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Title: Fort Ross Interpretive Association / Fort Ross Conservancy Newsletter

Author(s): Fort Ross Interpretive Association / Fort Ross Conservancy

Published by: Fort Ross Conservancy Library

URL: [www.fortross.org](http://www.fortross.org)

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](tel:707-847-3437) [www.fortross.org](http://www.fortross.org)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: THE MAIN PURPOSE OF F.R.I.A. IS THE INTERPRETATION OF THE FORT ROSS STORY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED. IN OCTOBER, WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEW REVISED EDITION OF FORT ROSS, WE WILL BE FURTHERING THIS GOAL. THIS BOOKLET BEARS LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO THE FIRST EFFORT. TEXT, GRAPHICS, PAPER AND PRINTING ARE ALL OF MUCH BETTER QUALITY AND THE COVERS AND CENTERPIECEFOLD WILL BE IN COLOR.

BICKFORD O'BRIEN, RETIRED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, U.C. DAVIS, HAS BEEN THE HARD-WORKING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF. MICHAEL TUCKER TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DESIGN AND GRAPHICS. OTHER MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS ARE NICHOLAS ROZITSKIANSKY, JOHN MCKENZIE, MERCEDES STAFFORD, EDNA GUERRERO, DAVID PERE, OTIS PARRISH AND DIANE SPENCER-HANCOCK. TO ALL THESE PEOPLE I WISH TO EXTEND A GRATEFUL "THANK YOU" FOR YOUR MANY VOLUNTEER HOURS OF PLANNING, WRITING AND RESEARCH. THE BOOKLET WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FORT ROSS SALES COUNTER BY MID-OCTOBER. THE PRICE IS \$ 2.50/.

BY-LAWS: WALT SCHENK HAS DONE A BIG JOB OF AMENDING OUR BY-LAWS. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU, 135 MEMBERS. PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIVING THEM. YOUR BOARD, ON THE BASIS OF SECTION 1 AND 11, HAS MADE THE DECISION THAT A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THOSE RESPONDING WILL DETERMINE THE VOTE.

NEXT MEETING: SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 21: PAUL SHEDALIN HAS MADE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR US TO MEET AT THE HOLY VIRGIN CATHEDRAL, 6210 GEARY BLVD. BETWEEN 26TH. AND 27TH. PLEASE NOTE A TRY AT A NEW TIME! 2 P.M. SATURDAY AFTERNOON. THERE WILL BE A PROGRAM AS WELL AS A BUSINESS MEETING. ALL ARE WELCOME. FLORRIE MILLIGAN, CHAIRMAN

SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH IS A DAY TO REMEMBER. FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL RANCH DAY PICNIC, AT THE CALL PICNIC GROVE IN FORT ROSS STATE HISTORIC PARK. IN THIS DAY, ALL THOSE WHO ENJOY SPENDING A DAY IN THE REDWOODS, NEAR THE SEA (JUST 1/2 MILE ABOVE THE HISTORIC STOCKADE AREA) IN THE COMPANY OF THOSE WHO SHARE AN INTEREST IN FORT ROSS - WILL BATHER AT AN OLD-FASHIONED RANCH STYLE PICNIC, WITH GAMES AND ENTERTAINMENT. BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC. THE TIME IS 12 TO 3 P.M. BUT COME EARLY AND STAY LATE AND ENJOY A CARE-FREE DAY. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED. BRING YOUR LUNCH BUT CAFE AND SOFT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION. IN 1975 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PURCHASED THIS AREA, INCLUDING THE OLD RUSSIAN ORCHARD, AS WELL AS SECOND-GROWTH REDWOODS (SAID TO BE THE OLDEST IN THE STATE) FROM THE CALL FAMILY, AS AN ADDITION TO THE STATE HISTORIC PARK, AND IT WAS FORMALLY DEDICATED BY THE PARK DEPARTMENT ON OCTOBER 9, 1977, WITH A "NINETYIES" PICNIC. THIS YEAR THE THEME IS RANCH AND WESTERN AND COSTUMES IN WESTERN STYLE WILL BE WORN BY ALL WHO CARE TO SO DO. TO ENTER INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE DAY. (SPONSORED BY FT. ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION WITH MERCEDES STAFFORD AS COORDINATOR, JEANNETTE ROBSON, CHAIRMAN).

FORT ROSS BOOK AND GIFT SHOP REPORT FOR NEWSLETTER. THE LONG, BUNNY DAYS OF SUMMER BROUGHT A RECORD NUMBER OF VISITORS TO FORT ROSS AND NEXT MONTHS AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE BOOK & GIFT SHOP ON THEIR TOES. DURING JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST MORE THAN 7,000 PEOPLE SIGNED THE VISITOR REGISTER REPRESENTING 45 STATES AS WELL AS ALL PARTS OF CALIFORNIA. IN ADDITION, SURPRISING 418 FOREIGN VISITORS FROM 42 COUNTRIES FOUND THEIR WAY TO FORT ROSS (THESE FIGURES ARE CONSERVATIVE AS MANY SINGLE SIGNATURES INCLUDE COUPLES, FAMILIES AND SOMETIMES LARGER GROUPS). MOST PEOPLE LEAVE WITH POSTCARDS AND LITERATURE, SO WORD OF FORT ROSS IS SPREADING FAR AND WIDE. THANKS TO ALL OUR HARD-WORKING VOLUNTEERS, SALES RECEIPTS FOR THE THREE MONTHS TOTALED \$ 11,149.12 - A RECORD WHICH IS HARD TO BEAT. THE SHOP HAS A GOOD SELECTION OF BOOKS AND OTHER ITEMS SUITABLE FOR GIFTS, SO WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE 10% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS AND COME OUT TO DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WHILE THE WEATHER IS FINE.

(BY JACKIE HALLETT)

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FROM NEWSLETTER EDITORS: THE MUSSERS AND THE CRITTENDENS



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