

THE BARN BURNER



SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION

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

Carol Lombardi, Editor

FOREST HOME FARMS HISTORIC PARK

Located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, San Ramon, Forest Home Farms is the current focus of the San Ramon Historic Foundation's efforts. The property was bequeathed to the City of San Ramon in the 1990s by its owner, Ruth Quayle Boone, with the understanding that it become a city park.

It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm, closed Sunday and Monday. Family groups are welcome to come and enjoy the rural farm atmosphere.

Visit www.srhf.org to learn about activities and events at Forest Home Farms. More information on tours and Farm Exploration Kits may be found in the SAN RAMON PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES GUIDE, at www.sanramon.ca.gov.

A Message from The Board

The San Ramon Historic Foundation hosted the Pioneer Picnic September 18. It was a glorious day and many of our pioneer families attended! Hats off to Julia Oseland and her team for organizing the event. Everyone had a fun time, and it was delightful to hear all the colorful stories of past years. Additional hats off to Pat Boom for interviewing each family and to Mark Harrigan, volunteer videographer, who taped each family's response. You can view the video (with subtitles if you wish) on our website at <https://srhf.org/index.php/pioneer-potluck-picnic/>

The Oktoberfest was held on Saturday, October 1, and the weather was beautiful. A savory German lunch was catered by A Tasteful Affair and enjoyed by all (especially the delicious potato salad and tasty bratwurst)! The Olympic Fields Brass Band - composed of musicians from age 23 to 93 years young - played lively polkas throughout the day. Their enthusiasm and love of music is truly a gift for any audience. Hans (with Das Brew) led two enthusiastic games with guests: a beer stein-hoisting competition (How long can you hold a full glass stein with your arm outstretched at shoulder level?) and a bratwurst tossing competition. Both games had onlookers cheering and yelling in support! The brewery, wine, and cider booths were extremely busy throughout the sunny day. Patsy and her sheepherding dogs – a perennial favorite for all ages – enthralled us with their skillful maneuvers for two hours. The gathering offered something for everyone, and it was great to see families touring the Glass House, buying mementos at the Gift Shoppe, and visiting the Tractor Museum!

Our next event is Holiday on the Farm! on December 10th. Come on down and enjoy hot chocolate and other goodies the Foundation will be selling while you enjoy all the holiday activities the City of San Ramon provides. It is a wonderful family event, so bring your family and invite your neighbors too!

SAVE the DATE: Later this month look for details on our website about our annual Crab Feed taking place January 28, 2023, in a new location – the San Ramon Community Center on Alcosta Blvd.!

We have **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** with the San Ramon Historic Foundation in the following areas: marketing, communication, and newsletter (*Barn Burner*). We also seek financially skilled folks for treasurer and bookkeeper positions. Please send an email with your area of interest to sanramonhf@gmail.com.

Happy Holidays to all volunteers, members, and sponsors!

Carol J. Rowley, President, San Ramon Historic Foundation

Membership News

It's Time for Our Annual Membership Drive!

Julia Oseland, Vice President, and Membership

Are you ready to continue to make a difference? Then it's time to renew your membership. Becoming a member of the San Ramon Historic Foundation is a great way to stay connected with our region's rich past. Choose your own membership level – General, Ranch Hand, Pioneer, Life, The 1600 Club, or The 1877 Club. Reminders are coming soon in the mail.

Hurry - the deadline to renew is December 31, 2022!

Membership benefits include 10% discount on purchases at the Forest Home Farms Gift Shoppe, a quarterly Foundation newsletter mailed to your home, and free admission to the Summer Speaker Series.

TWO SIMPLE WAYS TO RENEW:

Mail a check to SRHF, P.O. Box 1, San Ramon, CA 94583

OR

Use PayPal to renew on our website – www.SRHF.org

The San Ramon Historic Foundation is a 501(c) (3) non-profit. Memberships are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information on membership, benefits, donations, and sponsorships, please visit our website, SRHF.org.

Thank you for helping us preserve the history of pioneer life in the San Ramon Valley.

