



Spring, 2011

The Sentinel

Newsletter of the San Ramon Historic Foundation

Largest Crowd Ever Attends Sheep Shearing

Saturday, April 16 was a beautiful sunny day, and over 1000 people, locals and travelers, attended Sheep Shearing Day sponsored by the San Ramon Historic Foundation. The event featured face painting, crafts, spinning yarn, tractor and train rides, tours of the farm and an opportunity to watch the border collies herd the sheep. The Foundation sold 350 hot dogs to hungry families while the Gift Shoppe had a successful day selling toy sheep, tractors and Victorian items.

“The significant increase in attendance this year shows just how popular this annual rite of spring has become”, said Cindy Duffy, the Foundation’s organizer for this year’s event. The record number of participants was also attributable to KNTV’s reporter Bob Redell, who tried his hand at sheep shearing early Friday morning during his live coverage on the NBC Bay Area Morning News, 5:30 - 7:00am. Shortly thereafter the Forest Homes Farms Historic Park office telephone and website were inundated with requests for tickets. Before Mr. Redell left, he toured the tractor barn and was keen to come back to do additional stories on the rich history of the property, structures and displays at Forest Home Farms.



Glass House Completion May be Forthcoming

The San Ramon Historic Foundation is seeking \$25,000 in matching funds to assist in the erection of an antique windmill and water tank at the David Glass House at Forest Homes Farms Historic Park. Both a water tank and windmill were components of the original Glass House property.

This project is the last step in the complete restoration of the 1877 home. The period windmill was donated to FHF by Jane and Jay Jennings. The LaCount / Henry Family provided a redwood tank for the tank house. These generous donations have been supplemented by volunteer labor to restore them. ENGEO Incorporated and Biggs Cardoza Associates have donated their time and knowledge to develop plans and provide project oversight. Aztec Consultants and White Oak Landscape, Inc. have also donated countless hours. Without this pro bono work done by valued members of the community, the final restorations would not be feasible.

See page 2 for SRHF
membership and
donor information.

Private support will be needed to complete the restoration work. Although corporations, as well as the City of San Ramon, have been major partners in the effort so far, your help is still needed. As incentive, the Foundation Board of Directors has committed \$25,000 to match donations generated by the community. Please help us raise the windmill and complete the restoration by joining the Foundation and supporting our fundraisers.

Foundation Donors

Included in our general membership are a special group of donors who have made a large commitment to Forest Home Farms. Their names are etched on a beautiful board in the lobby of the welcome center. They are being honored in the newsletter today with renewed thanks for their commitment to the farm and the Foundation.

1600 Club (\$1,600)

David and Shirley Ernest
Phil and Pam Henry
Ruth Henry
Herb Moniz

1877 Club (\$1,877)

Guerdon Churchill, Jr
Sandy Glass Giacoma
Claudia Mauzy Nemir
Wayne and Elaine Ove
Arlita Smith
Kaye Mauzy Wightman
Curtis and Ingrid Wood

In Memoriam

Clyde J. Bushong
Marilyn Langen
Otto Ohman

Benefactors (Over \$10,000)

Claudia Nemir
Shapell Homes
Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee
Dublin / San Ramon Women's Club
Kaye Mauzy Wightman
Chevron Corporation

Rancheros (\$5,000-\$10,000)

Rotary Club of San Ramon Valley

Pioneers (\$1,000-\$5,000)

Barbara Jean Agendo
Patricia Boom
Danville / Alamo Garden Club
Cyrina Elissondo
Joel Gelderman
Roy Ginocchio
Al and Ann Kaplan
Jean Ohman
Rotary Club of San Ramon
Carol Rowley
Diane and Don Schinnerer
Mike Sorenson
Sunset Development
Paul and Sheila Truschke
Mary Wohlers

SRHF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Make checks payable to the San Ramon Historic Foundation. Mail to SRHF, P.O. 1, San Ramon, CA, 94583.

Name _____ Date _____

Billing Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Membership Level General, \$35 Ranch Hand , \$50 - \$199 Foreman \$200 - \$999

Method of Payment Check Visa Mastercard Amount of Donation _____

Credit Card No. _____

Security Code _____ Expires On _____

Signature _____

Foundation Updates

El Nido House

Our last issue was published just before the Planning Commission's discussion and vote on the Harlan property rezoning to medium density residential. Ultimately, the Planning Commission and the City Council both approved the zoning change, allowing the owners of the property to proceed with building designs for multiple units on the 0.70 acre.

