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County—more
than \$13,500
for buses and
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Friends News



Friends of Deer Hollow Farm is a non-profit organization supporting
Deer Hollow Farm and its educational programs.

Summer 2019

Spring Farm Tours

On two beautiful spring Saturdays, the Farm opened the pens to visitors and provided experts to talk about the animals and the Farm. In March, 322 adult visitors and 273 children contributed \$3,990 for care of the Farm animals. In April,



\$3,115 was raised from the 282 adult and 206 children visitors. All had fun, including volunteers pictured here.



New at the Farm



We are excited to welcome **Miguel Ojeda** to the Farm as the new Farm Maintenance Worker. Miguel worked previously as seasonal maintenance staff with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the City of Campbell. He has plenty of farm experience, working on his family farm for 10 years. Stop by the Farm and say hello; he will be there Wednesdays through Sundays.



Friendly Inquiries by Tom Lustig



Jerry
and
Lois

Los
Altos



Luis

San Jose

We came to the Farm with our children and then grandchildren beginning 30 years ago. All of them are adults now. So today was a beautiful day, and we decided to see if we remember where the Farm was. We found it! Rediscovered it. The Farm seemed further than it used to be. It's great to see all the families and children here.

I see there's a lot of unique buildings that look like they've been here a real long time. You don't see barns like this as much as you used to. We have a small farm in Mexico. My relatives there grow vegetables and have cows, goats, and sheep. And yes, they drink goat milk.

Todd

Santa Clara



Balaji

Sunnyvale



For two years back in the 1980s, I lived at that house on the top of Mora Drive, just down from the water tank. My friends and I rented the place from Open Space. There was a pool and hot tub. I had my own room, bath, garage and unbelievable view of the valley. My share was \$400 a month. They eventually booted us out and put rangers in. This Farm was our backyard. Whenever there were new animals, we were the first to see them.

When human beings get close to nature, they make fewer mistakes and get over any anger they may have. I prefer to stay close to nature. When I have the time, I bring my family here. It is beneficial. I work at a tech company. It's a materialistic life, but as you get close to nature, you can restart your life in a real fresh mode.



John

Livermore



Jim

Los Altos

This Farm is well taken care of. My grandmother grew up in a little cottage in the middle of the mountains, kind of like here, away from everyone. She had a barn with cows, chickens, and pigs. My visit today brings back memories of her.

We hiked into the area in 1973 before the Open Space purchase in 1975. Back in those times, there were far fewer established trails. Over the years, we visited the Farm all the time by either hiking in or riding our bikes. We often saw coyotes and bobcats, which we referred to as wildcats.

FamiliarFace at the Farm—Dennis Haas

by Nina Wong-Dobkin



On a typical work day, Dennis Haas would leave his San Jose home at 6:30AM to avoid commute traffic, stop by a restaurant near his office to have breakfast, and review materials he had prepared for a 10AM meeting with VIPs. Now, substitute *materials* with “Deer Hollow Farm class curriculum,” *10AM meeting* with “10AM field-trip class,” *VIPs* with “students,” and you have Dennis’ new routine as volunteer teaching docent. He brings the dedication he brought to business to his teaching and is always well prepared for his students. Dennis has been a volunteer teaching docent since 2015; he is one of the special docents who teaches all the classes Deer Hollow Farm offers: Ohlone Habitat, Ohlone Village, Farm and Garden, Fleece and Milk, and Life Sciences Hike.

On a recent Life Sciences Hike, Dennis arrived well before the school group, and he checked out a good poison oak sample on the side of the path where he would start with his group. To teach children how to identify poison oak, he uses the popular mnemonic that points out a key difference between poison oak and a blackberry bush, “Leaves of three, leave them be; if it’s hairy, it’s a berry.” “Blackberry stems have



thorns,” Dennis explained, “hence ‘hairy,’ while poison oak stems are smooth.”

All along the hike, Dennis captures the attention of his students as he pulls props out of his pockets: an acorn with the cap attached, a buckeye, two oak galls—a whole one and one that’s been cut in half. Students could see the wasp larvae holes inside the halves. Often, curious children smell the oak gall when they have their turn to look at it, and Dennis would explain that the smell was from the lacquer he used to coat the oak gall to prevent decay; that smell was not natural. The collection of props he carries on these hikes also includes bay nuts (which contain caffeine and provided energy boosts to the Ohlone people) and bay leaves (which students could smell and appreciate their use as decongestants, deodorants, and insect repellent). He points out the moss on tree trunks that helped hikers figure



out directions; the side of the tree trunk where moss grows shows where the sun does not shine, that is the north.

