1. GARDEN HISTORY - OUTLINE
1.1. Phil Gordon’s ties to Shinn Park: Early Gordon & Shinn Family
  1.1.1. Wesley Dexter Gordon, Sr. (father)
    1.1.1.1. Minister at Sonoma > Invited, from Mrs. Ford, to preach at Niles Congregational Church.
    1.1.1.2. Gordon residence on I St., Niles (now, District of Fremont)
  1.1.2. Nellie Pauline Gordon (mother)
    1.1.2.1. Works at Mission Adobe Nursery - employed by George Roeding, owner.
    1.1.2.2. Birth of Philip Eugene (1934), William Charles (1936), Wesley Dexter Jr. (1937) by Dr. Eugene Grau (married to artist Ethyl Grau).
    1.1.2.3. Philip cared for by Gladys Williamson (Tribune Reporter) in Nursery School; now Sim Cottage at Shinn Park.
  1.1.3. Shinn Farm provided vegetables to Gordon family.
1.2. Joe and Nellie Shinn present sapling from original Japanese Maple to PEG upon his wedding.
1.3. Bette Wentzel Memorial Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden selected.
  1.3.1. Bette (68), attorney and Past President and enthusiastic Conservationist and supporter of Educational Projects of Ohlone Audubon Society (OAS), Southern Alameda County, inadvertently drowns in Tuolumne River near Yosemite, California.
  1.3.2. Phil Gordon, Chairperson, together with OAS Education Committee, select Shinn Park for Memorial Garden. Phil contacts various Fremont associates and others to form a Garden Committee. Including: Pat Asbury (Ohlone Audubon Society), Al Doctor (Retired Biology teacher), Phil Gordon (Coordinator), Marie Grubbe (OAS), Patrick Hayes (Former Chief Naturalist of Fremont), Alice Hoch (Local Bird Class Teacher and Butterfly aficionado), Phil Holmes, (retired Principal & Director of Native Garden at Fremont Local History Museum), Richard Matsutani (Landscape Architect and bird class member), Donna Olsen (Tri City Ecology Center), Rodney and Eva Ricciarelli (President of the Friends of Heirloom Flowers), Vi Saima-Barklow (President of Ohlone Audubon Society), Gilbert Yee (Cal State Hayward Science Teacher Instructor and former Niles Elementary School teacher).
  1.3.3. Friends of Heirloom Flowers Garden Club (FOHF) agree to co-sponsor Garden with Ohlone Audubon Society (OAS) (1999).
  1.3.3.1 Admiral and Mrs. Shinn are consulted by Garden Club about possible new Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden, and gives their approval, thus the approval of the Shinn Trust, now managed by son, James Shinn (retired attorney).
1.3.4. Pat Hayes, former Chief Naturalist of Fremont Parks, agrees to shepherd preparation of applications and general paper work for City of Fremont Recreation Commission and City approval of Garden.

1.4. Application and Letters of agreement formulated and submitted to City.

1.5. Risk Manager of Fremont plus insurance carrier (Chubb Associates) direct approval of Waiver of Liability.

1.6. Richard Matsutani, with daughter Shelly, develop and submit for approval (by PEG) two blueprint plans for the Garden’s landscape and its Irrigation.

1.7. Jim Wood (retired Electrical Contractor and OAS member) contributes electrical plans for City Application approval.

1.7. Unanimous approval of Application by Recreation Commission of Fremont.

1.8. Unanimous approval of Application (and gift value of $5,000) by City Council of City of Fremont.

1.9. Fremont Parks and Recreation review and compliance with agreement via Chuck Canada and Annabel Holland.
   1.9.1. FOHF Garden Club will monitor maintenance/management of the Bette Wentzel Memorial Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden.

1.9.2. FOHF & OAS will continue monitoring suitable additional plants and contribute materials and volunteers for tasks to maintain the for the B&H Garden.

