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# Friends News

A non-profit organization supporting  
Deer Hollow Farm and its educational programs



## New Livestock Caretaker

**W**e are excited to welcome **Lisa Cornelius** as our full-time Livestock Caretaker. Originally from New Jersey, Lisa and her husband, Jake, moved to Chula Vista, California where Jake trained in rowing for the 2012 Olympic Games. After competing in the Olympics, Jake took the assistant coaching position at Stanford, so Lisa and Jake moved up here.



Lisa has taught in San Diego schools for an environmental non-profit group, as well as for SeaWorld in San Diego. Prior to these

teaching positions, Lisa had worked as a naturalist/educator on a nature preserve and a community organizer for an environmental Americorps program. To follow her passion in environmental education, she became a docent at Deer Hollow Farm a few years ago. When **Claire Moore**, our former Livestock Caretaker, left, Lisa filled in as part-time help with livestock. Eight months later, when offered the full-time Livestock Caretaker position, Lisa gladly accepted. Lisa said, "Jake and I both share the desire to live on our own small farm one day, so working with the livestock here at DHF was a great opportunity for me to combine my passion for environmental education with my lifestyle goals."



**W**ith spring babies expected, now is the time to plan your visit to one of Friends' 2015 Spring Farm Tour fund-raising events **Saturdays: March 21, April 18, and May 9 from 10:00 to 1:00.**

The wonderful docents will show you into the pens and tell you about all the Farm residents. You will also hear about the history of the the Farm and the Farm buildings, which are a balance between original structures and improvements for the safety of the volunteers and visitors.



You will see the new chicken coop, built last year, and the new duck area created this year; they are better, safer homes for Farm

## Spring 2015 Farm Tours

fowl. Entrance fee is \$7 and free for babies under 1. Proceeds benefit the Farm, the animals, and the 100,000 people and 5,000 students who visit the Farm annually.



Bring children, grandchildren, and friends. Don't forget your camera; there will be many photo opportunities as you and your family get close up to the goats, rabbits, or other animals.



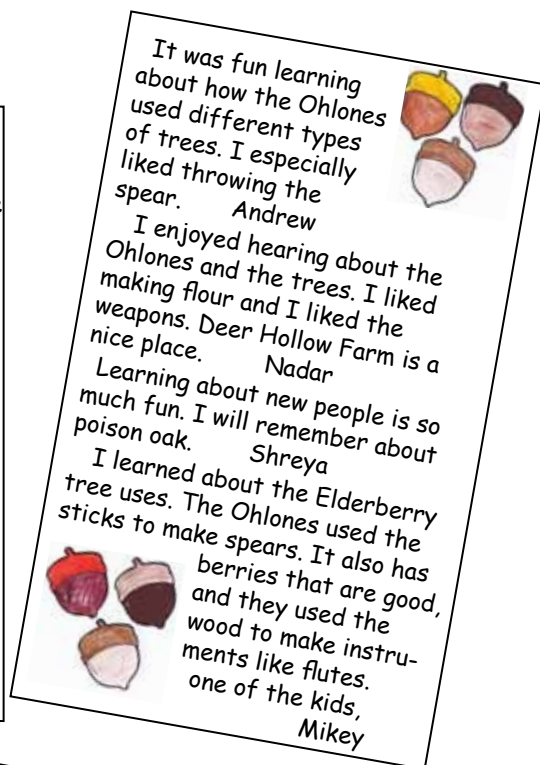
The Farm's Nature Center will be open for even more hands-on learning. Parking is limited, so carpool if you can. It's a level, one-mile walk from the parking lot to the Farm. Strollers are welcome, but not in the pens.

For more information, visit: **[www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org](http://www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org)**. To avoid overcrowding, MROSD limits groups to a max of 19 on weekends. For guidance, groups e-mail **[info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org](mailto:info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org)**.

