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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 NEWSLETTER
OF FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2, 1978

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 centerfold 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 Ashtiansky, John McKenzie, Mercedes Stafford, Edna Guerrero, David Perle, 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 fine job of amending our by-laws. The proposed amendments will be mailed to you, 155 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 Shebalin has made the arrangements for us to meet at the Holy Virgin Cathedral, 5210 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.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH, is a day to remember, for the Second Annual Ranch Day Picnic, at the gall Picnic Grove in Fort Ross State Historical Park, in this day will take place. Expecting to be staying in our ocean, just 1/2 mile above the historic stockade area, in the company of those who share an interest in Fort Ross will gather at an old-as-american 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 or buy a soft drink will be available for a donation. In 1976 the state of California purchased this area, including the old Russian structures, and is open for the day. The event is open to the public.

FORT ROSS BOOK AND GIFT SHOP REPORT FOR NEWSLETTER: The long, sunny days of summer brought a record number of visitors to Fort Ross and most of them have been at the book and gift shop on their way in or out, July and August more than 7,000 people signed the visitor register either as a resident or a visitor. In addition to the foreign visitors from all areas of the world, the figures are conservative as many single signatures include 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 $11,499.12— a record which is hard to beat.

FORT ROSS NEW-LETTER September 2, 1978
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INDIAN DAY AT FORT ROSS was Sept. 2nd. Labor Day weekend, a fine day with many Native Americans in the cultural group. The Pow Wow was open to non-participants at least. 500 happy folk. We really seem to be getting the three culture concept (Indian, Russian, and California Ranch Period) underway any year of Russian Days on Memorial Day and July 4th. Why not take advantage of the 10% discount to members and come out to enjoy our Christmas shopping while the stores are open.

(by Jackie Halley)

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FROM NEWSLETTER EDITORS: The Mussers and the Crittendens
FORT ROSS NEWSLETTER
September 27, 1978
OF FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

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 SHOWS LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO THE FIRST EDITION. TEXT, GRAPHICS, PAPER AND PRINTING ARE ALL OF MUCH BETTER QUALITY AND THE COVERS AND CENTERPIECE FOLDER WILL BE IN COLOR.

BICKFORD O'BRIEN, RETIRED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, UC DAVIS, HAS BEEN THE HARD-WORKING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, MICHAEL TUCKER TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DESIGN AND GRAPHICS. OTHER MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS ARE NICHOLAS POLITANSKY, JOHN MCKENZIE, MERCEDES STAFFORD, EONA GUERRERO, DAVID PERI, 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, EDITING AND RESEARCH. THE BOOKLET WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FORT ROSS ALES COUNTER BY MID-OCTOBER. THE PRICE IS $2.50.

BY-LAWS: WALTER SCHENK HAS DONE A BIG JOB OF AMENDING OUR BY-LAWS. HE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WILL BE VOTED TO AT 3:15 MEMBERS; PLEASE SENSITIVE VOTE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIVING THEM. YOUR BOARD, ON THE BASIS OF SECTION 1 AND 111, HAS MADE THE DECISION THAT A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THOSE ESPRONDO WILL DETERMINE THE VOTE.


FLORRIE MILLIGAN, CHAIRMAN

UNDOY OCTOBER 6TH IS A DAY TO REMEMBER, FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL RANCH AT PICNIC, AT THE CALL PICO PICNIC GROVE IN FORT ROSS STATE HISTORIC PARK. N THE PICNIC, A ROMANTIC MEETING AGAINST THE BLUE HILLS OF THE AREA. WE HAVE (JUST 1 1/2 MILE ABOVE THE HISTORIC STOCKADE AREA) IN THE COMPANY OF THOSE WHO SHARE AN INTEREST IN FORT ROSS WILL GATHER AT AN OLD-ASHIONED 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 NOU MISS A CARE-FREE DAY. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED, BRING YOUR LUNCH BUT CARRYING NO SOFT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION. IN 1976 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PURCHASED THIS AREA, INCLUDING THE OLD RUSSIAN ORCHARD, AS WELL AS SECOND-GROWTH REDWOOD (Said to be the Oldest in the State) FROM THE CALL FAMILY, AS AN ADDITION TO THE STATE HISTORIC PARK, AND IT WAS ORIGINALLY ODECIATED BY THE PARK DEPARTMENT ON OCTOBER 9, 1977, WITH A "GAY NINETIES" PICNIC. THIS YEAR THE THEME IS RANCH AND WESTERN AND ONSTUMES IN WESTERN STYLE WILL BE WORN BY ALL WHO CARE TO DO SO, TO ENTER INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE DAY. (SPONSORED BY FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION THRU MERCEDES STAFFORD AS COORDINATOR, JEANETTE ROSSON, CHAIRMAN).

ORT ROSS BOOK AND GIFT SHOP REPORT FOR NEWSLETTER. THE LONG SUMMER Brought a Record Number of Visitors to FORT ROSS AND KIPT JOURNOCENTS AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE BOOK & GIFT SHOP ON THEIR TOES. DURING JULY AND AUGUST MORE THAN 7,000 PEOPLE SIGNED THE VISITOR REGISTER ENTERING THE STORY & THROUGH THE DAILY IMPORTS FROM ALL COUNTRIES. A RECORD-HIGH 418 FOREIGN VISITORS FROM 42 COUNTRIES FOUND THEIR WAY TO ORT ROSS (THESE FIGURES ARE CONSERVATIVE AS MANY SINGLE SIGNATURES INCLUDE COUPLES, FAMILIES, AND SOMETIME LARGER GROUPS). MOST PEOPLE LEAVE THEIR POSTCARDS AND LITERATURE. THE WORD OF FORT ROSS IS SPREADING FAST AND FABULOUS. 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 10% HAS A GOOD SELECTION OF BOOKS AND OTHER ITEMS SUITABLE FOR GIFTS, THAT WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE 10% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS AND COME OUT DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WHILE THE WEATHER IS FINE.

(LEY MOES)

INDIAN DAY AT FORT ROSS WAS SEPTEMBER 2ND. LABOR DAY WEEK-END, A FINE DAY. JENNY MARRUG'S CULTURAL GROUP AND THE-ROMO BRAVES ENTERTAINED TO A FED AT LEAST 500 HAPPY FOLK. WE REALLY SEE TO BE GETTING THE THREE JERUDE CONCEPT (INDIAN, RUSSIAN, AND CALIFORNIA RANCH PERIODS) UNDERWAY AT ANY YEARS OF RUSSIAN DAYS ON MEMORIAL DAY AND JULY 4TH; ANNUAL INDIAN LYS AND NOW OUR 2ND ANNUAL RANCH DAY (SEE ABOVE). THE FLOW OF HISTORY CONCEPT MOVES ON AS HISTORIC ROPES AND, THE MOST EXCITING NEWS IS THAT THE INDIANS HAVE ONE THE RUSSIAN PERIOD BUILDINGS' RECONSTRUCTION AND ARE ON THE WAY TO FORT ROSS, WHERE THEY WERE SAVED FROM FARMERS. THE SOUTHERN JUNTY, JUST SEE THEM STACKED INSIDE THE STOCKADE WILL RENEW OUR FAITH IN THE ACTUAL APPEARANCE OF THE OFFICIALS BARRACKS AND KUSKOV HOUSE. FOUND WAS OFFICIALLY BROKEN FOR BOTH - ON JULY 4TH.

FROM NEWSLETTER EDITORS: THE MUSSELS AND THE CRITTEDENS.