



Familiar Faces page 3



That's a Wrap! page 4



A Flurry of Feathers page 5



Perham Family page 6

Friends News

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



Winter 2017

"Be a Friend" Donor Campaign

If you are reading this newsletter, we already know that you are a friend of Deer Hollow Farm, but everyone needs more friends, right? The non-profit Friends of Deer Hollow Farm is conducting its annual "Be a Friend" donor campaign. We hope that you will consider making a donation and help us spread the word about Friends of Deer Hollow Farm's support of the Farm and its environmental education programs.

Every little bit helps, and the year-end holidays are a great way to celebrate the Farm with your support. Donations can easily be made on our website at www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org. Just follow the donation link. All your support is vital to Deer Hollow Farm, a regional environmental education center that hosts more than 100,000 visitors annually for free. Visitors from dozens of surrounding cities come to the Farm to visit the animals, take a walk through the "living history" barnyard, and simply enjoy the outdoors. In addition to the annual visitors, the Farm also hosts almost 5,000 students from more than 50 schools in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.



Approximately 40% of those students

receive scholarships and busing assistance from Friends donors.

Here are some of the ways your donation helps.

\$20 buys one bale of hay or alfalfa feed, the main staple for most of the Farm's resident animals.



\$25 sends four students on an outdoor field trip to the Farm. Classes are 2-4 hours long and include exciting hands-on experiences.

\$50 can support the goat herd for two days.



\$100 can support the sheep herd for almost a week.

\$350 can support Luna the cow with feed and care for a month. (Don't forget, we have Roxy and Stella too.)

\$400 pays for busing for a field trip group.



If you haven't been convinced yet, for the second year, Friends is providing donor appreciation gifts. Every individual donor receives a photo thank-you card featuring Farm scenes or animals, and your name

will be added to our newsletter mailing list. Donors through January 2018 will receive a handy calendar featuring Farm events. Donors who give \$250 or more will receive free passes to Farm events like the Spring Farm Tours. Names of donors who give donations totaling \$1000 annually will be added to the Deer Hollow Farm donor wall.

There is also an opportunity to make donations in honor of a friend or family member's birthday or special occasion. When you make a donation this way, the recipient receives a beautiful hand-made card acknowledging your gift.



You can also support the Farm by purchasing gifts from the Nature

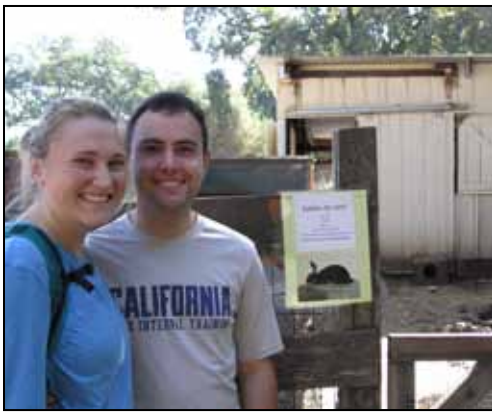
Center which is open the third Saturday of each month from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Or you can drop your gift in the Iron Ranger that greets you as you enter the Farm.



We know the Farm is important to you! Our Board asks you to join us during our "Be a Friend" Donor Drive to support our Farm. Your Friends at Deer Hollow Farm, the staff, animals, students, and fellow Farm visitors all thank you!

Friendly Inquiries

by Tom Lustig



Sophia and Alex

San Jose

We saw tons and tons of cars in the parking lots, so we wondered why everybody was parked there. Then, after a long walk, we found the Farm nestled in this valley. It was a pleasant surprise. We like how close you can get to the animals. The amount of families here attests to its value. The Bay Area is very industrial with urban development, and a space like this where you can learn how things are grown and how we are fed is beneficial.



Arjun and Svasti

Los Altos

We first came to the Farm when Arjun was a baby 14 years ago, and have returned many times. Nowadays we enjoy nature by running on the trails. The Farm is exceptional. Where else are you going to see a pig sleeping so soundly? The Farm is special to us. Our maternal family name is Patel, and that can be interpreted as farmer, tenant of the land.



Paula

Sunnyvale

We come to the park for the hiking, but always stop at the Farm. We like the pigs and goats best. On the way to the Farm this morning, we saw some deer. About ten years ago, we saw a mountain lion within sight of the parking lot, but it kept its distance from visitors.