# Letters



Thanks for  
giving us the  
money to see  
the Ohlone  
Village  
replica.  
I liked  
learning  
about the  
buckeye  
and grinding  
nuts. When we were grinding,  
I saw dust in the stone. It's  
amazing how a hammer rock  
is so strong. If I see any  
buckeyes, I'll make sure to  
wash them before I eat.  
Best, Jillian



Thank you for teaching me about the Ohlone  
people at Deer Hollow Farm. I learned about  
how the Ohlone hunt. My favorite part was  
when we played this game with sticks.  
Love, Noy



I would like to thank you for giving us a tour  
around the Ohlone region and for protecting  
us from Poison Oak. I hope our school  
behaved the best of all schools that went to  
Deer Hollow Farm.  
Sincerely, Andre

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you from the bottom of my kindergarten  
teacher heart ! :) We had a fabulous farm tour and learned  
so many animal facts. The kids loved the cow milking and  
petting the goats! It was such a memorable trip; we have  
talked about it frequently throughout the school year  
and couldn't have gone without the grant to our school.  
Thank you, again for making it possible for us to come.

Warmly, Marci Paulissen,

San Miguel Elementary School, Sunnyvale, Ca



Dear friends  
I want to thank you from the  
bottom of my kindergarten teacher  
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It was such a memorable trip;  
we have talked about frequently  
throughout the school year &  
couldn't have gone without  
the grant. Thank you again for  
making it possible for us to come  
back to it next year!  
Sincerely, Marci Paulissen  
San Miguel Elementary  
Sunnyvale, Ca



# FamiliarFace at the Farm

by Nina Wong-Dobkin



**D**orothy Schafer has been sharing her wealth of knowledge about the Ohlone Indians and the flora and fauna (plants and animals) at Deer Hollow Farm with school children since 2005. She has also enjoyed teaching arts and crafts to summer campers at the Farm. She has given over 500 volunteer hours to the Farm! Dorothy, a retired high school social studies teacher, missed working with children. She discovered the golden opportunity to volunteer as a teaching docent at Deer Hollow Farm when she inquired at the Farm's volunteer-recruiting table at the Mountain View Farmer's Market. Since then, she has enjoyed learning about native California plants (which are different from those in Atlanta, where she had lived before moving to California) and has grown to love the Farm animals!

Dorothy has also been a member of the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Board (2005–2011); she served as secretary (2007–2009) and president (2011).

Dorothy and her husband Ron moved to California in 2004. They now live in Mountain View. Ron is a retired professor from Georgia Tech and a retired researcher from Hewlett-Packard. He now teaches courses at Stanford and enjoys volunteering at Deer Hollow Farm in the orchard and wherever needed. The most compelling reason for their move to California after living 30 years in Georgia was to be nearer to their children, who both lived in California at the time. One

of the great joys of living in California has been living closer to their children and their children's families.

Dorothy's son Bill and his family (his wife Tricia and children Henry and Hannah) lived in San Diego, where Bill was a professor of neurobiology at UCSD. They have since moved to Cambridge, UK, where Bill is a lab director at the Laboratory of Molecular Biology for the Medical Research Council of the UK. His children, Henry and Hannah, have visited Dorothy and Ron many times and spent many happy afternoons at Deer Hollow Farm. Dorothy shares with our readers some photos of her grandchildren. Here are Hannah and Henry in 2007.



Here Hannah is with Sophia in 2011.



Since 2007, when Bill's family moved to Cambridge, Dorothy and Ron have made many trips to the UK. On their trip last October, they celebrated the graduation of their oldest grandchild, Henry, from Imperial College in London.

Dorothy and Ron's other great joy is Sophia, their 7-year old granddaughter who lives in Mountain View. Dorothy had the opportunity to care for her during her pre-school years as her mom, Dorothy's daughter Kate, and her husband, Ken, are both teachers. Kate is a biology teacher at Harker Upper School, and Ken is a physics



professor at San Jose State University. Sophia, shown above at ages 1 and 4, has loved going to Deer Hollow Farm. She has been able to gather eggs, stomp in puddles, and visit all the animals. Pigs are among her favorites. The Farm family (**Jessica, Jamie, Lisa, Katie**, and all the former staff) has been very welcoming to the docents and their families.

Dorothy shares, "People I have met through my volunteering at Deer Hollow Farm have become very good friends and are like a part of my family. It is a very nice and welcoming environment, full of other like-minded people who enjoy and love the Farm. All the staff have been easy and wonderful to work with." She is particularly grateful to another docent, **Sonja Marcus**, who, as a mentor, taught Dorothy all about California plants as they took walks on the trails at Rancho San Antonio.

