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Friends News

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



Summer 2018

Volunteer Fun

by Nina Wong-Dobkin

Volunteer opportunities at Deer Hollow Farm are “no-experience-required” positions where training and mentoring are provided. Livestock volunteers learn about animal care, feed, and farm chores. Field trip docents acquire and increase their knowledge of our environmental education curriculum: from plants in our garden to characteristics of various breeds of sheep and goats at the Farm, from native plants and their uses to Native American history, artifacts, and lifestyle.

Volunteers are also treated to Volunteer Enrichment funded by the City of Mountain View and arranged by our Farm staff, **Jessica Morgan** and **Lisa Cornelius**. Some recent programs included excursions to Ramini Mozzarella Water Buffalo Farm in Tomales. We brushed water buffalo

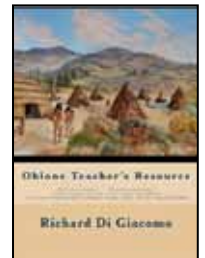
On our visit to the Oakland Museum of California our private docent-led tour of the California History gallery included beautiful Ohlone basketry made by **Linda Yamane**; Linda was the speaker at the Volunteer Enrichment a few years ago.

Time at Animal Assisted Happiness in Sunnyvale included learning about their work with disabled



Speakers come to the Farm to give presentations for our volunteers. In the last year, **Bill Leikan** shared his talk, “A Year with the Urban Gray Fox,” and

Richard Di Giacomo, local social studies teacher, historian, and author of the *Ohlone Teacher's Resource*, shared his research into the Ohlone people; and **Jim Liskovec**,



local photographer, avid birder, and long-time member of the Santa Clara Audubon Society, led a morning bird walk at Rancho San Antonio.

Deer Hollow Farm volunteers also share fun social times at a winter potluck and white-elephant gift exchange in December and a Farm celebration and potluck in May.

Jessica enthusiastically shares with the volunteers her creative craft ideas for summer campers. Almost everyone is familiar with tie-dyeing. Jessica introduced volunteers to ice-dyeing last year for colors that were brighter than tie-dyeing.

Interested in volunteering? For more information, contact Jessica Morgan at DeerHollowFarm@mountainview.gov.



and ill children and meeting the animals, including these llamas.



We also visited Wildlife Associates in Half Moon Bay and Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum in San Jose.



calves and then tasted fresh mozzarella made from water-buffalo milk.

Save these dates.

Ohlone Day: October 6, 2018

noon until 3 PM

Spooky Times: October 27, 2018

10 AM until 3 PM

Frequent Visitors

by Jaime Villarreal

As I greet and talk with guests, I get to know regular visitors to Rancho San Antonio and Deer Hollow Farm. Some of them pictured here answered my query, “What brings you back so often?”



Claudia Montalban

Familiar faces, peace for meditation before the day



Eric Wilner

Fresh air, exercise, hills, and trees



Shannon Kava

Outdoors and nature's sounds—it's better than the gym.



Ray Ojinaga

Animals, peacefulness, and the smells of nature



Kevin Tang

Animals, people, and trees



Gary Sepulveda

Relaxing environment and seeing people



Nedra Skyles

Outdoors, the Farm, walks, and wildflowers



Dewey Halligan

Walks and wildlife



Diane McGovern

Open space, deer, and bears



Mona Alkayyali

Nature, changing seasons, friends, and health benefits



Dominic Bennett

Oasis of peace, friendly people



Ollie Bruce

Nature, animals, friends, and good memories

FamiliarFace at the Farm—Dee Wood

by Nina Wong-Dobkin



If you happen to visit Deer Hollow Farm on one of the two Saturdays each month when Dee Wood is there volunteering as farmyard docent, you will feel welcomed by her warm smile. She will generously share her time, giving you all the news about the animals and imparting her knowledge of the historic Farm structures. It has been ten years since Dee saw and responded to a “volunteers needed” announcement from the City of Mountain View. She enjoys volunteering at Deer Hollow because she loves being outdoors and she enjoys people.