Laila

Chicago

My friends and I stumbled onto the Farm today while we were on a hike. It's great to see all of the animals up close. I've grown up in the city so I don't get to see farm animals this close. The animals seem all very relaxed. They all seem to be enjoying themselves. They have a good amount of space. I like the big hog. I didn't realize how big they are. She has a very cute face. She's adorable.



Naichuan

Cupertino

For twenty years I've come to the Farm to see the animals, the pig specifically. It relaxes me to see the pig sleeping like a baby. She doesn't care about anything else. It is very relaxing. If I feel stress, I come here. This is my de-stress place. And then I'm good for a week.

Familiar Faces at the Farm—the Neveitt Family

by Nina Wong-Dobkin

After seeing a mom-to-be, the very pregnant Clove, one of the Farm's pigs, **Kristy Neveitt** and her children kept coming back to Deer Hollow Farm. They watched Clove's piglets grow. Before they knew it, they wanted to volunteer at the Farm. That was two years ago.

Kristy, who grew up in Boston, lives with her family in Cupertino now. The children, **Jitao, Miles, and Daphne**, are students at Waldorf School of the Peninsula, in 8th, 7th, and 4th grades



respectively. Kristy and Daphne volunteer at the Farm every Friday afternoon right after school. Older brothers, Jitao and Miles, join them when they are not too busy with school and sports obligations.

The Neveitt team are pros now, but Kristy assures me that they did not know much about farm animals and knew nothing about caring for them when they started. She enjoys sharing with me, "You should see the four of us having such trouble getting all the chickens into the coop when we started; it took us so long. It's funny to think about it now." Miles now does this effortlessly by himself. Kristy and her children divide farm chores fluidly, depending on who prefers to do what chore.



Kristy usually delivers dinner hay to the cows and sheep and gets them inside for the night.

Daphne had sprained her ankle just before being interviewed, but she didn't let the crutches keep her from her chores.



She puts out food and water for all the Farm cats, breaks the ties on the bales of hay, and breaks up the hay for the sheep and goats. She fills the food

dishes for the rabbits and enjoys brushing the cows, especially Stella, the Farm's youngest. Daphne helps at Farm community events by showing the rabbits. She shares affectionately, "It is surprising how nervous the rabbits get during Farm events. But after they settle down in my lap, they close their eyes and doze."

When Farm staff held a calf-naming fundraising campaign for Roxy's calf,



Jitao put his woodworking skills to good use. He worked with his **Great**

Uncle Rich, to build the box to collect donation votes for the contest. The

box is now used to collect donations for the Farm animals.

On the day I met Miles, he took care of the chickens. He first stored the chicken feeders in a big tin garbage can for the night. Then he sprinkled chicken scratch on the coop floor. By this time, at least half of the chickens knew to go inside the coop. Then Miles went out to herd the dozen or so latecomers in. He closed the sliding



doors to the coop leaving just enough room for the last chickens to walk in single-file. Everyone was in for the night when Miles closed and locked the doors. Miles also enjoys volunteering at Farm events showing visitors all the animals.



For the Neveitt children, the exploration and connection with nature also happens at home. Miles loves growing mushrooms from kits and is trying to get some to grow in their backyard. He also enjoys making pottery. He and Daphne have dug up the clay from their yard, figured out how to process and refine it, created works of art from it, and fired them!

Kristy encourages others to consider volunteering at Deer Hollow Farm, even if they have no prior knowledge of animal care. She shared "Having never cared for animals, I was so nervous my first day that I came with a notebook and attempted to write everything down. But I soon realized that if I just relaxed, it was all quite intuitive. **Lisa** [the farm's livestock coordinator] has the tasks clearly defined with information written on boards." Kristy added, "No matter how hectic life gets, I always feel invigorated by my time at the Farm. The setting is idyllic, the Farm community so supportive and warm, and the animals can be amusing, exasperating, adorable, but always lovable. It feels great to know I am helping in a small way to keep all these animals safe and happy and that my children experience the joy and satisfaction of a job well done."

That's a Wrap! 2017, a Year in Review

by Lauren Merriman

It's been a busy year for the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm. After Sue Gale's retirement from the Board in January, the Board continued supporting the important programs and services that Deer Hollow Farm provides the regional community. Here's a look at what the FODHF Board has been up to.

The 12-member Board ended its fiscal year in June with \$170,000. This followed our record year of support to the Farm in 2016 due to the special bequest from the estate of Walter Tindal to Friends of \$155,000, designated for White Barn structural improvements.

