and trimmings from abalone.

I was only about 10 years old at the time but Bob was like the grandfather that I never had, one of the kindest and most generous people around.

One of Bob Tomlin's neighbors was Floyd Lowery, also an avid fisherman and hunter and Herman Gerboth was just around the corner. Herman was another kind and gentle soul who was a chess champion.

[If you have a Timber Cove memory to share, please send it to the email address below or call Hannah at 707.847.3125 for help getting it recorded.]



Timber Cove Artifacts

The short article about Timber Cove's industrial logging past in our last issue inspired reader Eric Tamm to share a photo of possible prehistoric scraping or cutting tools or cores that he has found around his coastal property. (at left above)

The large logging hook and ring and metal collar at right were unearthed by erosion on the hillside behind the Howland property off Timber Cove Road. Both are hand forged, with very evident

hammer marks. This would place them in the first era of Timber Cove logging, 1850—1875.

The collar is also probably related to logging in the same era, but its exact use is unknown.

If you have some interesting finds to share, please email us. It is important to understand however that unnecessary digging in any area that might have archaeological remains is unlawful as it destroys the historical context of the artifacts in a protected area. Please don't be a "pothunter"!