



THE BARN BURNER



SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

Dedicated to the preservation of San Ramon's early farms and homesteads

A Message From The Board

The San Ramon Historic Foundation is dedicated to preserving and sharing the agricultural history and pioneer life in the San Ramon Valley. Forest Home Farms is San Ramon's only Historic Park and is registered with the National Register of Historic Places. The Foundation is very proud of all the members, staff and volunteers who make this wonderful 16-acre park come alive to visitors.

The Park is open six days a week and visitors can take a self-guided audio tour of all the special buildings and sites at the Farm. Enjoy the beautiful setting and natural environment. School tours are offered for the children in our Valley! They arrive with their teachers and parents for a wonderful day of exploring the farm and learning about life in the early 1900s. Special tours are offered at the Sheep Barn, where students learn about sheep shearing and preparing the wool for many different uses. The Antique Tractor Barn is a favorite of all the students as they view gigantic tractors. These tractors are in pristine condition and still run, thanks to our tractor volunteers.

Every Saturday at the farm has a theme. Volunteers help young visitors make crafts and learn about life on the farm in the olden days. These themed presentations with hands-on activities are free and offered every Saturday from 11AM to 2PM. Tours of the Glass House

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Antique Farm Engines

Ron Frye



Hit-and-Miss-governed Engine

wood, splitting logs, powering shop equipment, making ice cream, washing clothes, or wherever pulley-powered equipment was found on the farm.

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Before gasoline-powered tractors arrived on American farms in significant numbers, hundreds of thousands of gasoline engines were already at work there, significantly impacting the amount of work previously done by human labor or beasts of burden. These engines first appeared around 1872 and were used throughout the 1930s, mainly for pumping the lifeblood of any farm... water. But they were also used in myriad other ways, including the grinding of grain, elevating grain to the top of silos, separating cream from milk, churning butter, sawing



Throttle-governed Engine

Board

(cont'd. from pg. 1)

Museum are available every Saturday at 1PM (\$5 fee, credit card only) The Gift Shoppe is also open every Saturday for unique gifts and toys. So come on out and support our Farm and have a delightful experience in your own city.

The San Ramon Historic Foundation urges you to become a member of the Foundation! Every dollar supports the upkeep of the Farm! We just finished the exterior of the Ole 1850s Barn and now have enough money to complete the interior exhibits of this fabulous Barn. Our next project will be updating the Sheep Barn.

Our next event is OKTOBERFEST on October 20, 2018 from 11AM to 4PM. Featuring Olympia Fields Brass Band, Golden Gate Bavarian Dancers, Dachshund Races and four Breweries! Join the FUN, food, music and dancing!

Carol J. Rowley

President of the Foundation Board

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

OKTOBERFEST 
October 20, 2018

 **HOLIDAYS ON THE FARM**
December 14, 2018

CRAB FEED 
January 26, 2019

Celebrate Oktoberfest at Forest Home Farms



Our annual OKTOBERFEST event will be held on Saturday, October 20, from 11AM to 4PM at Forest Home Farms Historic Park. Bring the family and enjoy a delicious German themed lunch! Tastings will be provided by Morgan Territory Brewery, Danville Brewery, Altamont Brewery and Das Brew. Entertainment will include the Golden Gate Bavarian Dancers, the Olympic Fields Brass Band and a return of the popular Dachshund Races. There will be lots of fun activities for all ages!

Advance ticket sales are now available online through PayPal at srhf.org. Adult: \$25 includes lunch, beer stein and 1 beer; Ages 13-20: \$15.00 includes lunch and root beer; Ages 6-12: \$10 includes lunch and root beer; Ages 5 and under FREE. Day of the event sales = Adult: \$30.

If you have a Doxie (Dachshund) that you would like to enter in the races — visit srhf.org for an entry form. A prize will be awarded for the final race. Costumes are encouraged! Funds will go toward repairs to the Sheep Barn.

Remember, volunteers are always needed at all our events, so you're welcome to join in the fun!

Appreciation for Three Generous New Grants



Thank whooo?
Thank you!

The San Ramon Historic Foundation has been the lucky recipient of three new grants for 2018! The **Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley** is funding an immersive, self-guided audio tour of the farm. Visitors can visit the kiosk near the Welcome Center and pick up a tour brochure explaining how to access an audio tour of the site via cell-phone. This project is an extension of our efforts to make the rich history of the San Ramon Valley accessible to people of all ages.

