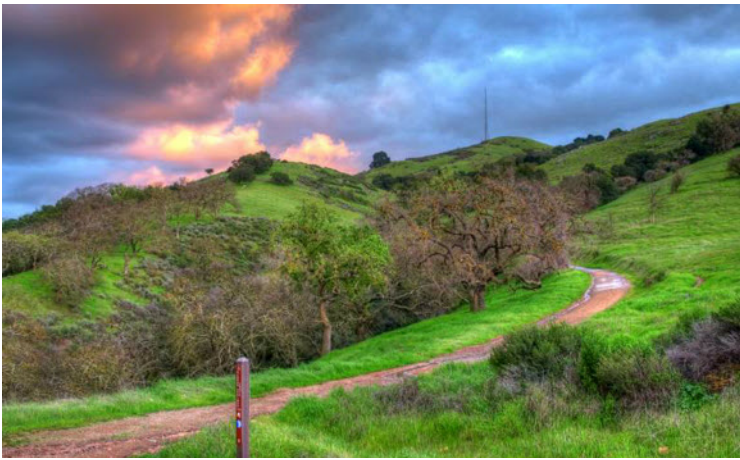


# FRIENDS OF SANTA TERESA PARK



*The Hidden Springs Trail leading to Coyote Peak*

## Welcome to National Night Out 8/6/19

By Michael Boulland

**National Night Out is on Tuesday, 8/6/19 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Bernal-Gulnac Joice Ranch, Santa Teresa County Park, at 372 Manila Drive, San Jose.**

We appreciate your participation at our Third Annual Santa Teresa Community National Night Out (NNO) event at the Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch in Santa Teresa County Park. Our 2019 event is brought to you by the partnership between the Friends of Santa Teresa Park and the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department. Our community organization is delighted to have their support

Please take the time to enjoy our free popsicles, ice cream, cookies, and family activities. Most of all, enjoy meeting your neighbors and public safety officers. The theme of the event is "Give Neighborhood Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party." "Help us celebrate NNO in a big way. NNO is a night that citizens across America can send a powerful message about neighborhood unity, awareness, safety, and law enforcement-community partnership." Learn about Santa Teresa County Park, its trails, wildflowers, wildlife, activities, and how you can get involved to make it better.

### Our Mission

**The Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP)** is a volunteer and neighborhood association, founded in 1992 and based in San Jose. Our mission is to help protect, enhance, maintain, and restore Santa Teresa Park and the surrounding neighborhood through education, volunteer involvement, coordination, and communications with the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department Staff, the City of San Jose, and the greater community. We are a diverse group with a wide range of interests. We report on problems and concerns in the park and adjoining neighborhood and recommend changes and improvements. We help out with trail maintenance and park events. If you are interested in helping out at the park or just want to know what's going on, you are welcome to join us. See our website for more information: [www.stpfriends.org](http://www.stpfriends.org). You are welcome to visit our Facebook page (STPFriends) and to join our Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FoSTP/>

**Meetings:** 7:00 pm, 1st Thursday of each month.  
Upper Clubhouse/Banquet Facility, Santa Teresa Golf Club  
260 Bernal Road, San Jose, CA

**Website:** <http://www.stpfriends.org>

#### Officers:

- Mike Boulland, President
- Kitty Monahan, Vice President
- Ronald Horii, Secretary, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor
- Greg Koopman: Treasurer



*National Night Out, 8/7/18, see page 2*



*La Fuente, 10/27/18, see page 7*

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See <http://www.stpfriends.org/#newsletters> for this and past newsletters.



## National Night Out 2018

The National Night Out (NNO) event was held at the Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch by the Friends of Santa Teresa Park on Tuesday August 7, 2018. It was the second time an NNO event had been held at the ranch by FOSTP. The purpose of National Night Out, which is a nationwide event, is to bring neighbors together to get to know each other and learn about government resources to fight crime and improve the neighborhood. FOSTP had an information table and served free ice cream and popsicles. Visitors could see fire engines and a search and rescue truck. A park ranger, sheriff's deputies, police, and firemen were there to answer questions. Kids had fun with crafts projects and games. The County Parks had an information table, ranger's truck, and cattle roping/branding. City Councilmember Sergio Jimenez's aide came by, and left shopping bags to hand out.