1.9.3. OAS will record & monitor wildlife, esp. birds & butterflies.

1.9.4. OAS agrees not to plant trees, or succulents; and to remove Periwinkle (Vinca major or minor).

1.10. Construction of Garden

1.10.1. Preparation of ground - remove Vinca > leveling > top soil and fertilizer layering > rototilling

1.10.4. Construction of the Dry Creek; with 43 mossy rocks; scoop mobile; 4yards of Alameda creek fill (donated by Alameda Co. Flood Control % Fred Wolin); cobbles and gravel, 6 workers in one day: Richard Matsutani (architect), Bruce Larson (scoop operator), Don Emery, Phil Gordon, Rodney Ricciarelli, Irvin Tiessen.

1.10.2. Installation of sprinkler system; water lines and electrical lines and valves and control box (Ron Kobata & Richard’s son Phillip).

1.10.3. Plant selection and purchase from outlets in Watsonville, La Honda, Berkeley, Livermore, Fremont, e.g., Sierra Azul Nursery, Yerba Buena Nursery, Berkeley Horticultural Center, Alden Lane Nursery, Ogawa/Mune Nursery, Reagan’s Nursery.

1.10.4. Lay out and set pathways

1.10.5. Plant herbs, shrubs, vines, etc. organized into Sections: Dry Creek, Gazebo North, Gazebo South, Redwoods, Patio (recently), Pathway West.

1.11. YEAR 2000 DEDICATION of Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden with City Dignitaries and Garden Club and Audubon Society and many other interested parties (Eva Ricciarelli, President FOHF).
1.12. MAINTENANCE phase begins
  1.12.1 Eagle Scout project with Aidan Ali-Sullivan to build 4 planter boxes for butterfly larvae host plants. (Three days with families and Scouts - OAS donates $500).
  1.12.2 Purchase Pennsylvania Red Cedar 9’ Gazebo (approved by James Shinn) with Candlelighters’ $6400 Grant (Applied for by FOHF).
  1.12.3 Receive, assemble, install, and paint Gazebo (Forrest Bottomley, Ron Barclow, Phil Gordon, et al).
  1.12.4 Recent additions: taking out 100+ ft. of pathway and re-aligning and installing new valves and boxes for sprinklers to accommodate new patio; water dripper for Cogswell Birdbath, new hose bib and sprinklers for box hedge border.
  1.12.5 Establish new pathways from Patio to Gazebo; repair and refurbish old pathways with weed suppressing cloth and bark chips. Wash all Dry Creek pebbles, add weed cloth, supplement and replace pebbles. Extend sprinkler system to Denise LePeilbet’s new planter box. (Fall ‘06).
  1.12.6 FOHF Garden Club wins Best Garden Project (Bay Area) award for Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden refurbishing and additional plantings (President, Denise LePeilbet, 2008).
  1.12.7 Summation (2009) of Wildlife Records: Butterflies found=24 spp.; Birds found=184 species (spp.).
  1.12.8 Summation (to 2009) of Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden Slide Show/Lectures/Talks given by Phil Gordon: Eden Garden Club (Castro Valley), One; Methodist Church Social Group (Castro Valley), One; Friends of Heirloom Garden Club (Fremont), One; Fremont Garden Club, One; Community Tea Party (Host, Mishi Yee, Shinn Park), One; Garden Tips Channel 3 Interview (Host, Pat Kite, Fremont), One; Castro Valley Adult School Birds Class (Castro Valley), Four.
  1.12.9 Summation (to 2009) of Garden Visits for Bird Study conducted by Phil E. Gordon: Lindsay Wildlife Museum (Walnut Creek, BART Trip), One; Castro Valley Adult School Birds Class (Castro Valley), Two; Garden Tours (One or more persons), 20+.
  1.12.10 Task volunteer’s ongoing time: Inumerable - with effusive thanks!

Respectfully submitted: Philip Eugene Gordon, OAS Coordinator of Bette Wentzel Memorial Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden at Shinn Memorial Park and Arboretum, Fremont, Alameda County, California. 1 February 2010.