In addition to volunteering for Deer Hollow Farm's education programs, Dorothy finds time to volunteer for the Community Services Agency, which runs a food bank in Mountain View; and she serves as an English tutor through a program at the Mountain View Library. She enjoys hiking and reading. She is part of a reading group originally started with a few other Deer Hollow Farm docents. Dorothy and Ron also enjoy traveling, especially their visits with family in England at least twice a year.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Board of Directors

*Standing L to R:*

Park Chamberlain, Zulah Eckert,  
Timothy Wood, Judith Stewart,  
Jenise Henrikson,  
Liz Montgomery, David Fung  
*Seated L to R:* Nina Wong-Dobkin,  
Joan Lewis, Secretary;  
Sue Gale, President;  
Carla Dorow, Treasurer;  
*not pictured:* Deb Maniar,  
Kevin Henrikson

# Friends Hits Milestone: \$1 Million Raised for Farm

It was a very good year for the Farm and Friends of Deer Hollow Farm. Last year, during Friends' 20th anniversary, the nonprofit reached a major milestone: raising \$1,000,000 for the Farm and its educational programs. Most of this money was raised in just the past eight years.

"Our donors are passionate about the Farm and its importance as an outstanding educational center," said **Sue Gale**, President of the Friends Board. "In 2014, the Board did important innovative work to sustain the Farm well into the future."

## Board Strengthened in Size, Skills

Last year, the all-volunteer Board of Directors modified its bylaws to increase its maximum size to thirteen members from nine. Board work and demands of fund-raising required these changes. "Our budget was fifteen times the size it was when Friends was founded in 1994," said Sue, "and fund-raising methodology had changed a lot. We were fortunate to recruit new members in 2014, who brought important skills to help us with today's nonprofit fund-raising models."

An important change the Board made for more efficient operations was to organize its work into eight committees, each with decision-making, budget, and management. This, plus the Board's documentation of its policies and procedures, helped streamline Board work, according to Sue. Board members can choose the type of work they want to do, such as grant request writing, lobbying, events management, marketing, merchandise, and youth projects management.

Another important Board change was that Friends stepped into the world of social media with a beautiful new website to better serve donors and the community: **www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org**. This website was designed by Board Member **Jenise Henrikson**, who joined the Board in 2014 and chairs the Marketing Committee. The new website includes a PayPal



button for online donations and is easy to navigate, even with smart phones. The website features a great map on how to get to the Farm and a blog about events at the Farm and Friends, which is updated frequently.

Two new engaging videos about the Farm and volunteering are included on the new webpage. These videos, produced



by **Toni Gooch** (right above) and Board Treasurer **Carla Dorow**, have already won awards from the Midpeninsula Community Media Center in Palo Alto.

Friends also expanded its Facebook presence, keeping donors and the community in touch with the latest Farm happenings on a weekly basis. The Friends Facebook page has attracted more than 525 followers: **www.facebook.com/FriendsOfDeerHollowFarm**.

Board member **Kevin Henrikson**, who joined the Board last year and now chairs the new Database Committee, created an online FODHF Database to facilitate sharing of documents and photos. Hundreds of documents and photographs are now readily available for Board work.

Registration at Friends events is now easier with the new ability to process credit card payments at the Farm. **Carla Dorow** led this effort.

Friends also found new revenue sources. Board member **Nina Wong-Dobkin** worked with The Rotary Club of Cupertino to help raise \$8,350 for the



Farm's new duck pond and house. The Rotary Club of Cupertino matched the first \$2,350 Friends raised. Board Member **Zulah Eckert** managed this new fund-raising campaign.

The Board's Youth Volunteer Project Committee was re-activated this year with Board member **Park Chamberlain** as chair. This committee coordinates Friends funding of youth volunteer projects at the Farm working with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) staff member **Jaime Villarreal**. The committee had been idle without someone to manage it. Once again, youth project support is in full swing at the Farm.

### How Friends Supports the Farm

Friends donors specify how they want their funding to support the Farm: animal care, improvements to the Farm and its programs, general operations, and field trips scholarships for low-income schools.

In its fund-raising, Friends works closely with the Farm's major funding partners: MROSD, which owns the land and Farm buildings and provides maintenance with support from the County of Santa Clara, and the City of Mountain View, which manages the Farm programs. The cities of Cupertino and Los Altos Hills are also important Farm supporters.

### Field Trip Scholarships



This year 5,390 students from more than 40 schools in ten Bay Area cities will attend 226 Farm field trips. Friends donors will pay for more than a third of these students, who attend low-income schools.

