



SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

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

A Message From The Board

You are cordially invited to attend the 7th annual OKTOBERFEST ON OCTOBER 5, 2019, presented by the San Ramon Historic Foundation. This popular event is open to the public and takes place at FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Attendance grows every year, as it is a fun family event. All funds raised go directly back to preserve the Park.

OKTOBERFEST activities feature the Golden Gate Bavarian Dancers, Dachshund Races, and music by the Olympic Fields Brass Band. We appreciate these talented musicians donating their time to many of our events for over SEVEN years!

A delicious German themed lunch is included, and four different breweries provide the beer. Wine and root beer is also available. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$30 for adults,

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Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!



OKTOBERFEST
October 5, 2019

HOLIDAYS ON THE FARM
December 14, 2019



CRAB FEED *FRIDAY!!!*
January 24, 2020

Volunteer Docents Bring Forest Home Farms to Life

Suzy McCreary

During the school year, third grade students experience what life was like over 100 years ago, right here in the San Ramon Valley. Docents play an essential role in bringing the farm to life. Dressed in overalls, long skirts, or an apron, the docents play a character to help the students experience farm life.

"Grandpa" guides the students on an historic tour of the farm and teaches about hand powered tools used long ago. "Grandma" explains the chores children would do to help out around the farm, teaches the students how to darn a sock, and treats the students to a taste of homemade butter. "Canner" wows the students by showing the critical process of preserving food. "Gardener" harvests fresh fruits and vegetables for the students to taste and teaches the students about organic gardening.

The third grade field trip program could not exist without the dedication of community volunteers. We are grateful to have a group of kind, patient, and enthusiastic docents who create a memorable experience for the third grade students. We are always looking for new volunteers to join in on the fun at the farm! If you would like more information please contact Suzy McCreary at smccreary@sanramon.ca.gov or call 925-973-3284.



Volunteer docents, "Grandma," Terry Hodges and "Grandpa," Larry Leedham

Board

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(includes lunch, beer stein and one beer), \$15 for ages 13-20 (includes lunch and root beer), \$10 for ages 6-12 (includes lunch and root beer), and under 6yrs, FREE. Advance Ticket Sales: register online through PayPal at www.srhf.org. Beer tastings also available for purchase. Mark your calendar for October 5, 2019, and support San Ramon's only Historic Park!

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 registered with the National Registry of Historic Places and many of the buildings were built between the 1850s and 1900. All funds raised at events and annual memberships go directly to preserving this wonderful park.

I hope to see you at OKTOBERFEST!

Carol J. Rowley

President of the Foundation Board

Olympia Fields Brass Band

Dee Tuohy

Olympia Fields Brass started about 15 years ago as a quintet named Men in Brass, formed to play at local churches. Dan Rom was our founder/organizer, and our rehearsals take place in his garage. 13 years ago Dan was kind enough to invite me to join the group. I had no problem with our name but when we would perform, audience members would accuse the guys of being disrespectful to the "nice lady playing the French Horn." It took us about another 5 years to come up with a name we could all agree upon. Since we rehearse at Dan's house on Olympia Fields in San Ramon, the new name just fit.

As our group played more multi-hour performances it became obvious we now needed two players on each part. We now have 4 trumpets, 2 trombones, 2 French Horns and our one solid tuba. All of us are current or past members of the San Ramon Symphonic Band. As a group we decided long ago that we would not charge a fee for our playing. Our sound is our joint "gift" to the community. We truly play for the love of it and thank the City of San Ramon and the SRHF for giving us so many opportunities to share our music.



Appreciation for These Generous Grants



The San Ramon Historic Foundation extends its gratitude for these generous grants.

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, *(See Grants cont'd on pg. 3)*

Grants

(cont'd. from pg. 2)

almost every 3rd grade student in the area has visited the farm and participated in hands-on activities to learn about local 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 **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.

Your Dollars at Work!

Ever wonder how your membership dues and event attendance fees are used?

The San Ramon Historic Foundation has contributed over \$400,000 to projects, programs and activities at Forest Home Farms Historic Park, from the Foundation's inception in early 2005, through the end of July, 2019. Many of the major expenditures are listed here.

By far, the largest contribution went to the Ole 1850s Barn restoration. That project totaled \$188,000. An additional \$1,900 was spent on the the barn. If you haven't had a chance to tour this amazing structure, please be an excellent addition to the property.



The amount donated for fiberglass cows inside sure to do so soon. It's

Restoration and furnishings in the David Glass House museum totaled \$112,000. Attention to detail was paramount in keeping with the authenticity of the era.

Your dollars supported the education programs in the amount of \$23,000, including both third grade at Forest Home Farms and school tours of the David Glass House.

Additional expenditures included \$17,000 for irrigation and plantings at Oak Creek; \$12,000 toward equipment and supplies to support Farm programs; \$11,000 for furnishings, supplies and window treatments at the Boone House and Welcome Center.

A tractor storage shed/tent, needed to shelter the tractors previously stored in the Ole Barn, came in at \$4,500.

The fee for the Farm cell phone tour cost \$3,100.

The horse display in the Walnut barn totaled \$2,600.

\$3,000 went to lamb pens and sheep pasture fencing, and \$1,700 for a new chicken coop.

Your continuing support of the San Ramon Historic Foundation touches every aspect of the property. Thank you for helping to make Forest Home Farms Historic Park an invaluable addition to our community.

Glass House Special Events

October- Victorian Mourning

The Victorians created elaborate rituals around the passing of a loved one. Death was considered part of life's texture, giving it essential meaning. Visit the Glass House on select Saturdays in October at 1 p.m. for a special one-hour docent led tour exploring how the Glass family honored the dearly departed in the late 1800s. The House will be decorated as a Victorian house in mourning. Docents will discuss proper Victorian mourning etiquette for home décor, clothing, funerals and social behavior, as well as superstitions, séances, mementos and a few other popular practices of the time.



December- Victorian Holidays

Visit the Glass House for a special holiday one-hour docent led tour on Saturdays in December at 1 p.m. See a magical Victorian holiday come to life with beautiful holiday decorations. Children can visit the activity room to make their own holiday calling card to take home.

COMING SOON!

September

Sept 7 – Up Close with
Animals
Sept 14 – Apple tasting/
Juice Making
Sept 21 – Tractor Day
Sept 28 – Soap Making

October

Oct 5 – OKTOBERFEST
presented by SRHF
Oct 12 – Pumpkins & Gourds
Oct 20 – Rope Making & Hay
Hoisting
Oct 26 – Trick or Treat on the
Farm

November

Nov 2 – Weaving & Wool
Nov 9 – Beautiful Kernal
of Corn
Nov 16 – Candle Making
Nov 23 – Bread & Jam

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

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