## National Night Out Partnerships

By Michael Boulland

This year, the Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP) wants to recognize the partnership support from both the City of San Jose, through the Beautify San Jose Grant (formerly the Community Action and Pride Grant), and the Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department (SCCP&R). More than twenty years of City of San Jose grant funding has made a difference to our Santa Teresa Park community. The difference shows in the grant's support for our various neighborhood and park programs. Specifically, our FOSTP website, our meetings, newsletters and other publications, park watch, anti-graffiti, trail-building programs, and community events like National Night Out and Fandango/La Fuente have given our community a sense of pride and appreciation for our neighborhood and helped to make it a better and safer place to live.

For the second year, our FOSTP members welcome our Santa Clara County Parks Department partnership. Their support, as a co-sponsor of our 2018 NNO event allows us to hold the event at their Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch. FOSTP's members look forward to a continued partnership with the County Parks to bring you more annual NNO community events. We are fortunate for the support they provided us by staffing the open buildings, information table, interpretive activities, and a maintenance staff.



## Santa Teresa Park News in Pictures

These are some of the events in Santa Teresa Park since our last summer newsletter. See our website for more info.



*This is the Raptor Migration event on 11/13/18. Park Interpreter Kelsi Ju shows how different types of raptors fly.*



*There were Christmastime decorations and activities in 2018 at the Bernal Ranch. This is making Mexican farolitos, or lanterns.*



*On 1/18/19, there was a Lunar New Year event, with outdoor demonstrations of the phases of the moon and this activity making Chinese lanterns.*



*On 4/27/19, Ron Horii taught a photography class at the Bernal Ranch, then led a wildflower hike up Bernal Hill, with help from Mike Boulland (pointing) and Joan Murphy.*



*On 5/11/19, the Friends of Santa Teresa Park led a Pre-Mother's Day Hike on the Stile Ranch, Mine, and Fortini Trails.*



*Park Interpreter Kelsi Ju had several service days at the Bernal Ranch, aimed at middle school kids. Here are students working in the garden on 6/27/19. They trimmed the tree and weeded the garden boxes.*



## Park Beautification Days, 3/2-3/19

A cleanup event was held at Santa Teresa Park on 3/2/19 and 3/3/19. This was the posted description: "Help clean up the neighborhood and build community pride. Projects include painting over graffiti, repairing fences and buildings, trimming trees, and removing overgrown brush and miscellaneous debris around the main house and outbuildings."

The event was held at a part of the park that is not yet open to the public. Rangers call it the "Curie Property" since it is on Curie Drive between the Bear Tree lot to the west and the Bonetti Ranch to the east. Last owned by the Pyzak Family, it is often called the Pyzak Ranch. These properties were part of the larger 10,000-acre Rancho Santa Teresa and were originally owned by the Bernal Family. There is a plan for the development of these properties into an interpretive site, called the Santa Teresa County Park Historic Area Site Plan:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/PlansProjects/Pages/Santa-Teresa-Cnty-Prk-Hist-Area-Site-Pln.aspx>

The Pyzak House on Curie Drive was originally owned by Jacoba Bernal and is referred to as such in the site plan. While the plan was approved in 2009, it has not been funded. The plan was to restore and stabilize the house and turn it into a residence for park employees. During the restoration process, severe termite and dry rot damage was discovered, making it too expensive to continue restoration. The house is currently in mothballs, but vandals broke into it, knocked down the fence, and graffiti'd the house, walls, and outbuildings. Also, since it's not an active park, the landscaping had not been maintained. It had become a rundown eyesore, which can attract further vandalism. The purpose of this workday was to reverse that trend by cleaning up and repairing the site.