Dennis enjoys the Life Science Hike classes because he can share so much about animal habitats, life cycles, adaptations, and food chains all along the hike. His favorite route is up the steep hill to the Mora water tower where he can point out various mountain ranges in the Bay Area. His students and their chaperones alike marvel at that view, which this winter has included snow-capped mountain tops! On lucky days, Dennis and his group will see hawks, vultures, woodpeckers, squirrels, deer, turkeys, and perhaps even a coyote or a fox.

Even when woodpeckers don’t make

an appearance during the hike, Dennis brings the group’s attention to the holes woodpeckers make on a tree trunk. The entire hike is filled with illustrations and samples of nature everyone can experience. Dennis’ enthusiasm and passion in sharing his knowledge and love for nature are inspiring and deeply felt by his field trip students.

After retiring from his career at Lockheed Martin, where he led a department of orbital mechanics (delivering and maintaining satellites), Dennis is happy to have the opportunity to give back to his community through volunteering as a teaching docent at Deer Hollow Farm. He believes the educational programs at the Farm make an important and positive impact on the lives of the participating students. Dennis says, “I hear many students say that their Rancho San Antonio and Deer Hollow Farm outdoor excursion and animal interactions are the first they’ve had.”

Dennis also finds time to volunteer with Lockheed Martin Blood Bank, joining other Lockheed Martin retirees who provide refreshments and encouragement to blood donors during the monthly blood drives.

He carves stone as a hobby, using hammers, chisels, files, sandpaper, and power tools, usually working on alabaster. He has also worked on marble. His creations are typically under 100 pounds and can take six months to two years to complete, working on them for a few hours a week. He and his wife, Joan, enjoy traveling locally and abroad, and they are looking forward to more traveling when Joan retires in May.



Jaime Retires from Deer Hollow Farm



Everyone had a good laugh over the plaque from the Farm staff featuring a hammer.



In January, scores of volunteers and friends gathered to say goodbye to **Jaime Villarreal** as maintenance worker for the Farm and to wish him well in his next endeavors. We talked with many friends as we listened to music by **Joe Mackessy** and ate good food from one of Jaime's favorite restaurants.



Jessica Morgan was also pleased to present Jaime with a 36-page scrapbook showing him serving the Farm in many ways. The scrapbook was put together by volunteers under the leadership of **Debra Maniar**.

There was time for Jaime to share his thoughts. Then friends shared their stories and memories.



Pages from the scrapbook show the variety of Jaime's activities.

Careers and Plans

by Jaime Villarreal

Before the Farm, I was part of the high-tech industry here in Silicon Valley. I worked many years as an engineering technician for Intel, Envision, and Sun Microsystems. During this time, I volunteered with Santa Clara County Parks as a Trail Watch Volunteer, focusing on Stevens Creek County Park; I also did trail maintenance and group projects with them. In late 2004 when Sun folded, I wasn't excited about going back to high tech. I took a few classes in park management. From there, I heard about Open Space hiring; I was very happy to find a position that I had volunteered for.

I started at the Farm part-time the last part of 2005 and became full-time in May 2007.

After leaving the Farm last year, I joined a government contractor who is tasked with getting parolees back into society. The purpose of this program is to place participants with rehabilitation services that will help them overcome their criminogenic tendencies. I entered the second month of this start-up as the first driver, but I also did some building, vehicle maintenance, and clerical work. I feel good helping them establish operations.

My hope is to start working part time/on-call for my previous employers and perhaps the school district where Lynn, my wife, works. In the summer, it may be possible for me to be covering the Farm from time to time.

Working at the Farm was a real blessing. My stress level changed for the better, and I enjoyed going to work again. It was great starting to work at the Farm when Mountain View classifications changed and role/responsibilities began to be defined. The maintenance position evolved, going from daily livestock chores with some maintenance time to mainly maintenance and less livestock.

I also greatly appreciate all of the proponents of the Farm I have met, whether volunteers or Rancho/Farm visitors. Some have become good friends of mine.



