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Fort Ross and Salt Point parks have benefited greatly from many dedicated volunteers and staff who have given generously to these parks. Board of directors from FRIA and FRC have fundraised, organized events, overseen volunteers, spearheaded interpretation and restoration projects, and offered substantial support to California State Parks across many decades.

These digitized newsletters capture the activities over the following historic periods:

- Fort Ross Interpretive Association (FRIA): 1976 2012
- Fort Ross Conservancy (FRC is the same legal entity as FRIA but the organization changed its name): 2012 - present

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Fort Ross Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) and California State Park cooperating association, connects people to the history and beauty of Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks. © Fort Ross Conservancy, 19005 Coast Highway One, Jenner, CA 95450, 707-847-3437 www.fortross.org

FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION 19005 COAST HIGHWAY # 1 AT FORT ROSS VIA JENNER, CALIF. 95450

A JENNER, CALIF. 95450 MAW 16,1978

FORT ROSS NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS FROM FORT ROSS

"APRIL, MAY AND JUNE -THESE MONTHS CAN BE CALLED BLOSSOMING ONES: AT THIS TIME ALL THE FIELDS AND MOUNTAINS ARE ADORNED WITH LUXURIANT FLOWERS AND FORM AN INIMITABLE PICTURE. ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME IS THE HEART IMBUED WITH A REVERENT FEELING TOWARD THE PERPATRATOR OF LIFE."

YEGOR CHERNYKH WROTE THE ABOVE FROM THE ROSS SETTLEMENT IN 1836. AND HE GOES ON TO WRITE:

"THERE ARE TWO PROMINENT WINDS; NORTHWESTERN AND SOUTHERN; THE FORMER IS MOST USUAL AND BLOWS ALBOST CONSTANTLY FROM MAY TO OCTOBER, ALWAYS BRINGING CLEAR WEATHER; FROM TIME TO TIME THERE OCCUR RAINY SOUTH WINDS."

AH, CHERNYKH, HOW WELL YOU OBSERVED 140 YEARS AGO. THIS WEEK, THREE FISHING VESSELS SHELTERED IN THE COVE, WAITING FOR THAT NORTHWESTERN WIND TO ABATE SO THEY COULD FISH. BUT, WHILE THEY SHELTERED, FOUR FISHERMAN ROWED ASHORE AND VISITED FORT ROSS, AND RELATED WHALE STORIES AND OTTER TALES TO THE SALES COUNTER FORCES DELIGHT.

The whales with their young are more fun going North as they are doing now, spring 1978. They take more time to feed and show their young the inlets and the coves so they can find their own way in future years?

THIS REMINDS ONE OF "ROGGING DAY" - AN OLD AMERICAN CUSTOM ON "ROGATION DAY". THE LAND-OWNERS TOOK A SUNDAY TO WALK THEIR PROPERTY LINES; MOTHERS CARRIED SWEETS TO REWARD THE CHILDREN WHEN BUMPED INTO A TREE OR WATER HOLE -WHICH FATHER HAD SELECTED AS A "SPOT TO REMEMBER". THAT WAS IN NEW ENGLAND WHERE YOU COULD WALK YOUR LINES IN A DAY. IN CALIFORNIA, THERE WERE "SPREADS"; NO ONE COULD WALK THOSE LINES IN A DAY. KASHAYAS WALKED NOT THE PROPERTY LINES BUT SEASONAL FOOD TRAILS. THIS BOUNTEOUS TIME OF THE YEAR LED THEM COASTWARD FOR THE SEA FOOD, LETTUCE, ABALONE AND OTHER SHELL FISH THAT THEY FAVORED. THEY TOO THANKED THE PERPATRATOR OF LIFE.

MAY 29 MONDAY (MEMORIAL DAY) TRADITIONAL RUSSIAN CHURCH SERVICE AT FORT ROSS: THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN EXILE

JULY 4 TUESDAY - TRADITIONAL RUSSIAN CHURCH SERVICE
AT FORT ROSS: THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

OUR STATE PARK OFFICIALS SUGGEST THAT THEY MAY ADD AN OCCASION OF THEIR OWN TO BE GRATEFUL FOR — A GROUND BREAKING CERÉMONY FOR THE OFFICIALS BARRACKS. WE HOPE THAT IT MAY HAPPEN SOON.

Summer days at Fort Ross seem to come alive and wear a different guise from the quiet outpost atmosphere of winter: the humming-birds and people increase in numbers.

