



The Sentinel

Volume I Issue 2

Newsletter of the San Ramon Historic Foundation

Fall 2006

Lecture Series has begun

The SRHF and the San Ramon Library Foundation have partnered to provide the community with a free series of lectures on the history of the San Ramon Valley. The first lecture was given by Beverly Lane, Curator of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Her informative description of the evolution of agriculture from the Indians to suburbia provided the audience with a clear picture of the valley and its agricultural history. The lecture was given at Forest Home Farms in the tractor barn, the perfect venue for the subject.

Currently, two additional lectures are scheduled. **Early Life of Native Americans**, with speaker Andrew Galvan, will be presented on Novem-

ber 9th, 7:00 pm at the San Ramon Library. He will explore the life of California Indians who lived in the San Francisco East Bay.

On January 18th at 7:00pm, Dr. Gregorio Mora-Torres will discuss **Spanish-Mexican History**. He will examine missionary activities, early settlement, land grants and California Anglo-American interaction. This lecture will be held at the Dougherty Station Community Center. The valley's history is a great story, and our knowledgeable speakers will provide all of us with a new way to look at the San Ramon Valley. Come and gain new insights to share with your children, or for teachers, your students.

Seventh Annual Victorian Tea



The Afternoon Victorian Tea has been a premier city event for the past six years. This year the San Ramon Historic Foundation sponsored the Tea.

It is no longer a City event. Everyone is urged to wear a Victorian costume and/or hat. Prizes are awarded to the best dressed. This year the well deserved prize went to Barbara Phipps, a long time resident of San Ramon. She made the 2 piece outfit and hat that dazzled the judges.

With 200 guests attending the tea this year, the foundation raised approximately \$6,000 to benefit Forest Home Farms. In addition, the foundation made and sold Victorian hats, etched ornaments, and videos of Ruth Boone talking about life on Forest Home Farms.

All the food is now catered, and each year the tea committee decides on a souvenir representative of the Victorian era for each guest to take home. This year, guests were given Hershey chocolate bars, which were introduced in 1900, with a label telling about Ruth Boone.

Entertainment has varied from a display and presentation on hand made quilts, to this year's presentation, performances by two Barber Shop style singing groups.

Each year the community looks forward to Mrs. Boone's Afternoon Victorian Tea. Hosted in her memory, it recognizes the great legacy that she donated to the City of San Ramon, her 16 acre family farm, Forest Home Farms. We hope it will continue to be a popular event.

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Holiday on the Farm!

December 3, 12 - 3 pm

An old-fashioned holiday party with caroling, ornament making, refreshments and much more means fun for the whole family! A Victorian Santa will be at the event and the Puppet Company will present The Nutcracker. The city would appreciate pre-registration. The foundation will be selling special gift items.



A horse is a horse

...even if it is a fiberglass life size replica. A dashing new draft horse, standing at 5ft. 8in., has recently arrived at Forest Home Farms and will be harnessed to a vintage corn planter that is being restored. The currently unnamed horse is being carefully scrutinized by visiting 3rd grade classes who are suggesting names. The name will be picked by the end of the year.

The foundation in collaboration with the San Ramon Rotary Club purchased this great new addition to the farm. The SRHF appreciates the Club's support and especially Bill Clarkson for helping us lasso our new horse!!

Harvest Festival at the Farm!

It's Harvest Festival Time at Forest Home Farms! Join us for a fall celebration on Saturday, October 28 from 10-3. There will be a pumpkin patch, lots of scarecrows, a children's craft area and a petting zoo for the kids. For the grown ups, watch expert crafters demonstrate their talent; including spinners, weavers, woodworkers, woodcarvers and quilters. Try your hand at wheat winnowing, or taste some apples.



Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions, and Tassajara 4-H will show off their latest projects. There will be sheep dog demos too! From noon till 2:00 the Whiskey Brothers Bluegrass Band will entertain. Craft vendors will be selling their wares in the tractor barn -- while you're checking out the crafts, take a look at the tractors! The farm has about 30 restored tractors for you to see. The foundation will sell pizza donated by Frankie Johnnie and Luigi Too, and our Gift Shop in a Box will be there for early holiday gifts. Proceeds from all our sales directly benefit Forest Home Farms. Entry fee is \$3 per person. Don't miss this fun family event - come on down to the farm!

We need active members in our foundation who will help support our fund raising efforts with their time and talents. Contact us at www.srhf.org.

Art Show in the Barn **Sunday, November 19th, 11am to 4pm** **Presented by** **San Ramon Historic Foundation**

The foundation is sponsoring an art show at Forest Home Farms. The show features California Country Scenes in oil, watercolor, and photography, for sale at a wide range of prices. Stroll through the Tractor Barn and enjoy art featuring the agricultural history of San Ramon and surrounding Valleys displayed amongst the farm's restored tractors. Participating artists will be selected by George Holmes, an art instructor at Mt. Diablo Adult Education.

Purchase that perfect addition for your home or a treasured holiday gift. Fifty percent of each purchase will go directly to the foundation to support Forest Home Farms and its programs. There is no entrance fee, but donations will be gratefully accepted.

Support from the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club (D/SRWC)

History is important to the entire San Ramon Valley and the D/SRWC has come forward to help our foundation. On November 12, the Women's Club is holding their annual November Holiday Fantasy at the Marriott Hotel. This is a popular fund raising event and the club has agreed to divide the monies raised between the David Glass House and the Dublin Heritage Center.

Work is currently being completed in the Glass House to restore it as a Historic House Museum, the only one in the San Ramon Valley. Half the funds raised during the Holiday Fantasy will be used to furnish one of the rooms in the house. This is very exciting news for our historic foundation, and we are so grateful to the Women's Club for their support.

The Women's Club is a significant contributor to community needs in both San Ramon and Dublin. Their many projects and fund raising events have supported both cities in many ways. Some of our foundation board members are also members of the Women's Club. We welcome the individual and collective efforts of both groups in serving our two cities.