This year, the FODHF Board provided \$26,904 in Farm field trip tuition scholarships and busing for 2,138 students from



low-income areas to attend 99 Farm field trips. The Board is able to fund these scholarships through grants from Santa Clara County, the Packard Foundation, and other sources. In addition, for the first time, FODHF Board voted to provide scholarship funding to Deer Hollow Farm

summer camp participants.

FODHF provided \$24,800 in funding for Farm enhancement projects. This year



the goat and sheep enclosure fencing was replaced, and Friends procured all of the equipment needed for the new Milk Room, which the City of Mountain View funded. Next year, Friends will fund a remodel of the garage area with storage, new storage containers for the Ohlone Village, and painting of the Sheep/Pig Barn.

FODHF donors provided an amazing \$48,000 for the Animal Fund. The Animal Fund pays for feed, supplies for care including straw for bedding, the acquisition of new animals (including chicks, geese, and heritage animals), and vet care and medicine for the animals.

FODHF's Farm operations funding partners include The City of Cupertino, which provided \$15,000 again this year and Los Altos Hills, again contributing \$5,000. The Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department provided \$75,000. Friends provided approximately \$31,000

in funding to help offset Farm costs. The City of Mountain View ended up with about \$100,000 in net costs. FODHF still believes that the Farm's future is more secure if many community organizations share in its support.

You could find the Friends Board members out in the community this past year. Once again the Friends Board



along with Farm volunteers attended the City of Mountain View's Thursday Night Live events in June and July. In September our crew joined in on the Cupertino Fall Festival. Our booth included Mary and



Domino, the goats. Animals come along when it's safe to transport them.

Friends Board

Officers seated (L to R) **Nina Wong-Dobkin**, vice president; **Nancy Stuhr**, secretary; **Lauren Merriman**, president; **Carla Dorow**, treasurer.

Standing (L to R) **Dick Walker**, **Jenise Henrikson**, **Kevin Henrikson**, **David Fung**, **Park Chamberlain**, **Tara Sreekrishnan**, **Kate Rainwater**, **Wai Mo**

Not pictured **Pamela Baird**



(That's a Wrap! *continued*)

Looking Ahead

Another busy year is in store for the FODHF Board. We will continue to write grants to increase and diversify our funding sources. We will continue our outreach efforts in the regional community. One of the most exciting things we will be working on this year is the White Barn project. Both the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) received funds from Walter Tindal's estate in 2016. Both agencies have earmarked that funding to renovate the Farm's iconic White Barn. To date, this project is in the historical and structural assessment phase. Once complete, we expect to meet with MROSD and the City of Mountain View to discuss the next steps of the project. We anticipate this project will cost more than the donated amounts to FODHF and MROSD, so keep your eyes peeled for a funding campaign to help us make the building structurally sound.

We will continue our mission to:

- Preserve Deer Hollow Farm,

an historical area and working farm, for future generations.

- Support the Farm's regional environmental education program for the benefit of schools and the community by raising funds through donations, grants, and public events.

New members

Tara Sreekrishnan grew up in Cupertino and continues to be a resident today. Tara has previously spent time at Deer Hollow Farm as a livestock volunteer and a summer camp intern. She currently works as chief of staff to a City of Berkeley



councilmember and has a passion for politics. Tara will assist the Board with marketing and communications among other things. When asked "What do you hope to professionally or personally get out of being on the Friends of Deer Hollow

Farm board?" Tara responded with, "I hope to keep Deer Hollow Farm alive and thriving as I believe it is a valuable asset to this community." Welcome, Tara!

Kate Rainwater grew up in Texas and spent the last fourteen years in New York City before moving to Sunnyvale almost a year ago.



Kate became involved at Deer Hollow Farm as a livestock volunteer and feels very passionately about the connection to nature that the Farm provides. Kate currently works as a consultant for Google and brings with her a breadth of talents. She will assist the Board with marketing and merchandise. Kate believes in working smarter, not harder and wants to help find ways to streamline processes for best efficiency.

The Board is thrilled to have all of our thirteen seats filled with passionate and hardworking people! The addition of these two talented women will bring great depth to our Board and mission.

Animals at the Farm

A Flurry of Feathers

by Pamela Baird

The "feathered" area of the barnyard at Deer Hollow Farm has been enhanced with the arrival of new chickens from four interesting breeds. Raised from baby chicks that arrived in June, the chickens are full grown and exhibiting the unique characteristics of each breed.

Displaying a pom-pom cascade of feathers on the top of the head, the Buff Laced Polish hen is docile and gentle. The breed is an old one that was established in sixteenth century Holland.



