



Friends of Huddart
& Wunderlich Parks

Wild Times

hikes • history • horses

650.851.2660 P.O. Box 6270767 Woodside, CA 94062 www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org Spring 2015

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From the Board President

Dear Friends,

Spring is here and it's a great time to get out and enjoy your county parks!

We are celebrating the season by launching the Folger Stable Speaker Series. The first of three events will be held in Wunderlich Park May 17 with "Deep Roots: Local Artists Inspired by California's Natural Landscapes." This event is sponsored by the Woodside Gallery, and through a grant from The Hurlbut-Johnson Charitable Trust. Details of this event are described in a separate article in this newsletter.

In Huddart Park we are expanding our environmental education programs for young children to include underfunded schools that would otherwise not be able to participate in this valuable outdoor learning experience. The Friends are able to cover the transportation costs and waive the tuition fee through a generous grant from The Hurlbut-Johnson Charitable Trust.

Our third and fourth grade history field trip program, offered in collaboration with the San Mateo County History Museum, continues to grow. New schools have been added and next year's enrollment is almost completely subscribed.

The Carriage Room Museum in the Folger Stable continues to see an increase in visitors on Saturdays. Visitors often comment that it is a wonderful start or finish to their hiking experience at Wunderlich Park.

I began my relationship with the Friends in 2002. Since then, I have seen and been a part of the development of these programs that the community wants and values. It has been a rewarding experience for sure. Generous donors like you have enabled the Friends to provide, expand, and improve these services to adults and children. Thank you all for supporting us in our endeavors to enhance the visitor experience to these beautiful parks.

To stay up-to-date on what we're doing, keep in touch through our new website, like us on Facebook, and stop in the Carriage Room Museum on Saturdays.

Sincerely,
Jill



FOHWP Board President Jill Daly

Colorful, Comprehensive . . . Cool

That's our brand new website.

Take a look!

www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org

What's Been Happening

County Honors Friends Volunteers



Folger Stable volunteers Gene Weber and Julie Wallin

During a reception this past winter at San Pedro Valley County Park to fete all county park volunteers, Friends volunteers Gene Weber and Julie Wallin were singled out to receive Certificates of Appreciation from the San Mateo County Parks. They were honored for their commitment to protecting park natural resources, educating the public, and assisting park staff.

Merck Scientists Give Work Day to Huddart

On a clear winter morning this year, a small army of employees from Merck Research Labs in Palo Alto got down and dirty in Huddart Park. As part of a team-building experience and a company effort to donate service to the community, the volunteers spent a day doing manual labor, helping the rangers with projects that normally take the small park staff weeks to complete. The Merck group pulled out invasive non-native plants such as Scotch Broom, cleared trails of rocks, debris, and fallen trees, and dug drainage ditches. The enthusiastic-Merck group plans to return for another work day this fall.

If you are interested in a similar experience for your corporate group, contact the FOHWP Program Manager at info@huddartwunderlichfriends.org or 650.851.2660.



Friends Host Booth at Earth Day Fair

What tree captures more carbon dioxide from our vehicles and power plants than any other on Earth? That was the question posed to fair goers who stopped by the Friends booth at the Portola Valley/Woodside Earth Day Fair March 28. Other booths asking conservation questions included a 4-H Club, electric vehicle displays, and grey water irrigation demonstrations. So what is the tree in question? The Coast Redwood found in both our parks!

Friends Presidents Deliver Much Appreciated Contribution

The Friends' successful "Carts to Cars" benefit last fall raised funds for several County Parks projects: at Huddart, the purchase and installation of a new play structure; and at Wunderlich, the upgrade of the riding arena and funds toward the new restroom facilities and picnic area. On January 27, 2015, Friends co-presidents Lisa Raskin and Lea Goldstein presented the donation check to Marlene Finley, Director of San Mateo County Parks and to Carole Groom, San Mateo County Supervisor of District 2.



From left: San Mateo County Parks Director Marlene Finley, Friends co-presidents (past) Lea Goldstein and Lisa Raskin, San Mateo County Supervisor Carole Groom.

Grants Help Expand Reach of Huddart Park Nature Hikes Field Trips

The Friends recently received grants from Friends of Kids, Inc., the Hurlbut-Johnson Charitable Trust, and the San Mateo County Parks for the Huddart Park Nature Hikes program. The grants will be used to update the educational activity centers and to cover the cost of transportation to the park. Now more underserved schoolchildren will be able to experience nature for the first time since transportation is the single biggest obstacle for schools to get their students to the park. Much has been written lately about the need for children to get outside more; they spend more time with the digital world than they do with the natural one, especially students from low-income households. Even the Federal Government has announced an initiative for this coming fall, "Every Kid in a Park," providing all fourth graders and their families free entrance to a national park. This effort addresses the concern, who will be the stewards of our public parks in the future? The Friends shares this concern, so with the help of these grants, we will be able to fulfill part of our mission—to encourage young people to learn about and become the caretakers of their parks.