Friends Board News

by Lauren Merriman

No surprises here—the FODHF Board is staying busy in 2019. Between grant writing, spring tour events, and presentations to City Commissions, the members of the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm hit the ground running in 2019, and there is more to come. This summer Friends is offering scholarships to the Deer Hollow Farm Summer Camp experience through West Valley Community Services. Our goal is to sponsor 20 kids ranging in age from 6-14 years old. Summer camp at Deer Hollow Farm is a magical experience, and children who attend remember the experience for years to come. Later in the summer you'll find the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm participating once again in the Downtown Mountain View Thursday Night Live series. The City will host the event Thursdays, July 11 to August 15; they provide live music, a car show, small farmers market, and community tables sharing valuable resources. We hope you'll stop by our table to say hello and pick up

a sticker or a trading card. The dates we'll attend will be listed on our website once we confirm. In the fall, you'll find us at the Cupertino Fall Festival in Memorial Park. And we'll assist with Ohlone Day and Spooky Times at Deer Hollow Farm.

In addition to the events and community outreach, we continue to keep updated with the status of the White Barn project. Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is moving this project along, and the Friends will be planning a special funding campaign to raise additional funds for this important renovation project.

Staff are completing their enhancements for the year, which the Friends fund with the support of our wonderful donors. This year staff have built a barn in the upper pasture, created new signage for the orchard, and replaced the remaining gates within the Farm.

From all of us on the Board, we wish you and your family a happy and healthy summer and look forward to seeing you at the Farm!

Our New Board Member

Friends of Deer Hollow Farm, an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, has welcomed a new face and helping hand to raise funding for Deer Hollow Farm.

New Board member **Katie Stern** joined



the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Board in January 2019. Katie remembers visiting the Farm as a child and

has recently moved back to the Bay Area. She wants to give back to her community. Katie currently works at NASA on their Climate Change Team. She is looking forward to assisting on the Board with grants and marketing.

Wonderful Friends

We gratefully acknowledge these generous friends and community organizations who contributed to Friends of Deer Hollow Farm between November 1, 2018 and April 30, 2019

Grants

Santa Clara County—\$13,562 for buses and field-trip scholarships

Los Altos Community Foundation—\$5,000

Mountain View Kiwanis Foundation—\$2,500

Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund—\$1,500

Donations

Hawk (\$5,000)

Marcella Stauber

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

Connett Ahart and Clint Severson

Manfroy Family Fund

Timothy Dylan Wood, with Apple

Esther John and Aart De Geus

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

Thomas Han, with match from Apple

Judith and Joe Stewart, with Cisco

Joy Desai

Kevin and Jenise Henrikson

Julie Raymond and Neil Hunt

David and Karen Jessen

Al and Suzanne Kaiser

Carol Luckhardt, in honor of Lee Winchell

Richard and Jane Walker

California Quail (\$500 to \$999)

Ruth Kaempf

Coleman and Betsy Youngdahl, with match from Dell

California Quail continued

Joan Anderson, in memory of Mary and Ralph Kane

Park Chamberlain

Kris and Kate Edwards, We have loved visiting the Farm for years.

Chris and Genevieve Halvorsen

Richard and Diane Horn

Iwamoto Family Fund

Carol Jossi

Lauren Merriman

Katherine Miller Wasilenko, with match from Google

Curtis and Wai Mo

Radar Foundation, in honor of David Fung and family

Bob and Sallie Rogallo

Don Weden, in appreciation of Jaime Villarreal's work at the Farm

ANONYMOUS (2)

Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499)

Susan Casner-Kay and Jack Kay, with match from Plantronics

Mike Hammes

East West Yoga, charity yoga class

Kristin Forster, in honor of Judy Webster

Dennis Haas, in honor of Deer Hollow Farm docents

Brian Pahl, with VISA match

Katrina Johnson Secoy, for Roxie

Betsy and George Young

Amazon Smile Foundation

Larry and Donna Aronson

Pamela Baird

Ava Lee and David Bellshaw

Jack Borok

Acorn Woodpecker continued

Rachel Colton, in honor of Sierra Colton

Rob Colwell

Daniel and Nina Dobkin

Neil and Ruth Foley

David Fung

Chris and Bill Green

Marge Haley, in memory of Boyd Haley

Raymond and Elsa Heald

Darwin and Donna Poulos

Kate Rainwater

Edward Reed and Johanna Schmid

Tara Sreekrishnan

Kathryn Stern

Nancy Stuhr

Tim and Gail Sullivan, in honor of Sue Gale

Jeffrey and Barbara Taylor

Prasad Udupa, in appreciation for our neighbors Marion and Fred Sotcher

Vaswani Family Fund

Phoebe (\$100 to \$249)

