



The Barn Burner

Winter 2012 Newsletter

San Ramon Historic Foundation

Hot News

Holidays on the Farm

December 1st and 8th, 2012



Two of Santa's reindeer will be making a special stop-over in San Ramon to visit with the children at Holidays on the Farm on Saturday, December 1 and Saturday, December 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Don't miss this special chance to see these beautiful animals up close. Children will also get to visit with our Victorian Santa in a restored antique sleigh.

Relive an old-fashioned holiday by visiting Forest Home Farms Historic Park the first two Saturdays in December, the 1 and 8. Admission is free. The park will be open 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

It's hard to spot Donner, Blitzen and the others when they are at work pulling Santa's sleigh so come to the farm to see a pair of live reindeer. They will be visiting from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

There will also be entertainment, Victorian ornament making, old-fashioned games, tractor rides, holiday vendors and a visit from Victorian Santa. The Welcome Center, Holiday Tree Lot, Tractor Museum and Gift Shoppe will be open.

Delicious food will be available for purchase. The Victorian David Glass House Museum will be specially decorated just for the holidays. Farm tours are at 11am and 1pm. Glass House Museum Tours at 10am, 11am, 12 noon & 1pm. Tours are \$5 per person or \$8 for both.

For more information call (925) 973-3284. Holidays on the Farm are presented by the San Ramon Historic Foundation and the City of San Ramon.

Annual Crab Feed

January 26th, 2013



Join the San Ramon Historic Foundation for their popular annual crab feed. We are known to conduct one of the best crab feeds in San Ramon.

One of San Ramon's favorite personalities will be the auctioneer for our specialty desserts. Be sure to get your tickets early. They make a great Christmas gift for that person who has everything.

Tickets (\$45 per person, \$20 ages 6-12, under 5 free) available December 1st on the [SRHF website via PayPal](#) or by sending your check to:

SRHF
Post Office Box 1,
San Ramon, CA 94583.

When ordering your tickets, please include the names of the guests whom you wish to be seated at your table. Seating is reserved – a table seats 10. We have sold out in the past, so don't be left out of all the fun. If you have questions, please contact Carol Lopez at 925-828-0586.

Dinner includes:

- No-host social hour
- Complimentary hors d'oeuvres
- Fresh cracked crab
- Pasta, Salad and French Bread
- Coffee and Tea
- Special Desserts (to be auctioned)

Location:

Dougherty Station Community Center
17011 Bollinger Canyon Road
San Ramon, California

Embers from the Past

Black, White & Bling



On Sunday, September 9th, over 150 members of our community enjoyed the Victorian Tea sponsored by SRHF and the City of San Ramon. As you can see, the ladies truly got into the theme of Black, White & Bling in their Victorian attire and hats.



A fabulous High Tea of currant scones, artichoke frittata, cucumber sandwiches, salmon rosettes, petit fours, eclairs, tartlets, and a champagne bar was enjoyed by all.



There was time for quiet conversations thanks to all the wonderful help from members of the National Charity League and our student servers from Dougherty Valley High School.



The beautiful Opportunity baskets prepared by Sheila Truschke produced the highest revenue in recent years for this SRHF fundraiser.



Moda Mi of Danville put on a spectacular fashion show during the event. One of our models, Sue Douglas, comes down the runway.

Tractor Talk

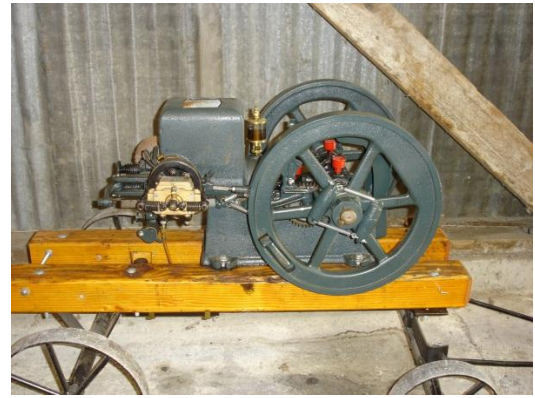
Antique Farm Engines

Ronald W. Frye has written a marvelous article on the antique farm engines that have been restored at Forest Home Farms. The entire article is available on the [SRHF website under Programs](#).



De Laval Separator Company
Model Alpha, 2 ½ h.p., Hit-and-Miss Engine

Shortly after World War I, the De Laval Separator Company offered the Alpha Engine along with their already established cream separator series, for which they have become famous in the dairy industry. Early ads for their cream separators indicated that some of those engines came with a built-in electric generator, allowing the farmer to light up the inside of his barn with up to four 15-watt bulbs. An early example of multi-tasking!



Nelson Brothers Company
Model N, 1 ¼ h.p., Hit-and-Miss Engine

Of all the early American engine manufacturers, the career of the Nelson Brothers Company is one of the most difficult to trace. Their engines were sold under more than 75 different brand or trade names. This Nelson Brothers engine was in a very sorry state when our volunteer took on the task of restoration. Many of the parts were missing, broken, or severely worn. Not knowing the history of the engine, it was physically evident that it had been run hard for many years and could run no more. The other tractor volunteers called this engine a “lost cause”, attaching a whistle to it so it could make some noise when the schoolchildren visited. Read the story on the [SRHF website](#) about how this engine was brought back to life.



Brass/Glass Drip Oiler

A note on how these engines work: The piston is lubricated by a brass/glass drip oiler that continuously feeds drops of oil onto the piston at

a very slow rate, generally about one drop every 8-10 seconds.



Peerless Motor Company
6 h.p. Hit-and-Miss Engine

For the time being, this Peerless engine remains un-restored to its former glory but has been made fully operational. When visiting the farm, have a volunteer point out to you the repaired broken parts on this engine.

Foundation Updates

VOLUNTEER: The Foundation is always searching for new board members and volunteers with enthusiasm, time, and an appreciation of the great gift that our history provides to the current and future generations. Your **fundraising, grant writing, marketing, or investment experience** will be especially beneficial to the Foundation and Forest Home Farms. Contact us at www.srhf.org

Newsletter Distribution to Members.

Please email your email address to:
customer_service@srhf.org

If you do not have an email address please notify Dall Barley at 925-735-7855. Mail distribution will be discontinued after the fall issue unless you have specifically requested a copy be sent to you. The newsletter is published on our website <http://www.srhf.org/newsletter/>.

SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

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San Ramon, CA

SRHF.ORG

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR SRHF

HOLIDAYS ON THE FARM

SATURDAYS, DECEMBER 1ST AND 8TH, 2012

10 AM TO 2 PM; REINDEER 11 TO 1

FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK

PRESENTED BY CITY OF SAN RAMON AND SRHF

ANNUAL CRAB FEED

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2013

6 PM TO 10 PM

DOUGHERTY STATION COMMUNITY CENTER

17011 BOLLINGER CANYON ROAD

SAN RAMON, CA

RESERVE ONLINE AT

<http://www.srhf.org/events/>

SHEEP SHEARING DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2013

10 AM TO 3 PM

AT FOREST HOMES HISTORIC PARK

MONTHLY HISTORIC PARK TOURS

SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

FOREST HOMES FARMS 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

**SEE SRHF WEBSITE FOR OTHER MEMBERSHIP
LEVELS AND INFORMATION ON PAYMENT**

<http://www.srhf.org/about-srhf/membership/>