



## Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

### TAKEN FOR GRANITE

Pacifica's rocky southern neighbor, Montara Mountain, is part of a chain of granite peaks, including the Farallon Islands and Point Reyes, that sheared off from the southern Sierra Nevada some 80 million to 110 million years ago and migrated northward with tectonic-plate movement. This geology partially accounts for the fractious nature of Devil's Slide. I read about all this in a recent San Francisco Chronicle feature on the murre egg "wars" that broke out on the Farallones around the turn of the 20th century. Apparently, Greek and Italian immigrant "egg poachers" came to blows while competing for the large, highly prized seabird eggs.

### PACIFICA NEEDS SHOTSPOTTER

Are you sick of hearing loud explosions all over town, but no sirens descending on the guilty parties? Maybe Pacifica should look into installing something like Shotspotter, a highly effective tracking system used in other communities to help police target bad guys who illegally fire guns, explode devices, and otherwise disturb the peace. As July 4th approaches each year, I dread the onslaught of explosions that rock this normally placid community. I like brilliant aerial fireworks displays as much as anyone but not the loud, illegal bombs that go off at all hours of the day and night. In the 20 years I have lived here, this problem has gotten worse and worse. People complain, but nothing happens. Why should we peace-loving people have to suffer? Our local government seems helpless to protect us, leaving us at the mercy of cruel dudes who like to blow s--- up.

### SINKING SHIP?

With Steve Rhodes and Ann Ritzma leaving Pacifica city government soon for greener pastures, we hear that other city officials want to join the exodus. Can you blame them?

### BACK TO WACO

Reader reaction to my recent item "Waco Wacko": "I teach at Pacifica's very own fundamentalist school, and our crowd takes enough flak for what we actually DO believe. We don't need folk to transform an April 6, 2006 article from the Waco Tribune into the titillating article you referenced in your latest column. I have never heard, nor have I been able to find online, anyone who teaches that the moon emits its own light. The closest I have come is hearsay from people who cite this silly idea in order to ridicule Biblical literalists. (Again, as if there aren't enough nutty things literalists actually do say.) Here's what I think happened: A bunch of people, including Christian fundamentalists--Who doesn't love The Science Guy?--came to Nye's lecture. During his talk, Nye poked fun at Biblical literalists, using a canard which he and probably everyone else knew to be just that. However, the fundamentalists took offense, stood up, shouted pieties, and left with their young children. (Never overestimate, nay, even assume the existence of, a sense of humor in certain people. Trust me; I can tell you stories.) Really, if the commotion, such as it was, resulted merely from the speaker saying something his listeners thought was counterfactual, they would have risen the first time Nye said, '3 billion years ago. . .' Anyway, that's how I see it. Perhaps my skin isn't much thicker than that of those in Waco, after all."

### SITeseER

- Not a pretty site: Google "Canadian Ice Service"
- Ditto: "What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains"

### SWAMI SEZ 1

"Americans can always be relied upon to do the right thing, after they have exhausted all other possibilities."  
(Winston Churchill)

### SWAMI SEZ 2

"Ninety-nine percent of all lawyers give the rest a bad name."  
(Scotty Mack)

### MAYBURRITOVILLE

- Editor: [goofbuster.com](http://goofbuster.com)
- Blogger: [pacificariptide.com](http://pacificariptide.com)
- Email: [mayburrito@goofbuster.com](mailto:mayburrito@goofbuster.com)