Folger Stable Speaker Series: New Program Features Local Topics

The Friends have launched a new program that deepens its community involvement by offering events for adults. Until now, the educational programs of the Friends have centered on children. The new Folger Stable Speaker Series, dedicated to offering talks of local importance and interest by local individuals accomplished in their fields, begins the afternoon of May 17 at the Folger Stable in Wunderlich Park. The kickoff event will feature presentations by three much admired local artists who are inspired by the richness of the San Mateo County landscape in all its variety.

Fine Art Painters Jim Caldwell, Kit Colman, and Sheila Finch will discuss their work and their artistic process in "Deep Roots: Local Artists Inspired by California's Natural Landscapes." In addition they will showcase paintings in pop-up galleries around the Folger Stable grounds. The paintings will be for sale, and a small portion of the proceeds will benefit the Friends. The event is also being supported by the generosity of Woodside Gallery, Hurlbut-Johnson Charitable Trust, and the San Mateo County Parks Foundation.

For more information call 650.851.2660 or e-mail info@huddartwunderlichfriends.org,

The Folger Stable Speaker Series
Wunderlich Park, 4040 Woodside Road
Woodside, CA
May 17, 2015. 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Admission is free but due to space limits, tickets must be ordered at
<http://FolgerSpeakerSeries.eventbrite.com>



Clockwise from upper left: Examples of work being presented at the first speaker event include "Lifting Fog" by Sheila Finch, "Oaks in Mist" by Kit Colman, and "Old Cañada Road" by Jim Caldwell.

Next up: Fall 2015. Education Coordinator

Carol Preston of NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Area) Gulf of the Farallones will discuss "Preserving Ecological Treasures: Recent Expansion of Marine Sanctuaries."

Donor Spotlight: Why We Give



Robert Buelteman ©2015

Sonja and Bill Davidow are long-time supporters of The Folger Stable programs and of the Friends

As long-time supporters of the Friends, **Sonja and Bill Davidow** have been instrumental in the preservation of Woodside's past and in underwriting the Folger Stable educational program that helps to bring that past to life in the present.

The Davidows moved to Woodside in 1993 after a long search for the right place to call home. Having fallen in love with the town, Sonja served on the Woodside History Committee for 13 years and then became involved with the restoration of the Folger Stable.

"The roof needed to be redone, which was the most critical thing, and I became quite interested," Sonja says. "I thought, I've been on the history committee long enough. So I decided to join the Folger Stable restoration group."

The importance of what the committee was trying to do was abundantly clear the moment Sonja saw the Folger Stable.

"The first time I visited the barn was when the committee was forming, and we got together in the carriage house. I drove through the dirt parking lot, looked up the hill, and there was this huge building that I had no idea was there. It was impressive I must say, even in its sorry state. The barn is important because it reflects the history of Woodside, which was very much a horse community. It survived the earthquake, which is quite something itself. I think the history of the property and what was raised there before Woodside was a community was really interesting. A lot of people had no idea it was Hazelwood Farms and that it raised raisins to export to China."

This history is what inspired the Davidows to lend their support to another Friends effort after the restoration committee completed its work and dissolved. Hundreds of schoolchildren come to the stable every year on a popular class field trip that includes a host of hands-on activities to show the stable's place in history. For a town nestled in the center of a valley always looking to the future, Woodside has a beautifully preserved past. And for that, it has people like Sonja and Bill Davidow to thank.

You know you want to . . .

. . . join us! The Friends has enriching and fun opportunities for volunteers. Some jobs are seasonal. All training is provided.

Carriage Museum Docent

One Saturday/month

10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Folger Stable School Group Docent

Wednesdays or Fridays 10 a.m.-noon

Huddart Park Nature Hike Docent

Tues. or Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Board Member

One meeting/month + committee work

Give us a call!

650.851.2660 or e-mail

info@huddartwunderlichparks.org

**Give!
without giving a cent**

The Friends is now on the lists of both **AmazonSmile** and **eScrip**, two companies that give to the organizations of your choice based on your purchases. So without spending an extra penny, you can help the Friends help our parks. Sign up via the company websites and help us sweep that free money off the table. And like us on **Facebook** for the most up-to-the minute news.



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Mission Statement
The Friends of Huddart & Wunderlich Parks promote enjoyment of our parks through environmental and historic preservation and education. Through community volunteer efforts we raise funds for park improvements and educational programs.

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