### Farm Projects

Farm improvements proposed and managed by Farm staff have been an important Friends contribution to the Farm. Over the past seven years, Friends

has contributed \$100,000 in Farm enhancement projects. Read more about these Farm projects in the fall issue of *FriendsNews*.

### Farm Operations Support

In FY2014, Friends donors provided \$48,600 to Mountain View for Farm operations. Mountain View Farm costs for FY2014 were nearly \$300,000. FY2014 out-of-pocket Mountain View costs, (after class fees and grants) were \$99,000. For decades, Mountain View was the only city to fund the Farm even though residents from all the surrounding cities enjoyed the Farm for free. When MROSD offered the Farm as a teaching center to the local communities 40 years ago, only Mountain View stepped up to staff the Farm, caring for its animals and offering educational programs like field trips and summer camp through its Recreation Department.

The Friends Board has worked to ensure that the cost of Farm operations budget is spread among more Farm users, both relieving the pressure on Mountain View's budget and improving sustainability of the Farm. Cupertino and Los Altos Hills renewed their Farm support through 2015.

In 2014, the Farm staff and Friends completed the final of four week-long Farm visitor surveys. Seasonal data averaged from the surveys showed that the Farm is clearly a regional resource: more than 100,000 Farm visitors come from all nearby Silicon Valley cities each year to enjoy the Farm.

### Animal Care

In FY2014 Friends also provided \$18,200 in animal care and feed. Animal care and feed is mostly funded by donations.



### 2015 Board Plans

This year the Friends Board will host four public events under the guidance of Board Members **Deb Maniar** and **Judith Stewart**, co-chairs of the Board Events Committee: three Spring Farm Tours on March 21, April 18, and May 9 and Ohlone Day on October 10 (with **Liz Montgomery** and **Zulah Eckert** replacing Judith). Friends will also assist the Farm staff for Spooky Times at Deer Hollow Farm on October 24.

Friends will continue to research new funding sources and write grant requests, which account for about half our funding. Friends will fund Farm projects such as the new duck pond and house. Friends' donors will also continue to fund animal feed and care and assist with Farm operations support.



Throughout 2015, Friends will organize volunteers to staff the Farm's Nature Center on the third Saturday of each month so the public has a chance to see the exhibits. Friends welcomes volunteers to assist with this. Contact us at:

**[info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org](mailto:info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org)**

### Board Member Changes

This year two Board members will be leaving. Board Secretary and Newsletter Editor **Joan Lewis** will term out in mid-year, but will continue as our newsletter editor. **Judith Stewart**, who has helped organize our events and write grant requests, is relocating to Oregon in the fall. Friends welcomes new members to the Board. For more information, contact us.

Friends looks forward to another exciting year working for the thousands of Bay Area people who love Deer Hollow Farm and whose dream is to see it thrive for another 160 years.

## Friendly Inquiries

Visitors were asked why they like Deer Hollow Farm.

by Tom Lustig



**Arick** from San Jose

Our 15-month-old daughter learned all the farm animals in her nursery rhymes, so we decided to show her the real thing. Where I grew up near Toronto, there were a lot of farms with cows and horses grazing. It is interesting that I can move to somewhere more populated and developed, and there is still a place like this to come to.



**Chris** from Sunnyvale

We moved to the area and learned about Deer Hollow Farm, so we wanted to show it to our kids. My grandparents had a farm back in Europe, so I feel a special connection to this place.



**Frances** from Redwood City

We come to the Farm to educate our children about the animals. The Farm is awesome. We've learned a lot about chickens. I'm reminded of my relatives who have a ranch in South America.



**Sara** from Sunnyvale

I come here all the time with my son. I used to come here for the hiking, but now it's all about educating and entertaining him at the Farm. It's good exercise and motivating.



**Fang** from Sunnyvale

I first came here for a good walk, fresh air, and shaded trails. Now I have two youngsters who love animals. And they need the outdoor activities. I wish that the Farm stays here forever. I support this Farm!



**Frankie** from the Brown Barn

I arrived here a few years ago and reside in the Brown Barn. You may see me taking catnaps during the day because my nights are spent chasing mice away. And I always have to keep an eye out for Sprite, the White Barn cat, to make sure she doesn't enter my territory. All in all, I think life here has been just about purr-fect!

