



Friends of Huddart
& Wunderlich Parks
Serving Since 1995

Wild Times

hikes • history • horses

650.851.2660 P.O. Box 6270767 Woodside, CA, 94062 www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org Summer 2020

Dear Friends . . .

Board of Directors

President

Jill Daly

Vice President

Ann Cripps

Treasurer

Patty Dewes

Secretary

Nancy Ridgway

Members

Lorna Basso

Laura Bevilacqua

Nicole Chambers

Don DeFranco

Janet Galen

Jackie Nicholson

Lisa Putnam

Lisa Raskin

Advisory Board

Rob Flint

Lea Goldstein

Susan Lang

Adolph Rosekrans

Peri Soyugere

Becky Witter

Kristen Yawitz

Daniel Yost

Executive Director

Kym Teppo

Finance Director

Joe Geist

Program Assistant

Deb Iacoponi

We hope you are well in spite of these challenging times we are experiencing. In 2019, thanks to a generous grant from Merck, Research Labs we created our Healthy Hikes initiative working with pediatricians, mental health providers, and public health officials to share the health benefits of nature with underserved populations in our community.

Then the global COVID-19 pandemic hit, and the impact and value of this initiative for the whole community became glaringly clear. Parks and natural spaces provide much needed respite, comfort, and safe recreation for all of us, especially during these difficult times. Fortunately, the lessons we learned from the Health Hikes program allow us to embrace the challenges of our time as we prepare to continue to share our natural, cultural, and historic treasures with the community.

As you can see from our Year in Review on the next page, we served more people with unique programming in 2019 than ever before. We were slated to have a banner year in 2020. We were gearing up to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the restoration of the historic Folger Stable with an epic Big Bad Barn Dance and anniversary toast to our keystone donors. Now our hikes, field trips, and museum are paused until we can safely work with the public again. But our commitment to the parks and to our community remains unchanged. Volunteers are enhancing their skills with virtual training, our board is working on improving our strategic planning documents, and the staff is working with county leaders to devise engaging and cutting edge virtual experiences for students and park users. We need you to join these efforts as well. Without our signature fundraiser and with grant funding uncertain, we are asking those of you who can support our mission to do so. Send your check in the enclosed envelope or go to www.huddartwunderlichfriends.org/donate. Thank you for your ongoing support for our programs and activities!



Visitors enjoying the parks safely

Jill

Jill Daly, Board President

The Friends Adopts A New Ambassador

Lightning, the mini horse, has long been a beloved presence at the Folger Stable. He greets all the school children during their history field trips and has entertained pediatric and other patients participating in Healthy Hikes and San Mateo County ParkRx programs. Friends has been able to work with Lightning thanks to the generosity of our partners at Chaparral Ranch which provides equestrian activities at Wunderlich Park. He got his name when he was first rescued and brought to Chaparral, one of the young (brave) kids decided to hop on him and take a ride, and he took off running like a bolt of lightning!

With the advent of COVID-19, Chaparral experienced financial hardship and was faced with the possibility of having to sell Lightning. The Friends stepped in to “adopt” Lightning and help take care of the costs of his care. In addition, a cadre of docents are responsible for his grooming and exercise. Look out for Lightning the next time you are at Wunderlich. Lightning is not only a wonderful horse ambassador to the public, but a symbol of how partnerships and collaboration make our parks and programs better.



Lightning enjoying time with three-year-old Bow

YEAR IN REVIEW

2019 WAS A BANNER YEAR FOR US!



8,268

COMMUNITY
MEMBERS SERVED



1,418

KIDS ON HIKES
↑33%



1,674

VOLUNTEER HOURS



3,570

MUSEUM
VISITORS

↑18%



256

HEALTHY HIKES
New Program!



1,339

Kids on History
Field Trips

↑10%



DONATE AND
HELP US
BLAZE A NEW
TRAIL IN
2020



The Folger Stable: Once A Teardown, Now a Treasure

Ten years ago the Friends celebrated the long awaited reopening of the Folger Stable and the grand opening of the Carriage Room Museum. Some 100 years after the magnificent stable was built, it was in rapid decline and in jeopardy of being demolished because of neglect. The building was designed by famed local architect Arthur Brown, Jr. in a unique and unrivaled style to be the summer retreat for the Folger coffee family. Fearful that the barn was going to be relegated to the dustbin of history, an intrepid group of preservationists raised the funds and engaged builders and craftsmen to bring the old building back to life. History was discovered in the walls and floors along the way. The goal of the project was not only to restore the stable, but also make it a special place for the community. Now, ten years later, the Friends have realized their vision, having hosted thousands of people for events, field trips, museum exhibits, barn dances, speaking engagements, and more. The Friends anticipates sponsoring many more years of activities related to hikes, history, and horses for the community at the historic Folger stable.

We deeply appreciate the commitment of so many donors, volunteers, and advocates who have made this a truly special place, enjoyed by thousands of people.



a historic treasure preserved

Stable evolution, from top left, clockwise. The stable at its nadir; restoration visionaries; the restoration committee; historical construction revealed during restoration; therapy minihorse greets visitors; students build stone walls during history field trip; biannual Big Bad Barn Dance; original hand-built stone walls; Carriage Room Museum; the Clauses at biannual Holidays with the Friends; the stable during reconstruction.

OUR PROGRAMS ARE POSSIBLE THANKS TO THESE PARTNERS!

ATKINSON FOUNDATION

HURLBUT JOHNSON TRUST

BARKLEY FUND

MERCK RESEARCH LABS

BEAR GULCH FOUNDATION

SAN MATEO COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

BEVERLY FOLGER FOUNDATION

SAN MATEO COUNTY PARKS

DAVIDOW FAMILY

SAN MATEO COUNTY PARKS FOUNDATION

FRIENDS OF KIDS

SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE

HARVEY L. AND MAUD C. SORENSEN FOUNDATION

WOODSIDE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

AND Individual Donors...like YOU!

We have adopted a new mission statement that better reflects our programs and values



The Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Parks are park enthusiasts and stewards who provide a wide range of programs and events in two historic redwood parks in the heart of the Bay Area. Our mission is to promote the positive health and community benefits provided by these parks and to support equitable and inclusive access for all park users. We lead hikes, provide environmental education, showcase local history and celebrate the unique horse heritage of San Mateo County.

Thanks to board member Nicole Chambers for her efforts!