News on Grants

The San Ramon Historic Foundation Is Grateful for Three Grants Received in 2022

By Renee Kullick

The **Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley** is funding an immersive, self-guided audio tour of Forest Home Farms. Visitors can visit the kiosk near the Welcome Center and pick up a tour brochure explaining how to access **Otocast** via their cellphones. This project is an extension of our efforts to make the rich history of the San Ramon Valley accessible to people of all ages when the Farm is open.

The **Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Foundation** and **Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund** are helping give elementary school children an interactive and memorable experience of early farm life at Forest Home Farms. This year, almost every third-grade student in the area will have visited the Farm to participate 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 3,500 Tri-Valley students annually from both public and private schools, would not be possible without funding from organizations such as DVRSF and TVNP Fund, which are so dedicated to serving our community.

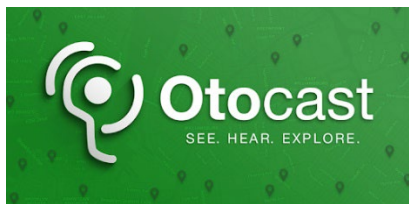


Photo credit: City of San Ramon

Gratitude & Appreciation

Thank you, Dall Barley, for your amazing service to Forest Home Farms and the San Ramon Historic Foundation and congratulations on being awarded 2022 Citizen of the Year.

Dall Barley started volunteering at Forest Home Farms in 2005 as “grandpa” and has been a constant presence and support for over 17 years. He has served as “grandpa” for the third-grade tours, a garden docent, a docent for the third-grade tours at City Hall, and a docent for the Spirit of the West exhibit for the Blackhawk Museum. He also applied his many skills and passions to other areas at the Farm! He helped pick up donations for the Glass House, planted the orchard alongside the Glass House - four walnut trees and four pecan trees - to represent the orchards that David Glass planted, and installed irrigation lines along Oak Creek.



In 2006, Dall joined the Foundation Board and started handling our financial books. He added technical features that allowed the Foundation to process payments at events and the Gift Shoppe. In 2008, he chaired the Sheep Shearing event when the Foundation took it over. Dall co-chaired the event for the next couple of years, until a great team of volunteers stepped up to manage it. In 2022, over 2,000 people attended this annual crowd pleaser. He worked with Pat Boom to create an operating manual for the Gift Shoppe and recently helped recruit new management for the Gift Shoppe.

He has been an exceptional treasurer for the Foundation but feels that it is time for someone new to take over to keep things fresh and current. We will miss his active involvement, and we will always seek his advice for promoting and enhancing Forest Home Farms!

*Wishing each of you a happy & healthy holiday season
and a prosperous new year!*

What's Coming in 2023

SAN RAMON HISTORIC FOUNDATION
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save the date
SATURDAY, JAN 28, 2023
6PM - 9PM

ANNUAL CRAB FEED

NEW LOCATION:
San Ramon Community Center
12501 Alcosta Blvd
Proceeds:
Restoration for the Boone House

Check our website later in December for details and tickets.



Photo credit: Matt Boom

SAVE THE DATE
Sheep Shearing Day!
April 22, 2023

FUN ON THE FARM SATURDAYS!

Visit the website below for information on how to reserve your place.

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

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Jan 7 – Jacks & Marbles	Feb 4 – Quilting	Mar 4 – Fun with Felt
Jan 14 – Era of the Iron Horse	Feb 11 – Victorian Valentine Cards	Mar 11 – Soap Making
Jan 21 – Victorian Music	Feb 18 – Mystery Gadgets & Tools	Mar 18 – An Irish Tradition
Jan 28 – Evergreens	Feb 25 – Working Dogs	Mar 25 Tea Time

----- BOARD MEMBERS -----

President: Carol Rowley

Vice President: Julia Oseland

Secretary: Carol Lopez-Lucey

Treasurer: Dall Barley

Robert Downum Patsy Galati H. Abram Wilson Rene Kullick Don Kowalski Sandy Silva Steve Chiapetto

--Advisory Committee--

Pat Boom Herb Moniz

How to Reach Us

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 San Ramon, CA 94583

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