## Wonderful Friends

### Hawk (\$5,000 to \$10,000)

Los Altos Community Foundation  
Town of Los Altos Hills  
Lee Winchell

### California Thresher (\$2,000 to \$4,999)

Merrimac Fund, an Advised Donor Fund of  
Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
Cupertino Rotary Club  
Catherine Gordon, with Google match

### Stellar Jay (\$1,000 to \$1,999)

Google Employees,  
for Google G-Give Campaign

### California Quail (\$500 to \$999)

Joan Anderson, in memory of Mary Kane  
Joy Desai, in memory of her son,  
Edwin Roodhouse  
Lorraine Alleman, in memory  
of Rodger Alleman  
Park Chamberlain  
Genny Smith  
Aart De Geus and Esther John  
Tom and Susan Kempe, with Bristol Myers  
Squibb match  
Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund  
Carol Ryall, with Applied Materials match  
Gordon and Lauri Steel  
Anonymous (3)

### Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499)

Daniel Ek, with Apple match  
Fred Beckman  
Sandra Bergan  
Rachel Heffner  
Ashley Hu, with Google match  
Paresh and Debra Maniar  
Timothy Dylan Wood  
Tom and Barbara Lustig  
Manfroy Family  
Fen Choi  
Sue Gale  
Chris and Bill Green, in honor  
of Sue Gale  
Jane and Peter Griffith  
Darwin and Donna Poulos  
Judith Stewart

(continued on page 7)



# Wonderful Friends

continued

## Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499) continued

Don Weden, in memory of Kim Weden  
Betsy and George Young  
Tim and Gail Sullivan, in memory  
of Bob Gale

## Phoebe (\$100 to \$249)

Neil and Ruth Foley  
Gail Nyhan, via Silicon Valley  
Community Foundation  
Ulf and Marcella Stauber  
Patricia Campbell, in memory  
of Diana Cook Pearl  
Cindy Castillo  
Rob Colwell

Marge Haley, in memory of Boyd Haley  
Ruth Kaempf, in memory of Ulrich Kaempf  
Lee Winchell, for Jack and Bev Winchell  
Stacie Williams, and Jim and Joan Jordan  
Stanley and Barbara Wong  
Everett and Rebecca Palmer  
Merry Astor, in honor  
of Seymour Alpert  
John Atwood, in memory of Kim Weden  
Christine Burns  
Robert Wohlgemuth and Cynthia Lee,  
with Google match  
Susan Casner-Kay, in memory  
of Norah Casner  
Eugene and Clare Cordero  
John and Mary Jane Edwards  
Hills Foundation  
Carol Howard  
Shirley Leisses  
Kevin and Jenise Henrikson  
Jim and Alma Phillips  
Heather Wall, with Google match  
Andy Lott  
Chris and Amy Migdal  
Arthur Robertson, in memory  
of Anne Robertson  
Stephen Salveter  
Joanne Schmid  
Ann Schmitt, in honor of Carla Dorow  
John and Pat Sheehan

We gratefully acknowledge these generous friends and community organizations who donated to Friends between November 1, 2014 and January 31, 2015.

## Phoebe (\$100 to \$249) continued

Brett Degner and Nora Singer,  
with Apple match  
Kevin and Grace Witt  
Kim Wong and Priscilla Sarinas  
Coleman and Betsy Youngdahl  
Carla Dorow  
Doreen Fernandez  
Katherine Miller Wasilenko,  
with Google match  
Christel Fliss  
Dennis Haas,  
in honor of his running friends  
Tamas Sarlos, with Google match  
Anonymous (2)

## Junco (\$50 to \$99)

Nancy Delbrueck, in honor of Mimi Mourkas  
Anne Hanson  
Ed and Jean Aiken  
Ron and Nancy Calhoun  
Naomi and Seymour Alpert, in honor  
of Steve and Merry Astor  
Doug Cox, in memory of Judy Hallagan  
and Hector Picchetti  
Benjamin Holtz, with Google match  
Mimi Mourkas  
Larry and Dolores Thompson  
Inge Roberts  
Michael and Susan Murphy  
Robert and Nedra Skyles  
Gretchen Vogel, in honor of Mother Nature  
Sylvia Weiser  
Dawn Smith  
Candace Joy  
William "Buzz" McClain  
Christine Bate  
Olga Bruce, in memory of Bill Bruce  
Peter Darrah  
Glenn Davis  
Regina Driscoll, in honor of Mona Helmhold  
Marianne Gregersen, in honor  
of Lee Winchell  
David Kaskowitz and Susan Kahn  
Walter Keutgens

