



Friends of Huddart
& Wunderlich Parks
Serving Since 1995

Wild Times

hikes • history • horses



650.851.2660 P.O. Box 6270767 Woodside, CA, 94062 www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org Spring 2018

Grants

Friends' Programs Inspire Generosity

A class of first graders spilled from the yellow school bus at Huddart Park, squealing with excitement at seeing deer from the window, eager for adventure on the hiking trails. After the field trip the teacher said, "It was such an amazing opportunity for these students. For many of them this was their first time learning about plants and animals here in our county. I was blown away that our trip and bus were paid for. It meant a lot to us because most of our students could not afford to pay for a field trip."

The Friends were able to fully fund this and other Huddart Park Nature Hikes field trips thanks to generous grants from local foundations, which have allowed the Friends to increase the scope and impact of programs for the community. First, the grants made it possible to train and double the number of hike leaders. Grants also provided funding to cover the transportation costs that brought 400 low-income schoolchildren to the redwoods, many for the first time. Rising transportation costs are a prime obstacle for underserved schools in particular to be able to take kids on enriching field trips. Grants also helped in the development of the latest exhibit in the Carriage Room Museum in Wunderlich, "A Rough and Perilous Life: The Loggers of Woodside." In addition, grants support the Folger Stable Living History field trips, which enrich 3rd and 4th graders' history curriculum with tours of the stable's Historic District and hands-on farm activities. Most recently, the Friends have been able to explore some new initiatives to reach a wider range of the community. One is a partnership with LifeMoves, a local family shelter, to bring homeless children to Huddart Park for a summer's day hike. In addition, the Friends is collaborating with Vista Center to create a new hiking program for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Grants provide much needed financial support that helped the Friends serve some 7,000 community members last year. But individual community members themselves who donate their money as well as their time continue to be the backbone of the success of the Friends programs.

If your family makes charitable contributions through a family foundation, consider including the Friends. For more information about the meaningful impact such a donation would have, e-mail Program Director Kym Teppo at kym@huddartwunderlichfriends.org.



A thank you note from Ebony, who hiked with the Friends last summer.

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Thanks to: The Beverly Folger Foundation • Davidow Family • Friends of Kids • Harvey L. and Maud C. Sorensen Foundation • Hurlbut Johnson Trust • KEEN • Koret Foundation • Merck Foundation • Resources Legacy Fund • San Mateo County Measure K • San Mateo County Parks Foundation • Save the Redwoods League • The Strong Foundation for Environmental Values

Special Friend Steps Away From Museum Duties



Rob Flint

Having been a major force during the restoration of the Folger Stable and being the first to volunteer as a docent when the stables' Carriage Room Museum was established, Rob Flint, Friend Extraordinaire, is retiring from his museum work. He will continue his role on the Friends' Advisory Board.

Fellow docent Julie Wallin recalls, "I met Rob shortly after I joined the group in 2011. I quickly learned that he is a wealth of fascinating facts

and stories. I thoroughly enjoy Rob's tales of traveling to the Antarctic, learning about our local history, and his tidbits about the locals for our museum visitors."

Throughout the Folger Stable restoration project, Rob attended every meeting and event, offered his feedback and advice, talked the committee through countless decisions, and was one of the first and most significant supporters of the restoration. Susan Lang, who served with Rob on the committee, says he is "generous in every sense of the word and his level-headed, patient, never-say-die approach enabled the group to live up to its fund raising motto: Gracious but tenacious."

Wallin says, "I already miss sharing my docenting afternoons with Rob, but I look forward to seeing him at future events and to share another story."

Huddart Docents Keep on Learning

Each spring, Huddart Park Nature Hike Docents look forward to an enrichment event with an outstanding local nature or environmental expert. This year, because of generous grants and donations, the docents attended four programs. By deepening the knowledge and experience of the docents, they in turn provide a richer connection to science and nature for the hundreds of school kids who hike with them.

Hike leader Nancy Ridgway says, "The Coast Range has a big story to tell. These classes give me insider information that I can use with the schoolkids on the trail,"

The Friends partnered with experts in their fields for the classes including: Professor of Native California Cultures Mark Hylkema, Master Birder Clayton Anderson of Golden Gate Audubon Society, trackers Tanya Diamond and Ahiga Snyder of Pathways for Wildlife, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) educator Carol Preston. In addition, the docents hiked Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve on a private tour.



Plaster cast of a mountain lion track.

Alambique Trail in Wunderlich Will Open This Spring

Thanks to the efforts of an extensive local partnership, a bypass trail for park enthusiasts will open soon in Wunderlich where the Alambique Trail collapsed last year. The County built an emergency access road around the slide, but at 38 percent grade it was too steep for horses and used by only the most intrepid hikers.

The Mounted Patrol Foundation spearheaded an effort to raise the funds necessary for the new bypass, and in conjunction with the County Parks Department developed the design of the trail.