Despite the early rain on 3/2, volunteers, including members of the Friends of Santa Teresa Park, showed up to work alongside park rangers, park maintenance, and a County Sheriff's deputy. Volunteers primarily did landscape and ground maintenance. Park maintenance staff used power tools to trim and cut down trees. The volunteers hauled and stacked cut branches, cleared mud off the driveway and walkways, and prepared fallen sections of the fence along Curie Drive for repair.

The second day was dryer. More volunteers showed up, including FOSTP members, people from the neighborhood and other parts of San Jose, and a Boy Scout troop from Cupertino. They painted over graffiti, repaired damaged sections of the house, moved brush, and worked with park staff to repair sections of the fence along Curie Drive.

This event was a partnership between the Friends of Santa Teresa Park and the Santa Clara County Parks Department, with partial funding from the City of San Jose's Beautify San Jose Grant. Cleaning up this property helps to beautify the San Jose neighborhood around Santa Teresa Park. See our website for more pictures.



*Ranger Lisa Pappanastos is giving directions to volunteers who braved the rainy start of the event on 3/2/19.*



*Volunteers work on restoring the fence on 3/2/19.*



*Volunteers work on painting over graffiti on 3/3/19.*



## The Story of Our Meeting Place

By Michael Boulland

### Do you know what local company has been supporting The Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP) since 1990?

Imagine a local business that respects our local history and desires to give back to its community by supporting our Santa Teresa County Park volunteer activities. In our early years, Santa Teresa Golf Club manager, Jim McGraff, helped start our organization. That is why, over the past twenty-nine years, the golf course staff and management have become a company that I learned to respect for its social values. Specifically, in the beginning, our fledgling Friends of Santa Teresa Park organization had no place to meet. That's when the Santa Teresa Golf Club stepped up to rescue our small group by providing a meeting room for us to meet. Since then, we have grown, and they continue to support our meetings there every month since 1992. Our local FOSTP community organization members respect the Santa Teresa Golf Club management's generosity and helpfulness. The use of their upper banquet facility helps us serve our volunteer mission.



### Do you know where one of the best views for a summer sunset?

Now picture the members of FOSTP having the opportunity to meet in such a place. You can find it in the Santa Teresa Golf Club Upper Banquet Facility. This room is known to have one of the most beautiful evening views in the Santa Clara Valley.

### What about the winter-spring view?

During the winter and spring months when it rains, the lucky view of the end of a multicolored rainbow is the show that most often catches our members' eyes during the meeting. Often, we are amazed at the view. It begins with the deep green fields of the golf course below the banquet

room. If you are lucky near a spring sunset, you can see a wildlife parade: A view of baby ducks following their mother, young fawns bounding across the carpet of newly-sprouted grass, or in the sky above, young hawks following their parents learning to fly. How quickly your eyes follow their flight, passing the Santa Teresa neighborhood and disappearing out towards the skyline of the city of San Jose. Finally, you see the Santa Teresa Hills as the rest of the South Bay view fades away in colorful bright clouds as the sun sets. It is my favorite picturesque view from the park, one that I never forget.

Please note, we could not have our meeting with its gorgeous sunset view without the support of the Santa Teresa Golf Club and its staff. FOSTP members are honored to have them as one of our sponsors and again, thank the management for their support for giving our meetings a home.

Join us for our 7 pm FOSTP meeting on every first Thursday night of the month! Don't forget to bring your cellphone or camera to take one of the best views of the valley.



### Muriel Wright Center Update

For the past few years, the Muriel Wright Center above the Pueblo Area in Santa Teresa Park has been undergoing a transformation to turn it into a residential mental health care facility. See last year's newsletter for details. In May of 2019, construction was completed. In June, Telecare, who will be running the facility, started moving in and training staff. Patients will be moving in around July 2019. The sheriff's office and the County Parks Volunteers Office will be staying in the center for now.