## Junco (\$50 to \$99) continued

Paul Kostka  
Joan and Greg Loney  
Catherine Mack  
Mary Malgoire  
Tim and Julia O'Keefe  
Michael and Susan Plass  
Martin and Roberta Schwartz  
Sue Stewart, in memory of Maggie Ouligan  
Dixie Storkman  
Gary and Mary Tietz  
Fred and Nancy Witteborn  
Anonymous (2)

## Hummingbird (up to \$49)

Stephanie Channing, in honor  
of Nancy Stuhr  
Jacob Vine, in honor of Maya Maniar  
Elizabeth Trahan Berry,  
in honor of Sue Gale  
Barbara Goodwin  
Kate Hawkes, in honor of Bill Hawkes  
Judith Hietter  
Eugene and Barbara Kates  
Margaret Lanphier  
Neal and Sonja Locke  
Thomas MacDonald  
Nancy Stuhr  
John and Jane Kesselring  
Robert and Judith Dahl  
Patrick and Jan Dalton  
Frederick and Suzanne McDonough  
Kevin and Barbara O'Reilly,  
in memory of Bob Rynders  
Kirk Ostrowski, in honor  
of Aaron Oshidari  
Marge Shively  
Linda Thomason  
Sam and Anne Ng  
Anonymous

**T**hank you to those who gave \$398 at the Friends' Iron Ranger donation box.

# Ask the Nature Lover

## When It Rains It Spores!

by Donna Aronson

After winter rains one can see various interesting fungi throughout open spaces in the Bay Area. Rancho San Antonio Preserve is no exception. Do not collect mushrooms here or at any Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Preserve or East Bay Regional Park. Please only memories, photos, or sketches of mushrooms go home with you. In fact, the rangers can issue a citation for picking mushrooms.

Reading the "Bay Nature" website one learns mushrooms are not really plants. They are in their own kingdom. What we see is the fruit that sends out spores; under the ground are filaments called hyphae that together are mycelium. Mycelia masses can be huge. The record in size goes to *Armillaria ostayae* in Oregon covering 2,400 acres; it is thousands of years old.

"Mushrooms can be every bit as beautiful as birds, butterflies, shells or flowers," states, David Arora in *Mushrooms Demystified*. He also emphasizes that mushrooms are an important part of our delicate ecosystem.



In the Bay Area we have many mushroom types. After rainfall in the autumn, the mycelia expand. Early boletes and Amanitas like oak tree areas. Chanterelles (such as the black Chanterella above), waxy caps, russulas, are common. On old logs the strange and lovely lion's mane can appear. Morels appear anywhere and are delicious.

The Ohlone people of this area roasted and ate mushrooms.

Mushrooms are fascinating and diverse.

Some mushrooms are toxic, such as this Amanito muscaria.



It is far better to either buy mushrooms at the market or go with an experienced mycologist, than to need a kidney or liver transplant.

Deer Hollow Farm is a ten-acre working farm in the Los Altos foothills. The Farm is part of the 3800-acre Rancho San Antonio County Park and Open Space Preserve 22500 Cristo Rey Drive, Los Altos, 94024. For Deer Hollow Farm information, call 650.903.6430.



## FriendsNews

This newsletter is published for the community of over 400 people and organizations who want to preserve and improve Deer Hollow Farm and its outstanding environmental-education program. The Farm is one of the last working homestead farms in California. Request notification of the posting of the color **FriendsNews** at [www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org](http://www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org). contact: [info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org](mailto:info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org) by mail: P.O. Box 4282,

Mountain View, CA 94040

Editor: Joan Lewis

Staff: Donna Aronson, Carla Dorow, Dan Fillin, Sue Gale, Carol Jossi, Tom Lustig, Gail Nyhan, and Nina Wong-Dobkin

Your next **FriendsNews** will be posted by September 1, 2015

## Volunteer Enrichment

Volunteers and staff enjoy time together learning new skills. Here Lisa is showing us

how to make something we use everyday. Gloves and eye protection are required.

What are we making? Become a Farm volunteer and get in on all the learning fun!

