



The Barn Burner

Summer 2013 Newsletter

San Ramon Historic Foundation

Garden Tea Party July 28th at the Farm



Honoring Ruth Quayle Boone

When: Sunday, July 28, 2013

Time: 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Tickets: Reservation form and online registration available on the website: www.srhf.org

Location of Event:



Porch and front lawn of Boone House

Forest Home Farms Historic Park
19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd

Cost: The cost is \$25 per person for a delightful full Victorian tea service catered by Sunrise Bistro. Hot and cold tea will be served. You'll love the cucumber sandwiches and much more!

Ruth Quayle Boone in her own words

*Excerpts from an Interview with Ruth Quayle Boone
by Pat Boom, SRHF Board Member:*

Ruth: I always wanted this to be a park. I just thought it would be very pretty if it could be. My redwood trees have something to do with it. I just can't bear the idea of all the trees being taken down.

Pat: Ruth Quayle Boone lived at Forest Home Farm for nearly 70 years. She first saw the home when she came here in 1929 with her fiancé, Travis Moore Boone. Born in Duluth, Minn., Ruth was raised in Hollywood, where she met Travis, known as Bud. In 1929, the house was already almost 30 years old. Bud's grandfather, James Boone, a direct descendent of folk-hero Daniel Boone, had come to Danville in 1865 with his wife Sara, and two daughters, Lina and Cora. On the overland trip, the cow to feed baby Cora died.

Ruth: Cora was fed from the juice from the rind of bacon. If fat was gonna kill you, maybe already you'd think she would've died, but she didn't! She lived to be 90, and then her sister lived to be 91.

Pat: Numa, Bud's father, was born in Danville in 1867. In 1900, he and his new wife, Minnie Thornberg Thorne, purchased 375 acres in San Ramon...a property called Forest Home Farm. An inheritance financed the 22-room house, planned by Minnie.

Ruth: And she didn't care "if it reached from the creek to the barn," is what she said. I think there was only the old barn up there, that's over 100 years old and mostly put together with not nails, but tenons. (Editor's note: mortise and tenon construction).

Pat: Minnie and Numa added a mid-19th century redwood structure already on their ranch to their new home. It was probably once used for preserving food.

[Link to the video on City of San Ramon website.](#)

Perils and Passions

Role Players Ensemble

June 22nd and 23rd At the Farm

After a great experience presenting three short Tennessee Williams plays on the farm last year, Role Players Ensemble and the San Ramon Historic Foundation decided to reach out to an even wider audience by celebrating the great summer tradition of melodramas. The art form has a long history ranging from Victorian England to the American Wild West. The genre is known for its good vs. evil and its encouragement of audience participation. Bad guys like to be bad, good guys know they are the good guy and audiences cheer and jeer accordingly.

A small company of actors will enact the classic Victorian English melodrama *After Dark* and the American Wild West classic *Dirty Work at the Crossroads*. In addition to the plays, some of the area's best voices will lead the audience in a sing-along of all-time favorites. The plays and music will take place at different locations around the 16 acres of Forest Home Farms in San Ramon.

Role Players Ensemble Artistic Director Eric Fraisher Hayes says "Normally, in theatre you try to stay ahead of the audience and avoid being predictable, but with melodrama the idea is to invite the audience to feel they know the story from the start and to encourage them to be part of the storytelling. By feeling they know the characters and the plots, we hope the audience

will let loose and have as fun as the actors on stage."



Charles Woodson, Eden Neuendorf, and Craig Eychner

Forest Home Farms Historic Park

19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd, San Ramon

June 22 at 5:00 PM

Come early and bring a picnic. Wine, sodas, water and dessert will be available for purchase. Performance at 6:00 PM.

June 23 at 1:00 PM

Come early and bring a picnic. Enjoy an Ice Cream social at intermission. Performance at 2:00 PM.

Tickets: \$30

Children under 12: \$15

Tickets Available on SRHF [website](#)

Ice Cream Social

August 10th at the Farm

Forest Home Farms Historic Park is open to the public the second Saturday of every month for **Fun on the Farm**. Each month features a different theme and the theme for August is "**Ice Cream Social**." August 10, 2013, from 10 am to 2 pm. Admission is free.

Scoops of Loard's Ice Cream and cookies can be purchased. There will be sprinkles, caramel sauce, and chocolate sauce to add to your scoop. There will be entertainment. The Gift Shoppe will be open so go in and check out their old fashioned tin toys.



There will be interpretive displays and Old Fashioned Games for kids and adults. When was the last time you played hop scotch or jumped rope? Now you can.

There will be tours of the David and Eliza Glass House Museum and the Farm. Tours are \$5 each or both for \$8, but are free for San Ramon Historic Foundation members.

Attendees are welcome to dress in old fashioned attire so get out your straw hat and plaid shirt or bonnet and calico dress and come on down and have fun at the Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social.

Embers from the Past

2013 Sheep Shearing



On Saturday, April 20, the San Ramon Historic Foundation hosted Sheep Shearing at Forest Home Farms Historic Park.



Approximately 1000 attendee's had a chance to see over 60 sheep get their annual 'trim', as well as try out some old fashioned games, ride a train and tractor, take a chance on a "Cup Cake Walk" and feast on hamburgers, hot dogs, Kettle Korn, ice cream, pickles and lemonade.

Oak Creek Planting

On April 27, 2013, over 20 volunteers from Sustainable San Ramon joined forces with the San Ramon Historic Foundation to complete the landscaping along Oak Creek between the David Glass House and the Boone House at Forest Home Farms Historic Park.



Before

Over 180 primarily native plants were placed according to the plan laid out by a Landscape architect at the time the David Glass House was moved to its current location in 1998.



After

Irrigation had previously been installed through a grant funded by the San Ramon Historic Foundation, and the plants were purchased with funds provided by the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife department to help maintain the Oak Creek habitat where it crosses the property.

Antique Tractor Collection

Read the marvelous detailed article on Forest Home Farms Historic Park's unique antique tractor collection, now available on the SRHF website under Programs. Below is just a tidbit. Please go to the [website](#) for details on all fourteen exquisitely restored tractors.



International Harvester TD-6 1943

Foundation Updates

To Receive this Barnburner Newsletter

Please send your email address to:

sanramonHF@gmail.com

[Newsletter archive on website.](#)

VOLUNTEER: We are always searching for adult and teen volunteers to assist with Foundation events, serve as docents, help restore tractors, and keep our gardens growing.

Go to Volunteer Page at www.srhf.org

SCHEDULE OF FOUNDATION EVENTS

ROLE PLAYERS ON THE FARM

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 22-23, 2013

VICTORIAN GARDEN TEA ON THE FARM

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2013, 3 PM TO 5 PM

2ND SATURDAY AUGUST ICE CREAM SOCIAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2013, 10 AM TO 2 PM

OCTOBERFEST SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

ALL EVENTS AT FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK

19953 SAN RAMON VALLEY BLVD.

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

MONTHLY HISTORIC PARK TOURS

SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK TOURS

11 AM AND 1 PM

GLASS HOUSE TOURS

10 AM, 11 AM, NOON, 1 PM

AT FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK

MEMBERSHIP SRHF ~ GENERAL \$35

www.srhf.org/about-srhf/membership/

SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd.

San Ramon, CA

SRHF.ORG

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