Says Don Pugh, President of the MP Foundation board, "This is a great public/private partnership to meet the needs of the outdoor community. Many folks are eager to be able to ride, walk, or run through Wunderlich to have lunch at Alice's Restaurant once again."

The County is supplying rock and other supplies for the project. Nonprofits that donated to the project include: The Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Parks, San Mateo County Parks Foundation, Woodside Horse Owners Association (WHOA), Bay Area Barns and Trails (BAPT), Los Viajeros, San Mateo County Horseman's Association, Woodside Community Fund, and many generous individuals.

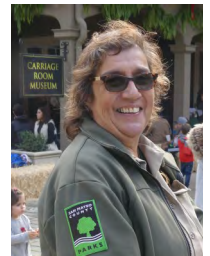
Dinora Dunsmore-Bertoni to Retire

After 21 years of service, San Mateo County Parks Ranger Dinora Dunsmore-Bertoni is retiring. Among her many involvements, she has been the Friends' steadfast partner, supporting educational programs and events in both Huddart and Wunderlich parks.

Having also worked in Edgewood and Flood county parks, she confesses her favorite is Huddart. Her most memorable wildlife sighting there was a mother gray fox nursing her two cubs in the sun.

Scott Lombardi, Superintendent of San Mateo County Parks, says, "Dinora is a very kind and respected ranger, passionate about her job and the people she serves. She will be missed for her laughter and family team environment."

Once she retires, Dinora and her husband are moving to the Gold Country, where she hopes to work as a seasonal ranger and when not outdoors, to make quilts.



Ranger Dinora Dunsmore-Bertoni

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August 26, 2018 • 4:00 PM

More info at: www.HuddartWunderlichFriends.org or 650-851-2660

2018 Folger Stable Speaker Series Kicks Off

The 2018 season of the Friends' Folger Stable Speaker Series began in April with a presentation by award-winning Plant Biologist Zane Moore of U.C. Davis. With infectious enthusiasm and smile-inducing wit, Moore discussed "How to Grow the Tallest Tree" to a near-capacity audience in the Carriage House in Wunderlich Park.

Most of us know how special the coast redwoods are, but Moore demonstrated some of what makes them truly unique including: the physics of how they grow to such heights, the biology of how the rare albino redwoods (also known as chimera redwoods) survive without chlorophyll and the ability to photosynthesize, and the mathematics of a redwood's leaf arrangement. It sounds very technical, but Moore's delivery was in terms lay people could easily enjoy. For instance, in explaining how redwoods send water to their uppermost branches, he said simply, "Redwood trees suck!"

Moore went on to focus on the rare chimeras, of which he is considered a foremost expert. The approximately 500 known ghost trees are difficult to find because they're generally deep in the woods, and tricks of light camouflage the pale limbs surrounded by larger green boughs.

The Folger Stable Speaker Series, a free program presented by the Friends, offers talks on topics of local interest by local individuals of note. Upcoming speaker events will be in July and October. For information about these and other activities of the Friends, subscribe to the Friends' e-news at <http://eepurl.com.blcjch>.



Plant Biologist Zane Moore with an albino redwood seedling.

Letter from the President

Dear Friends . . .

Our educational programs in both parks are expanding and thriving. This is largely due to our enthusiastic, talented, and dedicated volunteer docents, who serve as our front-line representatives whether they are hosting visitors in the Folger Stable Carriage Room Museum, leading school field trips, or guiding specially curated hikes or history tours.

The museum docents bring history to life as they interpret exhibits, artifacts, and stories of the previous stable owners and their activities on the property.

Our Huddart Nature Hikes docents are trained naturalists who love to share their knowledge of nature with elementary school students. Many of the busloads of children arriving from all over the county are often having their first "wilderness" experience. The docents leave an indelible impression on these young minds as they point out natural wonders along the trails such as banana slugs and turret spiders.

Third and fourth grade history students experience the activities of the people who inhabited what is now Wunderlich Park, from before the Gold Rush until today. Our docents expose them to the role of the horse through history and how we enjoy them today. Students are often treated to a "Meet the Horse" experience, which is an up close and personal encounter with a real equine!

The value of our docents to our programs can't be overstated. We simply wouldn't be able to provide these wonderful programs without them. I admire and appreciate the vital role they play in enhancing the experiences of all the park visitors they meet.

Volunteering as a docent is a fulfilling activity, and by exposing children and adults to new discoveries our docents say they get big personal rewards. We always need more docents to keep our programs well staffed and welcome you to join our group whether you're interested in natural history or California history.

Thanks to all the many docents for your dedication and generosity and for sharing your time and talent on behalf of the Friends.



Jill Daly
Friends Board President



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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.

SAVE THE DATE!



Sunday, August 26, 2018
Historic Folger Stable, Wunderlich Park
4040 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA 94062

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