## FOSTP at Viva Calle SJ

9/23/18 was Viva CalleSJ day. It's a huge annual event that closes several miles of city streets so thousands of people can bike, skate, or walk on them without having to deal with vehicle traffic. Along the way are lots of activities and resource booths. In 2018, the route followed Monterey Road and South 1st Street from Branham Lane to E. William Street downtown. It also included Branham Lane from Monterey Road to Martial Cottle Park on Snell Avenue. Part of the route ran through San Jose City Council District 2. City Councilmember Sergio Jimenez's office organized an activity center at the corner of Branham Lane and Monterey Road, called the "D2 Elbow," in front of the Edenvale Library. There were games, kids' activities, food trucks, a climbing wall, jumping poles, resource tables, bike repair, and the Maker[Space]Ship mobile workshop. The Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP), was invited by Councilmember Jimenez to have a booth there. We had games for kids and information about our organization, our activities, and Santa Teresa County Park.



*Mike Boulland and Kitty Monahan in the FOSTP booth at Viva Calle SJ, in front of the Edenvale Library*

## FOSTP at Oakridge Mall Senior Fair

On 2/22/19, the 12th Annual Senior Winter Walk & Resource Fair was held at Oakridge Mall. It was hosted by San Jose City Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Pam Foley, and Sergio Jimenez. They had information tables at the event, along with County Supervisor Mike Wasserman and California Assemblymember Evan Low. There was a free continental breakfast and raffle prizes.

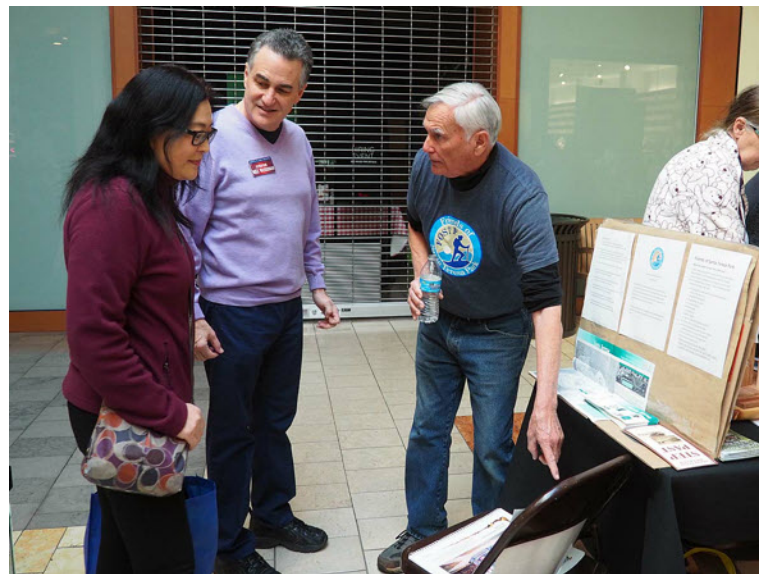
For the first time, the Friends of Santa Teresa Park were invited to have an information table at the event. Mike Boulland and Steve Crockett setup and staffed the table. Mike also brought the model of the Chinese Ting (pavilion) at the Casa Grande and had information about the project to restore it. Ron Horii brought flyers on his photography class/wildflower hike on 4/27 and the FOSTP Pre-Mother's Day hike on 5/11. Mike had flyers about our cleanup event at the Pyzak Ranch on March 2-3 and displays on past FOSTP activities.



