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## Fort Ross & Salt Point News March 2013

Fort Ross Conservancy

A California State Park Cooperating Association

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### FORT ROSS EVENTS

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This Just In: The Magic Lantern Comes to Fort Ross on March 10!



Photo Palace Bus Tour: 2:00-3:00

Visitor Center Presentation: 3:00-4:30

Step back in time and join Anton Orlov, and his early 1900's Magic Lantern plus Photo Palace Bus for this unique and rich visual portrait of early 20th century revolutionary Russia and beyond.

This fun educational learning opportunity will feature the story the Magic Lantern, the original projecting tool for amusement (pre Hollywood & Powerpoint!) and

showing of a remarkable collection of over 100 hand-selected images of real historic and artistic value taken across Russia and into the Far East.

As a bonus, prior to the presentation, meet and get acquainted with Anton Orlov and tour his Photo Palace Bus, a traveling darkroom dedicated to traditional photography. Its aim is propagation of knowledge related to historic photographic techniques through cross-country art exhibits, lectures and demonstrations.

Click [here](#) to see the blog post about this exhibit.

Click [here](#) for the BBC article.

Park entrance fees apply.

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## March 3, 1pm: Marine Mammal Monitoring Volunteer Training Fort Ross Visitor Center Auditorium

Peeping for Pinnipeds: Marine Mammal Monitoring at Fort Ross

Want to learn more about our marine wildlife and engage in local level citizen science?

Join Fort Ross Conservancy for this informational session describing our new pinniped observation program and other related future programs.

Dr. Joe Mortenson, co-author of "Field Guide to Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia," will present a slide show teaching us to identify our sea lions and seals and we will discuss the logistics of our monitoring program. A follow up field training to our Sea Lion Rocks and beyond is tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 8th, at 3:00, when all materials and spotting scopes/binoculars will be provided.



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## March 9, 1pm: Windmill Turning



The windmill is experiencing its first Sonoma coast winter and is standing tall and unbowed. However, this structure requires regular attention to keep its many moving parts working freely. Join us for our monthly "windmill turning" where we will spin the blades, rotate the millhouse, and learn a little more about this wonderful structure. For complete details on all Fort Ross events, go to our [Events](#) page.

Email [Lindsey.Elliott@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Lindsey.Elliott@parks.ca.gov) with questions. BYOHH - Bring Your Own Hard Hat, if you've got one.

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## March 9, 3pm: Historic Orchard Presentation

Join local expert Susan Rudy to learn more about the historic Fort Ross orchard. Her talk will focus on the Russian and American Ranch Era and the contemporary efforts to preserve their legacy. She will also discuss the Russian-era cherry trees and the changes in orchard management through the decades.



Working with the Fort Ross Conservancy, Susan has received \$84,518.00 from [Renova Fort Ross Foundation](#) to stabilize and protect the historic Fort Ross orchard. We are tremendously grateful to both Susan and the Renova Fort Ross Foundation for their vision and dedication to protect this vulnerable living resource.

Park entrance fees apply. Call 707/847-3437 with questions.

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## March 23: Park Champions Work Day at Salt Point



Thanks to a generous grant from California State Parks Foundation, Fort Ross Conservancy will be holding 4 volunteer work days at Fort Ross and Salt Point parks. Join us at Salt Point's Gerstle Cove for a day-long volunteer effort to make improvements to Salt Point's Gerstle Cove. We will spend the day clearing brush along the trail and making repairs to the Visitor Center.

We can accommodate up to 32 volunteers.  
Work day runs from 10am - 3pm on March 23rd.  
Minimum age is 12 years.

California State Parks offer free camping at Salt Point on both Friday and Saturday night (March 22 and 23) for all volunteers who pre-register and work the full day. Camping will be provided in the Woodside Hike & Bike area, available for Friday and Saturday night (Check in March 22 after 2pm and 3/23, with check out by 12 noon on March 24).

To register, go to [California State Park Foundation's Park Champions Calendar](#) and click on the work day (March 23, and upcoming work day on May 4).

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

- Sunday, April 7th, 2 PM - The Benitzes at Fort Ross (1843-1867) with Glenn J. Farris
- Saturday, April 20th - Fort Ross Spring Celebration
- Saturday, May 4th, 1 PM - The Archaeology of Fort Ross with Kent G. Lightfoot
- Saturday, May 11th, 2 PM - Poetry at Fort Ross

Gary Snyder - Pulitzer Prize winning poet, environmentalist, and essayist

Martina Morgan - Kashaya Pomo poet

19th century poets of the Russian American Company

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