



The Sentinel

Volume II Issue 1

Newsletter of the San Ramon Historic Foundation

Summer 2007

Farmers Market a big success

The Farmers Market at Forest Home Farms has been a great addition to our community. Each Saturday from 9:00am -1:00pm local growers and **businesses** sell produce, specialty items and yummy food to eat in the food court complete with music. There are too many booths to list, but look for fresh flowers, local honey from Orinda, fresh corn from **G & S Farms** in Brentwood, blueberries from Apple Hill, **Dungeness** crabs, swordfish and salmon from Santa Cruz, and a free massage. Next to the Foundation table look for **Brittany Crepes** or try another favorite-- **Crepe Brioche & Bakery** of San Francisco. Try **Mi Fiesta** for enchiladas, tamales and fresh home made salsa or look for old world Italian sausage. Visit **Beckman's Bakery** from Santa Cruz and go next door for a fine Italian espresso. In August, look for handcrafted tables, wine racks and other items made from wine barrels. In the fall there will be apples, cider and syrup from **Apple Hill**.

A free dog sitting service by **Woof** is located as you walk in the main entrance by the sheep barn.

All of these vendors are situated among the trees and along historical buildings. There are a few public information booths such as

our own Foundation table. And at 11:00am everyone is invited to a free tour of the historic site which includes a large barn full of re-stored tractors.

The Farmers Market was voted best new farmers market in the area by **Diablo Magazine**. Every week locals come for the first time and are amazed by its size, quality and the beautiful location.

Reminder!

The **Victorian Tea** is selling out early. The afternoon tea with sweets and savories will be held Sunday, September 9 from 1:00 to 4:00pm. in the Fountain Room at the San Ramon Valley Community Center.

In the true spirit of the Victorian era, attendees are encouraged to come in Victorian dress and/or hats. Prizes will be given for the best costume and best hat. Victorian hats will be sold along with other gift items and a video of Ruth Boone telling her own story. To attend, order your tickets as soon as possible. Go to www.srhf.org for a form or call (925) 828-0586.

Farmers Market Bag Sales are steady

After a one-hour sellout the first day of the Farmers Market, demand is still strong for the canvas bag with the Farmers Market logo. We recently received an additional shipment of beige bags. The bags have deep sides and a flat bottom to accommodate large quantities of produce.

The logo is an artist's rendition of Ruth Boone as a young woman. Ruth Boone donated her remaining 16 acres of Forest Home Farms to the city in 1997. The lovely rendition along with the produce and flowers all set off by the beautiful golden hills around San Ramon makes a bright and lively addition to the bag. We are also selling posters of the logo for the Farmers Market.

Ask about our Glass pieces also. The \$10.00 donation for each glass piece will be used to help furnish the Glass house. When the interior of the house is completed, Glass **piece holders** will be invited to a special showing of the unfurnished home. The glass pieces will be used to make stepping stones for the garden.

Foundation receives grant

Board member Kathy Southern applied for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Fund grant for Forest Home Farms to restore creek area wildlife. The application was accepted; the funds, administered by Contra Costa County, allow California native plants to be planted along the creek corridor on the Glass House side of the property.

This grant continues the work to restore the whole creek corridor. The Boone side of the creek is certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a backyard wildlife habitat. The area has plants to feed and provide protection for animals and the seasonal creek for water.

Lecture Series

The Foundation and the Library Foundation sponsored a series of lectures this year. Each lecture focused on a different aspect of San Ramon Valley history. October 2006 featured Andrew Galvan discussing the life of California Native Americans in the San Francisco East Bay. In January Dr. Gregorio Mora-Torres discussed Spanish-Mexican History, and in March Dr. Bill Harlan discussed his family's migration to California. The May program was a discussion by Rob Church, a descendent of the Glass Family.

The final event on July 12 is a panel discussion given by long time San Ramon residents. The tentative panel is: Phil Henry grew up on Henry Ranch; Roxanne Lindsay is a member of the Weideman family; Jan Smith Gerhart lived on the Peters' Ranch at Fosteria Way, and Gilbert Peixoto grew up in the area on his family property on Norris Canyon Road. Sanford Johnson, a local history buff, joins the panel along with Jean Livermore whose husband was the last superintendent of Bishop Ranch.

The Foundation plans to continue the lecture series in the fall. Check our website www.srhf.org in September for a schedule of upcoming lectures.



L-R: Carol Lopez, Mary Wohlers, Delilah Vanderpool and Stephanie Herscu at the Farmers Market SRHF and City Information Booth

SRHF Officers Elected

The new slate of officers was submitted by the nominating committee and all were approved. The foundation is happy to announce that all the current officers agreed to run and all were voted into office again.

The officers are Jean Ohman, President; Sue Yura, Vice President; Dee Touhy, Secretary; Mary Wohlers, Treasurer. Other board members are Pat Boom, Dall Bailey, Mike Blackford, Doris Kingsley, Carol Lopez and Kathy Southern. In addition other community members are committee heads for our website, publicity, membership, communications and foundation events.

You will see some board members at the Farmers Market every Saturday selling canvas market bags and talking about city and foundation events. Stop by and say hello.

Movie Night

August 4 at 6:00pm is the magic date and time when *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* will be shown at Forest Home Farms. **Preceding** this full length feature are some episodes of *The Little Rascals*. Period dress attire is encouraged and there will be Spanky, Alfalfa and Shirley Temple look-alike contests.

Pre-registration admission is \$10.00 per person. Contact the City of San Ramon at 973-3200, or visit www.SanRamonRecGuide.com. At the door admission is \$13.00 per person.

Pioneer Picnic Scheduled

The San Ramon Historic Foundation will host the annual Pioneer Picnic at Forest Home Farms **in early** fall. This invitation-only event is a wonderful get-together for all the old-timers and people who have grown up here in the Valley. Each pioneer family brings a dish to share and lots of stories to tell. The Foundation provides the drinks and loves to hear the stories.

Memorial and Milestone Donations

Memorial and Milestone Donations (such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, or significant accomplishments), are a great way to honor special people in our lives. Memorials for loved ones, especially long time residents and pioneer families, commemorate their many contributions to the San Ramon Valley. Your gift in their name represents a living memorial to their memory.

Milestone donations are made in honor of family or friends reaching a significant birthday, anniversary, or other significant occasion. It's a gift of recognition that lives on through the years.

Donations can be made to Forest Home Farms, or designated specifically to the Glass House. These programs are fairly new and the Historic Foundation is still developing ways to recognize these gifts to Forest Home Farms. We welcome any thoughts you might have in making this program meaningful.

San Ramon Historical Foundation

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