The name is thought to come from the old Dutch word *pol*

for large head. This inquisitive breed are good foragers.

The Dark Brahma is a breed of large chickens developed domestically from birds imported from Shanghai in the mid 1800s. The breed was the principal meat producer in the United States until about 1930.



The chickens have feathers over the front of the legs and feet. The feathers on the body can form a lacy looking pattern.

The other two breeds originated in France and have five toes. (Most breeds of chickens have four toes.) The Mottled Houdan is a dramatic looking bird with its black and white feathers and fluffy

crest. The breed was originally used as an egg layer and meat producer. They are gentle and docile, making them a good addition to our barnyard.



The other showy breed is the Salmon Faverolles, which have a beard, muffs, and feathered feet. Considered an excellent egg layer, this breed does well in small spaces. The breed is friendly and gentle. The plumage is mainly brown and creamy white.

Make a visit to Deer Hollow Farm to view the showstoppers in the barnyard. You will truly enjoy seeing our new beauties.

Mid 20th Century at the Farm: The Perham Family

by *Joan Lewis*

I had the privilege of talking with **Sally Perham Chaves** about her family and of walking with her where she played and worked as a child. She told me of her grandfather **George Sheldon Perham (Sheldon)**, a San Francisco dairyman who was president of Borden's Dairy Western Division.



He purchased the land from the Grant family in 1937 as a country getaway where his family and friends could hike, ride horses, and play as Sheldon is with his wife **Frances** here.

He taught the family to love the outdoors; they felt deep connections to the land. As a young child Sally's father, **George Sheldon Perham Jr. (George)**, moved from Hillsborough to the ranch with his older sister, **Jane**, his younger brother, **Art**, and their parents. Here is



Rusty, the horse, with Art and George.

Others living on the ranch included caretakers who had worked with the Perham family in Hillsborough. They lived in the home where the Farm's livestock manager and family now live. The couple tended the large garden at the site of the current replica Ohlone village. They also took care of the chickens and helped with the small herd of Hereford cattle.

Sally lived on the ranch her first year in a house that is no longer there. Sally and her family moved to the neighborhood off St. Joseph Road, and they remained a part of

the ranch community. Young Sally with her cousin **Stan** got used to horses early.



Sally's Uncle Art and his family lived on the property at the top of the hill. Another family, who had worked with Sheldon in the Borden dairy, also lived on the ranch.

Sally never knew her grandfather, but she remembers her grandmother (Jammy) who lived in the house half-way up the hill. Sally remembers the beautiful flower gardens her grandmother had around the home. Everyone helped with the ranch work. Sally remembers picking vegetables and fruit and then helping with the canning and making jam. She is thankful she grew up on such wholesome food.

Everyone participated in the ranch events. The rodeo at which neighboring ranchers came to help with the branding of the calves featured a Mexican rancho-style barbecue including mountain oysters.



Here Sheldon tends the barbecue.

Each Easter the cousins—Sally, her brother and two sisters, five cousins, and many second cousins—were taken on a hayride; the wagon (still on display in the cow pasture) was pulled by the tractor. When the children returned, there were more than 100 eggs for the cousins to find.

All birthdays were celebrated at the ranch. The current foreman's cabin was used as the kitchen for many events. Christmas at Jammy's house was warm and wonderful with so much family.

Sally remembers how her father and uncle dammed Permanente Creek to make a swimming hole near the current permit parking lot. A long rope swing was next to the swimming hole. The family often went hiking, horseback riding, camping, and hunting for food, always respecting the land and their connection to it.

Sally remembers slumber parties in the hay barn and wonders that she does not remember worrying about rattlesnakes. Her father tells of one incident when he was a boy hiking with his brother. They almost stepped into a rattlesnake nest as they were climbing over a fence; the snakes were shot.

In addition to ranching, George and Art formed the Perham Construction Company with their headquarters and materials at the present-day ranger headquarters and parking lot.

When the land was made part of Rancho San Antonio in 1975, several people had to find new homes and new work. It was very hard on many of them. However, the family continued to feel a connection to and respect for the land. Sally's father has a vineyard in Paso Robles. Her late Uncle Art and wife **Diana** bought a ranch in Elk Grove where his son **James** now owns the Perham Ranch, which specializes in equine rehabilitation and breeding.

Sally is glad her sons practiced distance running on the Rancho San Antonio trails, giving them an appreciation for the land.



Sally lives in Los Altos with her husband **Mario**. She is pictured here hiking with her grandson **Oliver Chaves**. She is happy nurturing his love of nature and his family's connection to and respect for the land.

