

Proudly Serving



Friends of Huddart & Wunderlich Parks

1995-2015

Wild Times

hikes • history • horses

650.851.2660 P.O. Box 6270767 Woodside, CA 94062 www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org Spring 2016

Folger Stable Speaker Series Presents “Iron Road, Stone Walls”

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The construction of the American Transcontinental Railroad changed everything. Its creation opened up the American West to so many influences, including the immigration of Asians. Between 1865 and 1869 thousands of Chinese men—as much as 80 percent of the workforce—toiled to construct the Union Pacific portion of the railroad.

Their faces are captured in photographs taken at the time, but their personal stories were not heard—until now. In partnership with The Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project at Stanford University and the Chinese Historical Society of America, the Friends is presenting “Iron Road, Stone Walls” for its next speaker event Sunday, April 24, 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Dr. Gordon Chang, Professor of History at Stanford and a co-director of the project, will discuss the work to unearth and interpret the history of the Chinese workers and to give voice to the migrants who helped shape the physical and social landscape of the American West. In addition, an exhibit created by The Chinese Historical Society of America, titled “The Chinese and The Iron Road: Building the Transcontinental,” will be on view in the Carriage Room through May, featuring several panels of historical and contemporary information that provide an overview of the Chinese railroad workers as well as stories of their descendants. Attendees to the event can listen to Professor Chang as well as tour the exhibit.

It’s fitting that Folger Stable is host to this talk. When Wunderlich Park was Hazelwood Farm for some 20 years beginning in 1872, Chinese employees, some of whom had likely worked on the railroad, tended the vineyards and orchards as well as constructed the stone walls that still border the stable. Visitors to the Iron Road exhibit can glimpse the walls through the museum windows and see first-hand evidence of the skill of the Chinese workers whose labor helped build the West.

“Iron Road, Stone Walls”

Sunday, April 24, 4:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.

Folger Stable at Wunderlich Park

4040 Woodside Rd., Woodside CA 94062

Free with reservation at <https://folgerstablespeakerseries.eventbrite.com>

BARN DANCE at FOLGER STABLE AUGUST 28, 2016

Save the date for the Friends biannual fundraiser. Live caller, yummy barbecue, fantastic raffle items, great fun, all to support our favorite parks. Sign up to get e-mail updates about this and all our activities at <http://eepurl.com.blcjch>.

How We're Doing

The Friends continue to attract more donors, grants, volunteers, community attention, groups to host in the parks and more. Look at what we've been up to—we're pretty proud.

Community Support for Our Mission.

\$76,000—Annual Appeal plus other 2015 donations
\$20,000—Challenge Grant.

Note: Nearly 80 percent of every donated dollar goes toward the Friends programs, with the remaining 20 percent going toward administration and fundraising. Donations fund 100 percent of the programs.

Town Events. Woodside Earth Faire, Victorian Walking Days, Day of the Horse, POST Family hiking event.

Hosted Tours. Sunnyvale Photography Club, Woodside Hiking Group, Checkpoint Software Employees, South Bay Taiwanese People Meet Up, Hiller Aviation (The Friends donated a docent-led hike, history tour and lunch to the museum's auction), Nazareth Senior Group.

In Development. Docent-led hiking program for adults and families; expanding the Huddart Park Nature Hikes to reach more schools and grades

To learn how you can become involved or for information about private tours for your group, e-mail info@huddartwunderlich.org or call 650-851-2660.

Public Trail Rides at Wunderlich



Chaparral Ranch has contracted with San Mateo County Parks to assume the management of Folger Stable. The stalls are now nearly filled to capacity with private boarders. But Chaparral is offering several new opportunities to the public to get up close and personal with both horses and Wunderlich Park.

Park visitors can now sign up to explore the trails of Wunderlich via horse-

back on guided trail rides. Riders can choose from different lengths of rides. In addition, Chaparral is offering riding lessons, both Western and English styles, in the riding ring. Also, plans are afoot to offer summer riding camp at the stable.

For more information, call 408-726-8453, e-mail info@chaparral.com, or visit www.chaparralcorporation.com

New Parks Foundation Director

The San Mateo County Parks Foundation recently had a change in leadership. After 17 years as the Executive Director of the Foundation, Julia Bott retired to begin a new chapter in her life. Under her leadership, the Foundation grew and thrived.



Michele Beasley, Executive Director, San Mateo County Parks Foundation

Michele Beasley, South Bay Regional Director for Greenbelt Alliance since 2004 and a San Mateo County native, has been chosen as the next Executive Director. Michele brings a great deal of enthusiasm to her position. "San Mateo County is blessed with an amazing diversity of parks and open spaces, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to support our parks. My vision is that everyone in this county knows the beauty of our park system firsthand, regardless of age or ability. In other words, access is very important to me. To see a redwood tree or walk the coastal bluffs is a gift that can have a profound effect on us all. Together, we can nurture a new generation of land stewards who will cherish and support these parks far into the future."

The Friends have benefited from a close partnership with The Foundation. Most recently the Foundation generously granted the Huddart Park Nature Hikes funds for buses to bring two classes from an East Palo Alto schools to the park, enabling the Friends to waive the school's tuition.

Before and After



Left: Wunderlich Park's current public restroom facilities, a portable toilet that has served park visitors for years. Right: The new ADA-compliant restroom that the Friends helped fund. It's all built and ready to install; all that's left to do is grade and otherwise prepare the site for the new structure. The estimate to complete the project is Spring 2016.