Dee’s warm smile also welcomes the third and fourth graders who come to the Farm on field trips to learn about the Native Americans who lived in this valley for thousands of years. She likes teaching the Habitat and Ohlone Village classes because she enjoys learning and teaching about the Native Americans who settled in this area. Dee encourages school children to think about how different life was for



people who lived here in the past. She explains the lengthy and labor-intensive process Native American women went

through to turn acorns into dinner. She loves to see her students really able to imagine what making dinner entailed from harvesting and grinding the acorns to cooking the leached acorn meal using hot rocks in intricately woven baskets. Dee hopes that these lessons will help children know that the way they live is not the only way to live.

Dee knows that many children do not spend time outdoors among trees, bugs, birds, and animals, so it is satisfying for her to share the outdoors with her students and teach them along the way about the environment and the importance of preserving it. She shares how



the Native Americans used plants for food, medicine, tools, and weapons. Dee enjoys grinding acorns with her students, showing them how they can do face painting using colors from rocks, and giving



them an opportunity to play the Native American hoop-and-spear game, a game boys played to practice hunting skills.

Dee’s life is enriched by interactions with her students and with weekend visitors, who come from all over the world. She is eager to hear about experiences visitors bring with them. Dee has a fond memory of chatting with a lady who said, “We had goats walking everywhere in our village when I was growing up, but my best childhood memories are of seeing the handlers lead elephants down the road.

We children would give the elephants bananas, and they would take them with their trunks and put the bananas into their mouths. Then they would salute us with their trunks as their handlers had taught them.” Dee was delighted to learn that this visitor had grown up in India.

Dee has a son and a daughter; they each have a daughter. Dee says she drags them all to the Farm whenever they visit! Zoe, her older granddaughter, is now 12; she started coming to the Farm when she was 10 months old. She tags along with



Dee to the Farm whenever she can. Zoe, pictured here with Dee, enjoys visiting the animals and would like to be a summer camp counselor at Deer Hollow Farm when she is older.

When Dee is not volunteering at the Farm, she is an ambassador for Deer Hollow Farm. She lives in nearby Mountain View and is often surprised to meet residents who don’t know where Deer Hollow Farm is. She urges people to visit the Farm and also encourages them to volunteer! She shares, “It is a great way to spend time outdoors, avoid traffic and noise, and meet a cross-section of people from around the world.” For Dee, a very rewarding aspect of working at the Farm is getting to know interesting, like-minded volunteers—retired teachers, dentists, doctors, nurses, engineers, and accountants—sharing their love of nature and the Farm with school children and the public.

Sue Gale Honored at Gardner Awards

by Lauren Merriman

On Wednesday, March 21, 2018 the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm honored past-president **Sue Gale** at the now biennial Los Altos Community Foundation's Gardner Awards, held at the University Club of Palo Alto.

The Los Altos Community Foundation honored a total of 19 amazing community volunteers and celebrated organizations that support youth, teen, and adult programs in our region.

The Gardner Awards had been an annual event, but in 2017

the Los Altos Community Foundation Board made the decision to celebrate

every other year. The FODHF Board has been patiently waiting to celebrate Sue and her long list of accomplishments for the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm. When Sue finally walked onto the stage to accept her award from Executive Director **Joe Eyre**, she was supported by 19 cheering past and present Board members along with staff members from partner agencies, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD), and the City of Mountain View.

The Friends of the Farm wish to thank Sue, for being such a huge Farm supporter and an amazing past-president to the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm. Sue continues to volunteer her time teaching Farm classes and coordinating social media information for the Friends.



MROSD's Preserve Partners

by Joan Lewis

On a pleasant Thursday morning, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) volunteers worked in the Ohlone Village creating stable railings around the shade shelters. The six volunteers worked with their supervisor **Ellen Gartside**, Volunteer Program Lead. They were joined by Farm staff **Jaime Villarreal**, **Joanne Lewis**, and **Kevin Low** (the current Farm ranger on Sundays). They made quick work of replacing the old, somewhat unstable and potentially dangerous, crossbars. Now teachers and students can touch the railings without fear of injury.

Some in the group were retired, others were younger; there was a woman who



frequently volunteers with her father and a young couple (the husband



took a day off work to participate).

Lively conversation showed that everyone enjoyed working together and making a difference for the open space they all value.