John Atwood, in memory of Kim Weden

Pamela Carlton

Christine Goritschnigg, with HP match

Stan and Jackie Hall

Jerry and Sandy Juracich

Pamela Lillquist

Paresh and Debra Maniar

Tim and Julia O'Keefe

Monty Simpson

David Vieira, 2 orange trees

Richard and Marcia Baugh

Wonderful Friends continued

Phoebe continued

Sandra Bergan
John and Mary Jane Edwards
Joan Ferguson, with Black Sheep
Handweavers Guild
Sue Gale
James Morales
John and Brenda Robbins
Gary Schlueter
Sylvia Weiser
William Ortlieb Michele Morrison
Virginie Metivier
Cheryl Anton and Eric Helfenbein
Merry and Steve Astor
Hans Bernhardt,
on behalf of Rubber Chicken
Olga Bruce
Christine Burns
Eugene and Clare Cordero
Christel Fliss
Robert Friedman
Ivan Gendzel, in honor of
Fred Offenbach and Penny Gardner
Laura Grant
Marianne Gregersen, in honor
of Lee Winchell
Robert Hauge, in memory of
Virginia Grant Murphy, Louis Grant and
Margaret Grant Shea
Wayne and Judith Hooper
Carol Howard
Jim Hulseman and Carl Baeuerlen,
for Luna
Catherine Kastner,
in honor of Mimi Mourkas
Rebecca Lee, in honor of
Donna Larsen Eideâ, Thanks Donna!
Joan and Greg Loney,
in memory of Ulf Stauber
Andy Lott
Mary Malgoire

Phoebe continued

Ellie and Dick Mansfield
Bridgette Mguinness, in memory
of Gizmo Mguinness
Chris and Amy Migdal
Anne Miller
Susan Purcell,
in honor of Lee Winchell
James and Andrea Sandstrom
Ann Schmit,
in honor of Carla Dorow
Shelby Solid, with match
from Oath Inc.
George Stanley
Boby Sunday
George Bunting and Barbara Titel
Lee Winchell, in honor of
Marianne Gregersen and
Joan and Jim Jordan
ANONYMOUS (4)
Junco (\$50 to \$99)
Jeff and Debbie Chase
Jennifer Timmins, in memory of
Eleanor Jensen's birthday
Ed and Jean Aiken
Krish Ellath and Anita Krishnan
Nancy Jacobson
Al and Ineke Ligtenberg
Gary and Mary Tietz
Doug Cox
Christine Bate
Jacquie Coggiola,
in memory of Mike Coggiola
Robert and Judith Dahl
Claude and Gudrun DeBuhr, in
honor of Luna's happy retirement
Renate Dietz
Eric and Michelle Edgecumbe
Barbara Goodwin
Kevin Hall, in honor of Stanford Hall

Junco continued

Roberta Jorgensen
Paul Kostka
Margaret Lanphier
Neal and Sonja Locke
Joan Meyer, in Honor of Lee Winchell
Helene Pier
Michael and Susan Plass
Martin and Roberta Schwartz
Fred and Nancy Witteborn
ANONYMOUS (2)
Hummingbird (\$10 to \$49)
Walter Keutgens
Elizabeth Trahan Berry,
in honor of Sue Gale
Kelly Enos, in memory
of Marian Gfroerer
Thomas MacDonald
Roger and Peggy Masini
Frederick and Suzanne
McDonough, in memory of
Fred McDonough
Sam and Anne Ng
Stephen Lin

Thank you for Iron Ranger and
other cash donations of **\$998**.

Thank you to
Hassan Lashgari
and his team at
Pine Press, who have printed this
color newsletter for the price of
black-and-white.



Join us for these fun fall events:
Ohlone Day, October 5
Noon to 3PM
Spooky Times, October 29
10AM to 3PM



Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Board

Officers seated, L to R

Nina Wong-Dobkin, Vice President
Carla Dorow, Treasurer
Lauren Merriman, President
Nancy Stuhr, Secretary

Standing, L to R

Park Chamberlain
Tara Sreekrishnan
Dick Walker
Pamela Baird, **Katie Stern**
Wai Mo, **David Fung**

Member not present

Kate Rainwater

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 donors who preserve and improve Deer Hollow Farm. Find up-to-date information at www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org
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