The "Richest Kind" at the Folger Coffee Cart

A cup of fresh-brewed Folger's coffee after a visit to Wunderlich Park—sounds good, right? The Friends invites you to stop by the new coffee cart at the Folger Stable Carriage Room Museum most Saturdays.

You can sip your coffee while learning about the Folger family who made their fortune in the coffee trade. Or sit on a bench and take in the busy goings-on around the stable. Either way, it's a nice capper to a visit in the park.



Dear Friends

Transitioning into spring of our 20th anniversary year, we celebrate the best of the season and the promise of what lies ahead for all of us who love Huddart and Wunderlich Parks. Celebrating 20 years as a nonprofit is a big accomplishment. We are very grateful to our friends for supporting our mission to promote environmental awareness, education, and community programs aimed at enhancing your park experiences.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you who helped us meet the challenge grant for our year-end appeal. We intend to put your donations to good use satisfying the increasing demands for more programming in both parks.

Teachers, families, and adult groups are appreciating the value of our natural environments as outdoor classrooms as well as recreational spaces. Starting this spring, we are adding third and fourth grade environmental educational hikes to our existing Kindergarten, first, and second grade hikes in Huddart Park. Our expert docents have incorporated Next Generation Science Standards into their interpretive presentations creating a deeper learning experience for their hikers.

Our new hikes for adults and family groups will highlight the historical aspects of the properties in both parks prior to their use as recreational centers. These hikes will take place once a month on weekends. Join our e-news at <http://eepurl.com/blcjch> to sign up or check our website for details.

We are continuing with our speaker series, open museum hours, docent-led tours, and our partnership with the San Mateo County Historical Association's third and fourth grade history field trips. Our ambitions are only limited by funding and volunteer support. Volunteers populate our board, serve as advisors, docents, and event committee members. The Friends relies on a steady group of dedicated people, of whom we could always use a few more as we add to our existing programs.

Funding our programs, new and existing, relies on the generosity of our donors. We intend to seek additional funds from grants, corporate sponsorships, and our fundraiser barn dance coming up August 28. The reality is that we will continue to need your financial support from time to time and hope that you will continue to answer our requests as you have for the past 20 years.

Many thanks and good wishes for a happy spring and summer in Huddart and Wunderlich Parks!



*Jill Daly
Friends Board President*

Teacher Spotlight

Huddart Nature Hikes: An Exceptional Experience

“For over 12 years, I have had the opportunity of taking hundreds of children and their parents to Huddart Park for an exceptional experience,” says Norma Ochoa, Supervisor of the Parent Involvement Project (PIP).

PIP, a nonprofit program, serves Fiesta Gardens, George Hall, and Lead schools in San Mateo County as well as schools in South San Francisco and Fremont. The goal of PIP is to give parents of young children (preschool through first grade) the tools to help them be successful in school. PIP offers workshops and seminars for parents and makes home visits to promote reading in the home. In addition, the program offers enrichment activities in partnership with community resources, such as the Huddart Park Nature Hikes.

“We have witnessed the thrill of children when they discover a banana slug on a leaf, experience having the image of a fern “tattooed” on their pants leg, and smell bay laurel leaves from the ‘spaghetti tree.’ The docents give our students an informative and enjoyable experience that makes them excited to come back to their classroom and keep learning,” says Ms. Ochoa.

“PIP promotes parent participation; therefore we are always encouraging parents to come as chaperones on the Huddart Park Nature Hikes. Many of the parents have expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to share this field trip with their children, since they do not have the resources to come on their own. We are very grateful to the Huddart Park Nature Hike docents and program manager who devote their time, resources, and energy to offer these opportunities to our families.”

The biggest obstacle to schools bringing children on field trips to Huddart Park is the cost of transportation. Grants can help pay for school buses, and donations can help the Friends waive tuition. Volunteer docents help children, who otherwise have little opportunity, to explore Huddart. For more information, e-mail info@huddartwunderlichfriends.org or call 650-851-2660.

Norma Ochoa, Supervisor of the Parent Involvement Project.



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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.

Top Ten Reasons to Be a Docent

10. The Parties
9. Home-baked thank-you goodies
8. The cool backpack
7. The cool name tag
6. Knowing other people with cool backpacks and name tags
5. Learning stuff you never knew
4. Telling other people the new stuff you learned
3. Being outside in a beautiful place
2. Contributing to the curiosity and joy of school kids
1. Doing a good thing

Join us!
For more information call
650-851-2660 or email
info@huddartwunderlichfriends.org.
Free training by experienced naturalists.

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

Weekdays 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Board Member

One meeting/month + committee work

Give us a call!

650.851.2660 or e-mail

info@huddartwunderlichparks.org

Please remember the Friends on the valley-wide day of giving. Donations gratefully accepted through **May 3**

<https://svgives.razoo.com/us/story/Friends-Of-Huddart-And-Wunderlich-Parks>

Hikes with The Friends



The Friends now offers adult and family hikes in Wunderlich Park. Docents will lead small groups while bringing to life the fascinating history of the

park.

For more information,
e-mail info@huddartwunderlichparks.org.

How to be in the Know

- Subscribe to the Friends e-news at <http://eepurl.com/blcjcH>
- Like the Friends Facebook page
- Visit the Friends website



**Like us on
Facebook!**