These enthusiastic volunteers were six of more than 300 Preserve Partners who put in over 2,600 hours a year. Most of their work is on habitat restoration (removing invasive plants and planting native

plants). They also do minor trail maintenance and some construction projects.

These Preserve Partners have been wonderful partners for Friends of Deer Hollow Farm, who often provide money for the materials.

Preserve Partners have built the picket fence that goes along the road by the historic cabin, the fence that goes along the back side of the farm from the rabbits to the compost pile, the fencing along the sheep enclosure, and replaced the rotten posts in the fence by the open-air barn. They installed the gravel path in the duck/goose compound and the new gravel orchard path.

They built the replica fire pit in the Ohlone Village and



replaced the crossbars on the teaching shelters.

THANK YOU,
Preserve Partners!

Animals at the Farm—Finnsheep

by Pamela Baird

Finnsheep, one of the oldest breeds of European sheep, were not introduced into the United States until 1968. The breed traces its roots to Finland. Finnsheep are known for the high frequency of multiple births and for their fine wool. They have short tails and an alert demeanor.

Female sheep are called *ewes*, and males are called *rams*. Deer Hollow Farm's two Finnsheep ewes are named Knit and Purl. Knit and two of her three lambs, who were born in March, are shown in the photograph. The newborn lambs are often small, but they are vigorous and grow well. Finnsheep make excellent mothers. Ewes can have three, four, or even five lambs at a time.

Because of their fertility, Finnsheep are often crossbred with other varieties to increase flock size. A mature ewe will weigh between 130 and 170 pounds.



The Finnsheep wool is primarily white, although there can be color variations. The Finns at Deer Hollow Farm are black/silver. The wool has a superior length, luster, and softness and can be less "prickly" than other varieties. The sheep at Deer Hollow Farm are shorn in April or May. The wool is sent to a mill and made into yarn.

Sheep at Deer Hollow Farm are fed a diet of alfalfa hay and grass hay. Finnsheep are friendly, docile, and easy to care for. They are naturally polled (have no horns).

Finnsheep can be raised for meat production and milk production for cheese making. They typically live longer than other breeds of sheep.

Friends' Board Shares the Farm with the Community

To promote the Farm, Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Board members set up displays and talk to neighbors at community events.

Sunnyvale Fit and Fun Fair

The City of Sunnyvale holds a spring event that focuses on health, fitness, and safety. More than a thousand attendees find out about community resources and get health and safety information. The event features free health screenings, activities for children, entertainment, and fitness demos.



For the first time Friends of Deer Hollow Farm participated as an exhibitor at the Fit and Fun Fair on April 28. Board members **Wai Mo** and **Nina Wong-Dobkin** met visitors who had not heard about Deer Hollow Farm as well as visitors who come to the Farm regularly. School-age children

in several families who stopped by our table shared their vivid memories of field trip experiences at the Farm. We invited everyone to come visit the Farm soon.

Cupertino Earth and Arbor Day Festival

For the first time on April 21, Friends of Deer Hollow Farm participated in the festival at the Cupertino Civic Plaza, joining 70 booths, live music, food trucks, and over 7000 attendees, including many families and young kids. We brought a table full of items from the Nature Center for hands-on learning with coyote and fox skins and an assortment of feathers, jawbones, skulls, and oak galls. Our visitors spanned a wide range from regular weekly visitors to people who were unaware of the Farm or Rancho San Antonio. This was



great timing to promote Farm Tour Day (just a week later) and the DHF Summer Camps. We made many new friends, and hope to see them soon on the Farm.

Thanks to our booth volunteers, **Park**



Chamberlain, Dick Walker, David Fung, and Tara Sreekrishnan.

Events this Summer

This summer Friends of Deer Hollow Farm will again host a table at Mountain View's Thursday Night Live on Castro Street between Mercy and Villa, which features live music, vendors, farmer's market, non-profit booths, and activities for children. Come visit us on June 14, 28, July 12, 26 from 5:30 to 8:30 PM.

Friends' Board will also host a table at the Silicon Valley Fall Festival in Cupertino Memorial Park on Saturday, September 15 from 10 AM to 5 PM.

