



Fort Ross & Salt Point News April 2013

Fort Ross Conservancy

A California State Park Cooperating Association

FORT ROSS EVENTS

Summer 2013 Updated Park Hours



Fort Ross State Historic Park Visitor Center and compound are now open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, as well as major holidays, through Labor Day. Park hours are 10am till 4:30pm.

- Reef Campground remains closed.
- Reef Day Use is open during the months of June, July, and August, 2013.

Call House Ranch Era Museum is closed until further notice.

Due to damage to the electrical system, the Call House will not be open this weekend as normally scheduled.

CELEBRATE POETRY with GARY SNYDER at FORT ROSS

ДЕНЬ ПОЭЗИИ В ФОРТЕ РОСС

Sunday, June 23, 1-4 PM

Join us for a convivial afternoon of poetry readings by



Photo: reed.edu

Pulitzer Prize winning poet & environmentalist Gary Snyder and Kashaya Pomo poet Martina Morgan. In addition, poetry from 19th Century Russian California by Alexander Rotchev and Adelbert von Chamisso will be read in Russian and in English.

Fort Ross Vineyard wine will be available for sale. Tickets available through [Eventbrite](#). This is a fundraiser for Fort Ross Conservancy- Gary has donated his day to us & we are grateful for his support. More on FRC's [Website](#).

Saturday, April 6, 2 PM Harbor Seal Monitoring and Training at Fort Ross

Join us for a two-hour, two-mile walk as we count our harbor seals along our scenic coastal bluffs near the fort. Lead: Jamie Hall, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Meet at Highway One Mile Marker 33.52, just north of Fort Ross.

Also seeking volunteers to assist monitoring of the abundant harbor seal population on the beach below Meyers Grade, south of Fort Ross. Incredible views, steep hike! Please contact us if you'd like to help out this Saturday or on any other harbor seal monitoring day.



Upcoming harbor seal monitoring dates and times at Fort Ross: April 20 (12:30), April 27 (17:30), May 4 (12:30), May 11 (17:30), May 18 (10:30).

Sunday, April 7, 2 PM Benitz Ranch Era at Fort Ross, by Glenn J. Farris Visitor Center Auditorium

Join us for this informative lecture by author, retired State Parks Archaeologist, and FRC Director Glenn J. Farris. Glenn will speak about the Fort Ross era of 1843-1867.

This talk is dedicated to the long residence of the Benitz family at Fort Ross and their contribution to the history of this wonderful place. A number of Benitz descendants, now living in many far-away places, have retained an abiding interest in Fort Ross and have contributed a number of invaluable



pieces of the history of that time including some wonderful photographs dating to 1866.

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

Saturday, April 13, 1 PM: Windmill Turning



Windmill maintenance by Friends of the Windmill occurs on the second Saturday of each month at 1 PM.

Our windmill turnings for 2013: 4/13, 5/11, 6/8, Fort Ross Festival 7/27, 8/10, 9/14, 10/19, 11/9 and 12/14.

Saturday, April 13, 2 PM Marine Mammal Monitoring and Training at Visitor Center Auditorium

Please join us for another informative marine mammal monitoring training event featuring Joe Mortenson, co-author of the Field Guide of Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast, and Jamie Hall with the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. The training will include an illustrated pinniped identification presentation, will review our Steller Sea Lion and Harbor Seal protocols, and will provide general information about Fort Ross Conservancy's new marine ecology initiatives.



Saturday, April 20, 10 PM: Fort Ross Spring Celebration



Join the fun as we greet the Spring with "Russian House Kedry", the "Su-Nu-Nu-Shinal Kashaya Pomo Dancers", and others!

Activities for young and old alike.

Saturday, May 4: Park Champions Work Day at Fort Ross

Thanks to a generous grant from California State Parks Foundation, Fort Ross Conservancy will hold another workday to improve Fort Ross trails and ready the fort compound and grounds for high season.

We can accommodate up to 32 volunteers.
Work day runs from 10am - 3pm on May 4th.
Minimum age is 12 years old.

California State Parks offers free camping at Salt Point 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/or Saturday night (check-in May 3 after 2pm, with check-out by 12 noon on May 4).



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

Saturday, May 4, 1PM
The Archaeology of Fort Ross
New Findings from Recent Laboratory Investigations
Kent G. Lightfoot
Visitor Center Auditorium



UC Berkeley archaeologist Kent G. Lightfoot's illustrated presentation will give a brief overview on the archaeology of Fort Ross and shed light on recent findings. Author of *Indians, Missionaries, and Merchants*, Dr. Lightfoot oversaw the 1998 archaeological investigations at the Metini village site at Ross, and is currently working on a Cultural Trail to highlight the rich Kashaya history at Fort Ross. Following this presentation Dr. Lightfoot will lead a walk outside the stockade complex, visiting nearby archaeological sites.

Fort Ross Festival Saturday & Sunday, July 27 & 28

We had such a good time at our bicentennial celebration, we've decided to throw a repeat performance! Help us welcome Fort Ross into its 201st year by joining us for a weekend celebration. We are bringing back the big stage and we're thrilled to announce that Inna Zhelannaya will be headlining from Russia, thanks to sponsorship from The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation.



Inna Zhelannaya still works with traditional Russian folklore, but this band's music can't be described in particular genre; it combines folk, prog-rock, jazz, trance, psychedelic and electronic elements.

More announcements to come over the next month. Email with questions: info@fortross.org

Thanks go to Chevron, and Russian companies Transneft and Sovcomflot, for underwriting this event.

SAVE THE DATE!

- Saturday, June 8th - Big Time at Fort Ross. The Kashaya will be joined by neighboring tribes for dancing and gaming at Metini/Fort Ross.
 - Saturday and Sunday, June 15-16th - Plein Air Painting Workshop at Fort Ross.
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