



# Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

## PADDLE TO THE SEA

Paddle to the Sea is the Tuolumne River Trust's annual paddle-a-thon to protect the Tuolumne River and raise awareness for river stewardship. Sign up for a fun one-day paddle on the Tuolumne River or American River, hop on a sailboat for a cruise down the Delta, or challenge yourself to go the distance from the Sierra to the Sea. All funds raised by Paddle to the Sea go directly to support the Tuolumne River Trust's work to help recover from the devastating 2013 Rim Fire, educate children and communities dependent on the river about water conservation and efficiency in the face of the extreme drought conditions that California is currently experiencing, and restore the watershed. INFO: [paddletothesea.org](http://paddletothesea.org)

## WHAT ME WORRY?

Earthweek, a diary of the planet, reports March 27 that climate change is causing thin ice in the Arctic, firestorms in drought-stricken southern Chile, a slowing Gulf Stream, and the world with a 40 percent shortfall of water supply. What a time for Al Gore to give up his doomsday predictions and to become an optimist about the future of Earth and mankind. Now if only anyone will follow his lead. Don't bet on it. Keep visiting [earthweek.com](http://earthweek.com) and prepare to get really worried.

## ADULT COLORING BOOKS

The hot new item this spring is art therapy for adults in the form of coloring books. Hachette has sold 2 million of the books in France, and here in the United States, Barron's and other publishers plan to release adult coloring books, which are said to be helpful in treating (self-treating) stress, anxiety, and depression. (source: *The Atlantic*, April 2015)

## YARDBIRDS

Jeff Bagshaw says the bottlebrush trees in Frontierland Park are full of honeybees, so another crisis averted. Scott McKellar says some bees finally showed up in his yard, along with dragonflies. My lavender, fuchsia, wild basil, and pride of Madeira plants are happily hosting honeybees, bumblebees, butterflies, and hummingbirds every day. With drought-resistant plants instead of a lawn, I can abide by the new state guidelines to water only twice a week. Also, I water after the sun goes down, which reduces water loss through evaporation.

## UNREAL ESTATE

What \$549,000 will buy in a town on the water: plantation paradise, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 4300 square feet, built circa 1785, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, library and five fireplaces, walk to downtown, located on the outskirts of Edenton, North Carolina, a harbor town. Or for only \$797,000, you can get a 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath, 3800-square-foot, custom-designed home with oversize brick and quarried stone, pier and covered boat lift, on Albemarle Sound. (source: [pacsir.com](http://pacsir.com) as advertised in *Coastal Living* magazine)

## SWAMI SEZ

"When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane."

## SITSEER

- Savor the good old days: [thenostalgiamachine.com](http://thenostalgiamachine.com)
- Capture every drop of water off your roof: [waterfence.com](http://waterfence.com)
- App to manage your brewski habit: [tapcellar.com](http://tapcellar.com)

## MAYBURRITOVILLE

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