Abilities United Volunteers

Farm staff work with community organizations to provide valuable experiences. Cooperation with Abilities United, a Palo Alto nonprofit serving children, families, and adults with developmental disabilities, brings **Mathew Francavilla** and **Chris Moore** to the Farm to clean the sheep pen. It is part of the organization's Integrated Living Program with volunteer and learning experiences, such as working at the Farm.

Mathew has visited farms, but Deer Hollow Farm is the first one where he has worked. Though he finds shoveling goat scat and taking it to the compost pile hard work, he sees it as part of the cycle of farm life—animal waste, compost, garden fertilizer, food.



Mathew also volunteers at Pet Sitting to the Max in Mountain View. He says he really likes dogs. You can see from the picture that he also likes goats.

Chris and Mathew have seen pregnant does and watched young kids grow.

Chris enjoys watching the goats as he cleans their area. He is employed at the Trader Joe's at the San



Antonio Center in Mountain View. Chris says, "Volunteering is important to me."

Alison Graham, Adult Services Specialist, brings the men to the Farm and works with them. She described other parts of the Integrated Living Program including, cooking, safety, and communications classes taught at Abilities United and opportunities to attend classes at Foothill College.

Wonderful Friends

Grants and Donations from May 1 to October 31, 2017

Grants

Packard Foundation (\$30,000)
 Santa Clara County (\$25,000)
 City of Cupertino (\$15,000)
 Merrimac Fund (\$10,000)
 Los Altos Community Foundation (\$5,000)
 Town of Los Altos Hills (\$5,000)
 Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund (\$1,000)
 Federated Woman's Club of Los Altos (\$500)

Donations

Hawk (\$5,000)

Manfroy Family Fund
 Kevin and Jenise Henrikson

California Thresher (\$3,000)

Dewey and Doris Halligan

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

Mary Malgoire, in honor of Sue Gale's contributions to DHF
 Al and Suzanne Kaiser

California Quail (\$500 to \$999)

Tom and Susan Kempe, in memory of Matt Kempe
 Ivars and Marion Blukis
 Carol Jossi
 Anonymous

Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499)

Caroline Pitner
 Katrina Johnson Secoy, for Roxie
 Tom and Barbara Lustig
 Carla Dorow
 Robert and Linda Harris
 Nancy Stuhr
 Mehdi Alhassani
 Kate Rainwater
 Curtis and Wai Mo

Phoebe (\$100 to \$249)

Amazon Smile Foundation
 Dee Wood, Thanks for the good summer camp.
 Marcus and Suzanne Shipley, in honor of Dick Baugh's birthday
 Sue Gale
 Robert Friedman
 Robert and Nedra Skyles
 Paresh and Debra Maniar
 Leslie C. and Anita N. Nichols
 Lauren Merriman
 Dennis Haas
 Barbara Reul, in honor of Lee Winchell
 Ann Schmitt, in honor of Carla Dorow

Junco (\$50 to \$99)

David and Theresa Mathiasmeier
 Boby Sunday
 Susan Kahn and David Kaskowitz
 Thomas Goosmann
 Sue Stewart
 Marianne Gregersen, in honor of Lee Winchell's birthday
 Lee Winchell, in memory of Janet DeBartolo
 Julie Ho
 Daniel and Nina Dobkin

Hummingbird (\$20 to \$49)

Madelyn Logan
 Marcella Stauber
 Kendall Dinwiddie, in honor of Richard Baugh
 Michelle Hornberger
 Elizabeth Moore
 Caroline O'Connor
 Anonymous

Thank you also to the Farm visitors who donated a total of more than \$1,000 in cash.

Fall Farm Events



These **Ohlone Day** volunteers helped 247 visitors learn about Native Americans and earned \$1,687 for the Farm.



These **Spooky Times** volunteers celebrated Halloween at the Farm with 599 visitors and earned \$3,553 for the Farm.

Spring Farm Tours 2018: March 24 and April 28

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.



FriendsNews is published for the donors who want to preserve and improve Deer Hollow Farm. Find the color **FriendsNews** at www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org. contact: info@deerhollowfarmfriends.org by mail: P.O. Box 4282, Mountain View, CA 94040

Editing and Production:

Joan Lewis

Staff: Nina Wong-Dobkin
Pamela Baird, Dan Fillin,
Tom Lustig, Gail Nyhan,
Lauren Merriman

Your next **FriendsNews** will be posted on June 1, 2018.