*Steve Crockett and Mike Boulland at the FOSTP table*



*Councilmember Jimenez visits with Greg Koopman and Steve Crockett in the FOSTP booth (Picture by Roxanne Koopman)*



*Mike Boulland talks to Supervisor Mike Wasserman and a visitor about FOSTP activities and the New Almaden Ting Project*



## La Fuente 2018

The new La Fuente cultural event was held at the Bernal-Gulac-Joice Ranch on Saturday, October 27, 2018. It replaced Fandango, which has been an almost yearly event since 2006. La Fuente means "The Source." It celebrates the rich history of Rancho Santa Teresa. It was put on by the County Parks' Interpretive Department, with help from rangers and volunteers. It was organized by Interpreter Kelsi Ju. The event included folklorico dancing, 4H animals, cattle roping and branding, Anza Party information and dress-up, kids' crafts and games, and birding activities by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. Patrick Joice and his family had a display of ranch memorabilia. He was the last in the line of continual family ownership of the ranch since the 1830's. For the first time ever, there was an ofrenda, a traditional Mexican altar honoring dead loved ones, celebrating the Day of the Dead holiday.

FOSTP had an information table, with displays about nature and the park's history and current events. We passed out copies of our newsletter and other information. Ron Horii had displays of his pictures of Santa Teresa Park and outdoor photography. FOSTP members also helped with the activities. La Fuente will be held again on 10/19/19.





## Santa Teresa, Hellyer, and Martial Cottle County Parks Staff

By Kitty Monahan

As rangers and maintenance staff at Santa Clara County Parks retire, get promoted, or are transferred, we as Friends of Santa Teresa Park try to help them with the great work they do for our park. Here are the names of park staff who are making Santa Teresa a terrific place to stay healthy and have fun doing it.

Ranger Staff for Hellyer, Santa Teresa and Martial Cottle County Park:

Senior Ranger (acting): Lisa Pappanastos

Ranger Staff (all full-time permanent): Bryan Lue, John Maney III, Carley Bolitho, and Ruben Suarez. Sometimes Christopher Shear from Martial Cottle County Park helps.

Maintenance Staff for our three Parks:

Senior Maintenance: Jason Gorman

Maintenance staff: Alex Perezchica, Leopoldo DeLaTorre, Felipe Velazquez, Hans Mendoza, and Ruben Porras.

Grounds Crew: Senior Rich Ramos

Staff: Jerry Rojas, Sarah Clay, Jason Rivera, and Ray Loredo.

This ground crew works at Hellyer, Casa Grande, Vasona, and the Pueblo Area of Santa Teresa Park.

Region 2, Ranger Supervisor: Aniko Millan

When you see them in the Park, Thank them for their work and see if they need some help.



*Acting Senior Ranger Lisa Pappanastos gives a talk about Grant Ranch at the 4/4/19 FOSTP meeting, as the first in a series of guest speakers.*



*This is Ranger Bryan Lue leading a hike to Coyote Peak in Santa Teresa Park on 8/4/18. Its theme was "What's Shaking in Parks." Bryan talked about earthquake faults and did a demonstration, with visitors lining up and moving to simulate the motion of tectonic plates in the earth.*

## County Parks Management Changes

There have been lots of management changes in the Santa Clara County Parks in the last year. The biggest change is at the top. Don Rocha is the new director, replacing retired director Robb Courtney. Prior to that, he was deputy director. Before that, he was the Natural Resources Manager.

Filling Don Rocha's former job as Deputy Director of Planning/Development and Land Stewardship is Annie Thomson. She was the Principal Planner in the Planning Department authored the County Parks' Strategic Plan.

Robin Schaut, Interpretive/Outdoor Recreation Programs Manager retired this year. Taking her place temporarily is Sabine "Beeny" Sander. She was the Senior Management Analyst, reporting to the director.



*Don Rocha, Robin Schaut, and Deputy Director Janet Hawks at Robin's retirement party*



*These awards were given as tokens of appreciation to Robin Schaut for her years of service. On the left is a photo of the Casa Grande, given by Kitty Monahan of NAQCPA. On the right is a certificate from Mike Boulland of FOSTP. Ron Horii took the pictures on both.*

This newsletter is funded by the City of San Jose's Beautify San Jose Grant (formerly CAP Grant). FOSTP is a member of the United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County (UNSCC), which is the financial agent for this grant.

For more on FOSTP, see <http://www.stpfriends.org/>  
Visit our STPFriends Facebook page