Subsequently, the property owners agreed to move El Nido. Carol Lopez, Chair of the Parks and Community Services Commission, stated that a committee will be selected to find a suitable new location for the house. Carol Rowley, City Council member, emphasized that "If the house is to be moved then it can only be moved once to a permanent foundation." The city, she continued, does not have the money for a permanent foundation for the house and major renovations, and that money will need to be raised.

Farmers Market

The Foundation investigated sponsoring the Farmers Market at Forest Home Farms again in 2011, but concluded that it was not economically feasible. However, the Market will move this spring to Bishop Ranch on Saturdays and also on a new day, Thursdays. We wish all the hard-working farmers success at their new location.

Volunteers Honored

Volunteers who support Forest Home Farms in a number of different capacities were honored at the Park and Community Service Volunteer Dinner held Thursday, April 21, at the San Ramon Community Center.

Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club

Jean Ohman spoke at the April meeting of the GFWC Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club. She did a slide presentation of highlights from the Farm and the Glass House. The Dublin Historical Society did a similar presentation on the Dublin Historic Park.

Jean emphasized that the wagon and a tractor from the Kolb family were renovated by volunteers from Forest Home Farms who are responsible for our great tractor museum.

New Board Member

Jerry Warren has joined the Foundation Board and brings with him all of his experience in community nonprofits. He also sits on the San Ramon Valley Museum board. We welcome him to the Foundation and look forward to his insights.

Paul Truschke Honored

The San Ramon Rotary Club honored Paul as an "Unsung Hero" for his volunteer work at the Farm and throughout the community. Pat Boom introduced Paul who received a \$200.00 check for the farm.

Art & Wind Festival

This popular annual city event attracts many thousands each Memorial Day weekend. The Foundation has a hot dog booth again this year. Look for us and remember that all the profits from each sale go directly to support Forest Home Farms Historic Park.

Ice Cream Social

Plan Ahead. On August 13th the Foundation will revive the traditional Ice Cream Social on the grounds of Forest Home Farms.

Email Addresses

We are still trying to get members' email addresses to send the newsletter electronically. Please email dall.barley@sbcglobal.net

Re-design of our Website, SRHF.org

Check out the new design of the website courtesy of Kodiak Arts (KodiakArts.com)!



Follow us on Twitter!
Visit twitter.com/srhforg.

Events at Forest Home Farms

2nd Saturday of the every month, 9:00am – 1:00pm
Forest Home Farms Gift Shoppe

The Gift Shoppe at Forest Home Farms is now open featuring new merchandise and a friendly atmosphere. Operated by the Foundation, all profits benefit Forest Home Farms and its programs.

2nd Saturday of every month, 10am, 11am, Noon & 1pm
Glass House Tours

The Glass House at Forest Home Farms Historic Park is now renovated and furnished in period pieces. Come see the home and wander over the bridge to the Boone property to see additional historic buildings. The tours are \$5.00 each. Purchase a same day tour package of both properties for only \$8.00.

Saturday, May 14

A Taste of the Garden at Forest Home Farms Historic Park

Plant and take home rosemary and get tastings from the organic garden. Free admission.

Sunday & Monday, May 29 - 30

Art and Wind Festival, San Ramon Central Park

The Foundation will be again selling hot dogs to benefit Forest Home Farms.

Saturday, June 11

Tractor-rama at Forest Home Farms Historic Park

See the farm's antique tractors and farm equipment in action and take a tractor ride.

Saturday, July 9

Meet the Animals at Forest Home Farms Historic Park

Get to know the animal residents at the farm. Learn about the sheep, horses and chickens.

Saturday, August 13, 10:00am to 3:00pm

Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social

There will be live entertainment, interpretive exhibits and sheep dog demonstrations. Everyone gets a ticket for one free scoop of ice cream. Purchase hot dogs, drinks, seconds on ice cream. Wear old fashioned attire to add to the fun. Free Admission.



SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

President Jean Ohman

Vice President Dall Barley

Secretary Carol Lopez

Treasurer Mary Wohlers

Board members

Pat Boom

Dale Halterman

Donna Kerger

Mike McHugh, Jr.

Carol Rowley

Paul Truschke

Jerry Warren

Sue Yura

Newsletter Editor Sue Yura



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