Wonderful Friends

Grants and Donations from November 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018

Bequest

Tindall Family Trust (final \$2,131)

Grants

Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund
(\$2,000)

Mountain View Kiwanis Foundation
(\$2,000)

Donations

Hawk (\$5,000 to \$6,000)

Timothy Dylan Wood
Marcella Stauber, for
Jessica's wish list

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

Connett Ahart and Clint Severson
Dewey and Doris Halligan
Aart De Geus and Esther John

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

Trust of Curt R. Demele, for
memorial bench
Susan Casner-Kay and Jack Kay
Richard and Jane Walker
Regis and Dianne McKenna
Margaret Turner
Joy Desai
Joan Anderson, in
memory of Mary and Ralph Kane
David and Karen Jessen
Anonymous

California Quail (\$500 to \$999)

Ruth Kaempf
Doug and Karen Morgan
Tom and Susan Kempe, match from
Bristol Myers Squibb
Coleman and Betsy Youngdahl, with
match by Dell
Richard and Diane Horn
Radar Foundation in honor
of David Fung and family
Pine Cone Lumber
Park Chamberlain
Pamela Baird
Dennis Haas, in honor of
Joan and the runners

California Quail (cont.)

Cindy Castillo
Carol Luckhardt, in honor of
Lee Winchell for her care and
love for animals
Carol Jossi
Bonnie Stearns
Bob and Sallie Rogallo
Anonymous

Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499)

Chris Halvorsen
Darwin and Donna Poulos
Mike Hammes
Lee Winchell, in honor of Marianne
Gregersen, Stacie Williams, Jack and
Betty Winchell, Kathleen Winchell,
and Joan Jordan
Kristin Forster, in honor of Judy
Webster with Apple match
John and Brenda Robbins, with
Workaday Inc. match in memory of
Karyl and Tom Robbins
Donna Segal, for rabbit
David Fung
Tim and Gail Sullivan, in memory of
Bob Gale
The Stanley Family
Tara Sreekrishnan
Rob Colwell
Raymond and Elsa Heald
Patricia Campbell, in memory of Diana
Cook Pearl
Neil and Ruth Foley
Marge Haley, in memory of Boyd Haley
Larry and Donna Aronson
Katrina Johnson Secoy, for Roxie
Katherine Miller Wasilenko
Jeffrey and Barbara Taylor
Jason Miller, Google match
Hilary Bartels, in honor
of Stanford Hall
Helene Hills
Edward Reed and Johanna Schmid
Don Weden
Daniel and Nina Dobkin
Chris and Bill Green
Betsy and George Young

Acorn Woodpecker (cont.)

Barbara Titel and George Bunting
Ann Schmitt, in honor of Carla Dorow
Phoebe (\$100 to \$249)
Stan and Jackie Hall
Amazon Smile Foundation
Tim and Julia O'Keefe
Penny Gardner
Nora Singer and Brett Degner, with
Apple match
John Atwood, in memory
of Kim Weden
Jerry and Sandy Juracich
Hans Bernhardt
DeRyke and Associates, Inc.
Bernadette Wieland, with Intel match
Paresh and Debra Maniar
Sue Gale
Sandra Bergan
Sally Cappucci
Pamela Carlton, for Luna and Soleil in
honor of their upcoming babies
Nancy Jacobson
John and Mary Jane Edwards
James Morales
Gary Schlueter
Michael and Susan Plass, with Google
match
Everett and Rebecca Palmer
Kristin Forster, in honor
of Judy Webster
Nancy Stuhr, for goats
Kevin and Grace Witt
Robin Leimer
Katherine Naegele
Katherine Chew, in memory
of Evelyn Chew
Ted Kitayama
William "Buzz" and Georgie McClain
Tim Coogan and Alendra Hua
Susan Purcell, in honor of Lee Winchell
Robert Hauge, in memory of Virginia
Grant Murphy, Louis Grant and Virginia
Grant Shea (Robert is the great-
grandson of Franklin Grant, homesteader
of what is now DHF)
Olga Bruce, in memory of Bill Bruce

Wonderful Friends (continued)

Phoebe (cont.)

