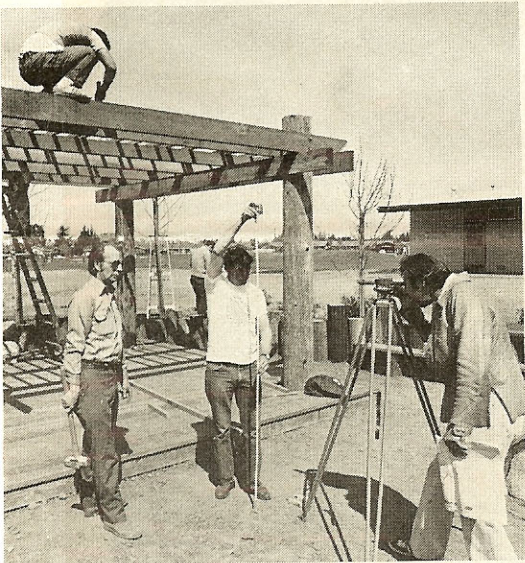


GERALD R. FREDRICK

The job is done. These volunteers built this amphitheater on a barren school lot in just six weekends. The key: good planning

COMMUNITY ACTION:

An outdoor classroom . . . it's what they wanted and quickly achieved



Tape measure gives level for final grade around stage. Sod is rolled out, cut to fit on final weekend of work



Students lift auger from hole, lower in tree. Each job had a team leader; procedures were spelled out



It's what the kids wanted. Given a wide choice of possible improvements, the children of Simonds Elementary School in San Jose specified an outdoor classroom-amphitheater. Then the children themselves, their parents, and members of the Almaden Valley Rotary Club set about to provide it.

In short order, they succeeded. You can see the just-finished result above—ample, multitiered seating for classes or neighborhood meetings, an arbor-screened stage, and surrounding sculptured berms with shade trees. A few weeks earlier, the site was a flat, bare

SUNSET



FREE LETTUCE

with purchase
of two packages of
ranch style
UNCLE DAN'S
salad dressing mix



Great savings and exciting taste are both yours now when you take advantage of Uncle Dan's and your nearby participating supermarket's summer savings offer.

Buy two packages of Uncle Dan's ranch style (mixed with buttermilk and mayonnaise) salad dressing mix. You'll want to pick up the original Uncle Dan's Southern Style with the

unique taste that started it all—or try Uncle Dan's California Style for those that enjoy the hint of dill flavor on their salads and in dips.

Either way, you're the winner—with free lettuce when you buy two packages of salad dressing mix from Uncle Dan's—wherever you see this attractive display of Uncle Dan's Salad Dressing Mix.



Project leader Paul Uenaka drives final stake. Trees will shade the stage

part of the schoolyard.

At full retail prices for materials and labor, the amphitheater would have cost close to \$10,500. Instead, the volunteers spent just a little over \$3,600, raised by adults and children through a variety of sales and activities. Much of the materials and equipment were donated; others were bought at wholesale cost through local merchants who took an interest in the project. All work was volunteer.

But the real key to success was preparation—a level of forethought and planning rare in an all-volunteer effort.

The Rotary team prepared the architectural plan and an equipment and materials list right down to the last stake and bag of planting mix. Specific jobs were then outlined in sequence, along with materials and expertise needed for the chore. Each job had a leader, who drew on a large pool of abilities among the Simonds parents. Each leader communicated with other job leaders up and down the line to ensure smooth coordination. Planning through the last clean-up detail was completed before the first shovel of earth was turned.

The result was a flawless six-weekend work effort in this sequence: 1. Survey, grading, ground preparation. 2. Installation of telephone poles, water lines, and conduit. 3. Bench and planter construction. 4. Planting and remaining woodwork. 5. Sod laying and wood staining.

Between weekends, small crews did such drawn-out work as constructing the arbor, installing lighting and topsoil, moving in boulders, and extruding the asphalt curbing that forms a crisp boundary for the amphitheater.

Heavy rain on a couple of weekends wasn't allowed to interfere. □