



# Welcome to a journey through 60 years of Portola Valley History

Brought to you by the Historic Resources Group

1955: Realizing that the post-war population boom was reaching the valley, a group of 75 residents met at Portola School to discuss how to protect the character of the area, defend it against intensive development, the population boom and urbanization. This group, originally led by Robert Paul, Ray Garrasino, Tony Rose and Jeffrey Smith eventually became the Portola Valley Association (PVA). The drive for incorporation had begun.

## 1957

- Residents vote against incorporation in postcard poll by PVA (400 cards ret'd; 201 against, 50 for, 149 postpone)

## 1960

- Jan: L.W. Lane, Sr. elected as chair of Citizens' Committee to Study PV Development; to look into annexation.
- Feb: PVA hires Griffenhagen and Kroeger Inc. at a cost of \$1250 to survey:
  - Existing population, assessed valuation, description and costs of existing gov't services
  - Operating budget proposed city would require.
  - Non-property tax revenues available
  - Outline of procedures required for incorporation.
  - Fiscal consequences of annexation.
- June: Citizens for Incorporation files a Petition to Incorporate with San Mateo County
- September: Petition and Protest affidavits filed with the San Mateo Co. Board of Supervisors represent more than 51% of assessed value so Petition to Incorporate is denied.

## 1962

- Action Group for Local Control (AGLC) formed, recommends annexation to Woodside and to incorporate if annexation fails.

## 1963

- Woodside Town Council votes 5-2 against annexing Portola Valley

## 1964

- February: AGLC present petition to incorporate to San Mateo County Board of Supervisors: 1070 signatures (80% of families, 54% of assessed valuation, 60% of persons eligible to sign).
- June 23: In a special election, vote to incorporate carries 3 to 1
- July 14: Official incorporation and 1<sup>st</sup> town organizational meeting