Merry and Steve Astor
 Marianne Gregersen, for
 Lee Winchell at Christmas
 Paul Kostka
 Mary Malgoire
 Linda Thomason
 Leanne Luna
 Larry and Dolores Thompson, in honor
 of Denise and Don Johnson
 Kevin Hall, in honor of Stanford Hall
 Julie Raymond and Neil Hunt
 Judith Hooper
 Jean and Barbara Mordo
 James Kermode and Carla
 Bottenfield
 James and Andrea Sandstrom
 Ivan Gendzel, in honor of Fred
 Offenbach
 Howard Baldwin
 Helen and Elaine Thompson
 Gary and Mary Tietz, in honor
 of Mary K. Tietz
 Eugene and Clare Cordero
 Ellie and Dick Mansfield
 Ed and Jean Aiken
 Christine Burns
 Christel Fliss
 Chris and Amy Migdal
 Cathleen Gale
 Luca and Mary Cafiero
 Barbara Goodwin
 Andy Lott
 Laura Grebene, in honor of Sue Gale
 Anonymous (4)

Junco (\$50 to \$99)

David Kaskowitz and Susan Kahn
 Ron and Dorothy Schafer
 Lauren Merriman
 Jennifer Timmins, in memory of
 Eleanor Jensen's birthday
 Kate Rainwater
 Dee Wood
 Helen Rice
 Walter Keutgens
 Doug Cox
 Robert and Judith Dahl
 Neal and Sonja Locke
 Nancy Delbrueck, in honor of Mimi
 Mourkas
 Martin and Roberta Schwartz
 Karen Grebene, in honor of Sue Gale
 Marika Lee, in honor
 of Oliver and Theo Rogers
 Margaret Lanphier
 Joan Ferguson
 Joan and Greg Loney, in memory of
 Ulf Stuaber
 Jessica Davidson
 James and Susan Jacobus
 Helene Pier, in honor of Betsy Young
 Fred and Nancy Witteborn
 Cynthia Lee and Robert Wohlgemuth
 Carl Baeuerlen and Jim Hulseman
 Anne Miller
 Anita Krishnan and Krish Ellath
 Anonymous (2)

Hummingbird (\$20 to \$49)

Roberta Jorgensen

Hummingbird (cont.)

Carla and Dudley Kenworthy
 Annie Hart
 Michelle Sutton
 Chui Fong
 Christopher Orteiz
 Thomas MacDonald
 Sam and Anne Ng
 Roger and Peggy Masini
 Josephine Vincent
 Joseph and Susan Mingione
 Joseph and Jean Brandon
 Guy and Ida Jew
 Elizabeth Trahan Berry
 Carol Peters
 Glenn and Linda Wegner
 Deborah Marks
 Caroline Pitner, Apple match
 Anonymous (3)

**Iron Ranger/
 cash donations
 \$883.50**



**Gifts in honor of
 Sue Gale's Gardner Award
 were received from:**

Daniel and Nina Dobkin,
 Darwin and Donna Poulos, David Fung,
 David Kaskowitz and Susan Kahn,
 Dee Wood, Kate Rainwater,
 Lauren Merriman, Lee Winchell,
 Paresh and Debra Maniar,
 Richard and Jane Walker,
 Ron and Dorothy Schafer, and
 Tara Sreekrishnan

THANK YOU



New Look for the Garden

Farm rodents were working their way through the garden's redwood beds. The solution—metal beds. Watering pipes were set up; holes were drilled in the bottom of each container for drainage; and compost from the Farm enriched the soil. Wooden frames were added to the top of some of the beds so that wire cages can be put on top of those frames to protect small plants. Volunteers worked with Farm staff planting the beds. By the time of the Spring Tour, there was a bountiful garden for guests to enjoy.

Spring Farm Tour



With the March Spring Farm Tour rained out, the April 28th event became the one time for the public to go inside the pens, see all the new babies, and talk to the experts. Docents and animal volunteers answered many questions for 543 visitors.

We raised \$3,521 for the animals,

including entrance fees and merchandise sales. A great seller was the new t-shirt with Trudy's image designed by **Nancy Stuhr** and her brother **David Stuhr** and tie-dyed by Farm staff and volunteers.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who enjoyed sharing their love of the Farm with the visitors.

Your next **FriendsNews** will be mailed on December 1, 2018.

Deer Hollow Farm is a ten-acre working farm in 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.



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To Our Friends

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