



THE BARN BURNER



SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

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

Camille Thompson-Editor



A Message From The Board

San Ramon weather conditions have been extreme recently. Thunder and lightning, and many fires in the Bay Area have caused smoke to fill our valley. And despite having to cancel events due to the pandemic, Forest Home Farms must continue its ongoing maintenance. Hats off to our San Ramon Parks Department and all their employees for preserving our parks to enjoy for rest and recuperation during this unsettling time.

Every dollar the Foundation earns is used for upkeep of the Farm and its programs. This year is especially difficult, due to Sheltering in Place and directives from our Health Department. We must rely on membership dues and donations, as all our major events, so far—Sheep Shearing and Oktoberfest—had to be canceled. If you have NOT paid your annual dues, or would like to give a special donation in addition, we would be grateful for your support.

Some of our ongoing projects include:

Meat Locker restoration, Garden Area expansion and restoration, painting of the Glass House, and Agents of Discovery Program (See *Calling All Secret Agents* below).

Rene Kullick, our Board's Grant Writer, keeps us in the loop in search for additional funds for projects. If your company would like to be a sponsor or has a grant opportunity, please let us know. We would appreciate hearing from you.

We have had a lot of excitement at the farm over these past few weeks! Four baby lambs have been born. The first ones are twin females, named Katesby and Cocoa. The male is named Lamborghini and the newest is a female named Charlotte.

Five more lambs will be arriving in late summer and fall! They'll all need names. For a chance to get in on the fun of naming the new lambs, please enter the contest. See contest details on Pg. 2.

Hope to see you at the Farm!

Carol J. Rowley
President, San Ramon Historic Foundation



Calling All Secret Agents

Looking for a new activity to enjoy with your kids or grandkids? How about one that takes you out of the house, to a historic park setting, and allows for safe social distancing?

Enter **Agents of Discovery** geo-caching app. When app users visit the Farm, they assume the role of a secret agent on a mission to complete site specific geo-triggered challenges. Each challenge features facts about Forest Home Farms Historic Park, and farm life in general.

Offered for free by the developers during *Parks Make Life Better Month*, in July, Forest Home Farms experienced a strong increase in foot traffic. With close to 700 participants between Forest Home Farms and Rancho San Ramon Community Park, San Ramon is ranked number two in the state for highest rate of use!

The San Ramon Historic Foundation is so pleased with the uptick in exposure to Forest Home Farms that they have paid for three additional months of use at the historic park. This will increase the number of geo-cached sites and expand the footprint of the currently mapped area. The package also allows for continuous updates to challenges, so those who

(see Agents on pg. 3)



Julie's twins, Katesby and Cocoa

Little Lynn and her ewe, Charlotte



Sarah and her ram lamb, "Lamb"orghini



!!! NAME THE LAMBS CONTEST !!!

Have a little fun helping us name the new lambs, due late summer & fall, while supporting Forest Home Farms Historical Park.

Your donation of \$20 entitles you to submit a name. You can enter as many names as you like. Each individual name must be accompanied by a \$20 donation.

All entries will be submitted to the SRHF Board. Each Board member will select five names. The votes will be tallied, and the entries with the most votes will be the winners.

A list of contest winners and the winning names will be posted at the Farm and on the website, www.SRHF.org.



Make your check payable to:
The San Ramon Historic Foundation
Mail to:
SRHF, PO Box 1, San Ramon, CA 94583



BE CREATIVE!

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO DIRECTLY BACK TO THE FARM.



Agents

(cont'd. from pg. 1)

have already played will be encouraged to come back and try their skill at new quizzes and artificial reality tasks.

Come by and try out the app for yourself during our current park hours, Monday through Friday, 10:00am to 4:00pm from now through October. We hope you have fun and learn something along the way!

(Jessica Reaber & Dall Barley contributors)



Appreciation for These Generous Grants

Thank you!



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

For the third year in a row, the **Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley** is funding an interactive, self-guided audio tour of the farm with the use of a cell phone. The tour has had favorable comments from visitors regarding the historical information and the ease of use. This grant allows us to continue the program and update the audio tour as restored buildings and items are added to the farm for public viewing. Visitors pick up a brochure explaining how to access the audio tour at the Welcome Center kiosk and are able to tour the farm at their own leisure. This program is an extension of our efforts to make the rich history of the San Ramon Valley accessible to people of all ages, and we are grateful for the continued support through this grant.

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.

For the past four years, the **Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Foundation** has helped give elementary school kids an interactive and memorable experience of early farm life. Once again, the Rotary has granted funding for the next school year. For the past 14 years, pre-school through third grade students in the area have 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 student farm programs, serving approximately 3,200 Tri-Valley students annually from both public and private schools, would not be possible without funding from this wonderful organization 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.

Support our Local Businesses

During these challenging times, it is important to support our local businesses as they struggle to stay afloat. One way is to treat yourself and your family by ordering takeout meals from local restaurants.

We are all in this together. Let's do our part to help each other.



COMING SOON!

Due to the current uncertain times prompting last-minute program changes, please visit the City of San Ramon website for the most current information about Saturday events.

http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/our_city/departments_and_divisions/parks_community_services

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