SEE PAGE 2 OF THIS NEWSLETTER - FOR MORE NEWS OF FORT ROSS

, AY 16, 1978 FORT ROSS NEWSLETTER PAGE 2 Notes From the Association's Annual Meeting April 21, 1978

Your officers for this year are:

VICE CHAIRMAN: MARINA ILLYIN CHAIRMAN: FLORRIE MILLIGAN

CORRESPONDING SECTY: JEANNETTE ROSSON:

RECORDING SEC'T; RICHARD TOOKER; TREASURER: MOSES HALLETT

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MERCEDES STAFFORD; PAUL SHEBALIN; LIDA SCHNEIDER NICK ROKITIANSKY; WALT SCHENK:

JOHN MCKENZIE

DIMITRI ILLYIN: JACKIE HALLETT:

EVE CRITTENDEN

BOOK AND SALES COUNTER:: TOOK IN \$ 19,000 - LAST YEAR ! IT HAS COMMITTED EVERY PENNY. A RE-PUBLISHING OF THE FORT ROSS SETTLEMENT' BOOK IN MORE ATTRACTIVE FORM IS NOW BEING PREPARED, OF INTERENT TOO, A NEW ITEM FOR SALE IS A FINE REPROUCTION OF A FIVE KOPEC PIECE.

A VERY FINE MOVIE OF 1926-27 WAS: SHOWN AND THEN GIVEN TO THE FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION BY MRS. REGINA REEVES OF SEBASTOPOL.
IT SHOWED A RUSSIAN CHURCH GROUP FROM SAN FRANCISCO COMING TO FORT ROSS FOR A RELIGIOUS SERVICE- BEAUTIFULLY FILMED. THE GENEROUS GIFT FROM MRS. REEVES IS ALREADY REPRODUCED ON NEW FILM AND SAVED FOR FUTURE SHOWINGS. WE BELIEVE A FILM FESTIVAL MAKE BE IN THE MAKING. OTIS PARRISH SHOWED FIVE DIFFERENT FILMS OF THE KASHAYA. EDNA GUERERO SHOWED US THE ACORN STORY: MERCEDES STAFFORD THE CALL FAMILY FILMS:

WE THINK ALL THESE MIGHT BE GATHERED TOGETHER WITH SOME OTHER FILMS FOR A FESTIVAL OF FORT ROSS FILMS. WHAT DO YOU THINK ?

WHERE SHOULD WE HAVE IT ? THE VISITOR CENTER SEEMS TO FADE AWAY IN WHAT SEEMS TO BE A QUARREL BETWEEN INNOVATIVE DESIGN AND TRADITIONAL PARK DEPT. CONCEPTS. WHO CAN GET THEM OFF DEAD CENTER ?? PLEASE USE YOUR GITIZEN POWER IF YOUR HAVE CONVICTIONS. HUNDING OF THE VISITOR CENTER IS REQUIRED TO GO BACK TO THE LEGISLATURE BECAUSE OF THE THREE YEAR LAPSEL

OTHER PROJECTS: PERHAPS RENOVATION OF THE CALL BARN WILL BE AN OBJECTIVE FOR THE NEAR FUTURE ? ESTIMATES AND CONSTRUCTION PRIORITIES HAVE BEEN MADE BY STATE PARKS...

EMMY DENTEN SUGGESTS THAT A MEMBERSHIP IN FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION CAN MAKE A NICE BIRTHDAY GIFT, OR A CONTRIBUTION CAN BE MADE AS A MEMORIAL FOR OR EVEN "IN HONOR OF" SOME DEAR RELATIVE OR FRIEND. SUCH DONATIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION WILL CERTAINLY SE A TANGIBLE EXPRESSION OF YOUR INTEREST.

MEMBERSHIP IN THIS ASSOCIATION RUNS MARCH 31 TO MARCH 31 EACH YEAR. \$ 3.00 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$5.00 FOR A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

YOU ARE PAID UP & please! YOU ARE NOT PAID UP

PAYABLE TO BETTY MUSSER 9532 CLINT COURT

STAR ROUTE

CAZADERO CALIF. 95421

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ORDER OF FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION, PLEASE

THAT STEADY NORTHWEST WIND (OF WHICH CHERNYKH WROTE,) HAS DROPPED FOR A FEW DAYS BUT THE WHALES ARE STILL GOING NORTH WITH THEIR YOUNG WHILE OVER-HEAD NORTHWARD FLY BONAPART GULLS, DUCKS, AND GEESE.

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF - AT FORT ROSS.

THE MUSSERS AND THE CRITTENDENS SINCERELY FROM CO-EDITORS OF THE NEWSLETTER