Formed in 1956, the **Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley** is a service organization dedicated to supporting the community through volunteerism and grants. For more information, visit www.srvkiwanis.org.

The **Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club** and the **Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Foundation** are helping give elementary school kids an interactive and memorable experience of early farm life. For the past 13 years, almost every 3rd grade student in the area has visited the farm and participated in hands-on activities to learn about local

(See Grants cont'd on pg. 3)

Grants

(cont'd. from pg. 2)

history and life in the San Ramon Valley during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The farm programs, serving approximately 3,200 Tri-Valley students annually from both public and private schools, would not be possible without funding from these wonderful organizations dedicated to serving our community.

The **Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club** was founded in 1965 and has participated in many service projects over the years. Its grant program began years ago in the spirit of its mission to support programs which benefit the youth, families and senior citizens of our community. For more information, visit www.dsrwomensclub.org.

The **Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Foundation's** mission is to raise money and make charitable contributions directed at youth and education within the San Ramon area and/or California, as well as causes which alleviate suffering in a time of crisis. For more information, visit www.dvsrrotaryfoundation.org.

Naked Ladies at the Farm?

Joanne Ashmore

If you hurry down to Forest Home Farms, you may catch a glimpse of the Belladonna Lilies, or Naked Ladies (the nickname given to this beautiful flower because of their lack of leaves during their bloom) blooming in front of the Boone House. It is very possible that Travis's mother Minnie planted these beautiful lilies, as they were very popular in gardens all over California in the early 1900s. In fact, if you drive around any open area of Northern California during the month of August you stand a good chance of seeing them blooming alongside the road or lining a driveway. These hardy little pink beauties take very little care, which is one reason they have survived all these years in an area of the Farm that doesn't get much water.

Take care not to damage these Victorian relics when you park or walk in front of the Boone House. Given a chance, they will continue to reproduce and bloom for many years to come.



This gorgeous flower has many identities: Belladonna Lily, Naked Ladies, or Belladonna Amaryllis. This plant produces green, leafy growth that emerges in spring and dies back by mid-summer. In late summer, leafless stems produce elegant, pink flowers.

Farm Engines

(cont'd. from pg. 1)

Forest Home Farms has a small collection of hit-and-miss and throttle-governed farm engines, most located in the tractor museum. These engines range from 5/8 to 6 horsepower. They are typically made of cast iron, generally have one cylinder, two large flywheels, and look very much like the steam engines they replaced. Power is taken from the engine via a pulley and a flat, wide canvas or leather belt; the other end of the belt is attached to a pulley of the equipment being driven.

Next time you visit the farm, be sure to check out these unique machines. If you're lucky, you might even get a demonstration.

So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Adieu



Two of our fabulous SRHF Board Members are leaving us. **Barbara Cipolla** is moving back East as her husband has accepted a new job there. **Tony King** is moving to Southern California as his wife has accepted a new position with Chevron! Barbara and Tony are very positive and productive members of our team. We are going to miss them so much, but wish them the best in their new communities! There will always be a place for them at Forest Home Farms!!

COMING SOON!

September

Sept 1 – Closed - Labor Day
Sept 8 – Apple tasting/Juice making
Sept 15 – Farmers! Start your engines
Sept 22 – Weaving & Wool
Sept 29 – Candle Making

October

Oct 6 – Pumpkins & Gourds
Oct 13 – Flower Pressing
Oct 20 – Oktoberfest
presented by SRHF
Oct 27 – Trick or Treat on the Farm

November

Nov 3 – Rug Weaving
Nov 10 – Soap Making
Nov 17 – Jam & Bread
Nov 24 – Closed/Thanksgiving

For details about these events, see the SR Parks & Comm. Svcs. Activity Guide

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FACEBOOK: San Ramon Historic Foundation



TWITTER: @srhforg



EMAIL: sanramonhf@gmail.com



President: Carol Rowley
Vice President: Shirley Ernest
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Treasurer: Mary Wohlers
Pat Boom
Robert Downum
Barbara Cipolla
Tony King
Rene Kullick
Newsletter: Camille Thompson

Physical Address
19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd.
San Ramon, CA 94583
925.973.3284
Mailing Address:
SRHF
P.O. Box 1
San Ramon, CA 94583