

FRIENDS OF SANTA TERESA PARK



The Hidden Springs Trail leading to Coyote Peak

Coronavirus Impacts Parks

2020 will be remembered as the year of the Coronavirus pandemic. Here is a timeline:

- 1/31/20: The first case of COVID-19 in Santa Clara County was identified.
- 3/4/20: Gov. Newsom declares a state of emergency.
- 3/12/20: California public health officials issue recommendations against large gatherings, and no more than 10 people with risk factors.
- 3/13/20: President Trump declares a national emergency.
- 3/16/20: Santa Clara County Health Officer issues shelter-in-place order.
- 3/19/20: Gov. Newsom issues stay-at-home order.

Near the end of March, many cities and counties were closing their parks. State and county rules allowed going outside for exercise, so the Santa Clara County Park trails remained open. However, museums, visitor centers, playgrounds, group picnic sites, campgrounds, archery ranges, dog parks, golf courses, Field Sports Park, and

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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. 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 (Zoom meetings during shutdown)

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

Officers:

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



Above: COVID-19 signs at the Bernal Ranch and Joice Trail

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Metcalf Motorcycle Park were closed. Organized recreational, interpretive, educational, and volunteer activities and events were suspended. Private group activities and gatherings were prohibited.

For the Friends of Santa Teresa Park, these shutdowns had a major impact. Our biggest event of the year, National Night Out, and our spring hikes and classes were cancelled. Other hikes and events that we usually participate in were either cancelled or never scheduled. Interpreters and rangers can't lead in-person activities. The buildings at the Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch were closed. There's no interpreter in the ranch house. No volunteer work events could be scheduled, like cleanups, trail work days, or Eagle Scout projects. That meant we could not do a cleanup of Santa Teresa Spring, like we intended.

The Volunteer Program Office at the Muriel Wright Center closed, and office staff were re-assigned. Most of the administrative staff at the County Parks has been working from home. Some have been temporarily assigned to work in the county's COVID-19 contact tracing program. Park rangers and maintenance crews are still working in the parks. The sheriff's deputies assigned to patrol the County Parks are still working from the Muriel Wright Center. The Telecare-run mental health and substance abuse treatment centers at Muriel Wright are operational and treating clients.

With the Santa Teresa Golf Course closed, FOSTP could no longer meet in the banquet room, even if meetings were allowed. The golf course re-opened, but only for golfing. We still can't use the banquet room for our meetings.

Despite not being able to do our usual activities, FOSTP stayed active. Our members still visited the park on their own. You'll see some of their stories on page 7. Instead of in-person meetings, we had Zoom meetings. You can see the minutes from our meetings on our website. We are preparing for the time when we can get together again and have events in the park.

Park Personnel Changes

There have been several personnel changes in the County Parks recently. Here are some of them: Supervising Ranger Aniko Millan retired. Ranger Carly Bolitho left the department. Rich Bender is now the senior ranger at Santa Teresa/Hellyer. Park Interpreter Kelsi Ju, assigned to Santa Teresa Park, resigned, as did Interpreter Dan LaFlash. Interpreters Bridgett Orcutt and Chris Carson retired, while Interpreter Jan Shriner was re-assigned to work on COVID-19 contact tracing. Newly-hired members of the Interpretive Department are Rob McDonnell and Travis Trinh. Manager of the Volunteer Program, Julie Lee, was assigned to work in the county's housing office. Julie Kahrnoff, who also worked in the Volunteer Office, got married, then left to work for Valley Water. Patricia Vasquez, administrative assistant in the Volunteer Office got re-assigned to do contact tracing.

Park Usage Up from Coronavirus, Down from Heat & Smoke

Starting in mid-March of 2020, health officials issued shelter-in-place orders due to the COVID-19 crisis. Businesses, stores, museums, and recreational facilities were shut down. Except for essential business, people were ordered to stay home and not congregate. There was one exception: they were allowed to go outside for exercise. While some city and county, as well as state and national parks were closed, Santa Clara County kept its park trails open, though it closed some facilities. Visitors could use the trails for hiking, biking, running, etc. as long as they practiced safe social distancing. Parking fees were waived. Visitors would not have to use the parking machines or interact with park service attendants. The parks provided an outlet for individuals and families who had been cooped up inside of their homes. This resulted in a huge increase in park usage. **In some parks, they've seen an increase in trail usage by 400-500%.** Santa Teresa, Calero/Rancho San Vicente, and Almaden Quicksilver were especially impacted, as they are close to urban areas. The multi-use trails, like the Coyote Creek Trail and the Los Gatos Creek Trail were also very busy. To protect the health of trail users, the Parks Dept. posted advisory signs at the trailheads about safe trail use and social distancing. They posted maps on their website for some parks, showing wider trails, where it's easier to practice social distancing. Ron Horii made a similar map for Santa Teresa: <http://www.stpfriends.org/Pictures/SantaTeresa-WideTrails.jpg>

While going outside for exercise was a way of staying healthy during the COVID-19 shutdown, the heat and smoke of summer did the opposite. Days of record heat kept people out of the parks, at least during mid-day. The many huge fires, especially the CZU in the Santa Cruz Mountains and the SCU in the Diablo Range, caused some parks near the fires to be closed temporarily (not Santa Teresa). Smoke from the fires made the air unhealthy to breathe and obscured the views. Park usage dropped dramatically during the worst times. As the fires are brought under control and temperatures drop, park usage should pick up again.



Park/FOSTP News in Pictures

Here are some events in Santa Teresa Park or FOSTP activities since our last newsletter. See our website for more.



On 10/14/19, FOSTP toured the Grant Ranch House. Ranger Lisa Pappanastos gave the tour.



On 10/19/19, FOSTP members had a booth at La Fuente (see page 8). We had pumpkin coloring, and a pumpkin raffle.



On 11/7/19, FOSTP Vice President Kitty Monahan gave a presentation on the New Almaden Mines.



On 11/10/19, Ron Horii gave a photography class and photo walk at the Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch



On 2/21/20, FOSTP was invited to have a display table at the Oakridge Mall Senior Fair.



On 6/25-26/20, there were controlled burns as part of a San Jose Fire Department training exercise in the Pueblo Area.

History Surrounding Santa Teresa Spring

by John Dorrance

Sacred water tells the story of this place. At the side of a dry hill, a fresh spring flows. The water trickles through many cracks in the hard rock. Three thousand years ago, Native Americans, the Ohlone are first drawn here to drink its cool clean water. During the hot summers, when creeks and ponds dry, the spring provides life...enough water for the Ohlone living in the nearby woods and grasslands.

The Native Americans believe the spring to have been pulled forth by a female spirit. An ancient tribe had been sick and dying until the spirit appeared to the chief in a vision. Her hand struck rock. The rock wept. The people drank and were cured.

Black-tailed deer, quail, and raccoons sip from the revered waters. Bobcats and mountain lions roam the surrounding ridges. Plentiful game provides the Ohlone with year-round meat. Every fall, oak trees drop basketfuls of acorns to be hand ground into powder and mixed with the spring's water.

Yet the human history surrounding this spring is soon to change. On the eve of the American Revolution, Spain seeks to control the Pacific coast of today's United States against British and Russian incursions. Juan Bautista de Anza, a frontier soldier of New Spain, shepherds 240 emigrants and 1,000 head of livestock on the first colonizing expedition from Sonora, Mexico through this valley and Upper California.

The Ohlone never dreamed of such bellowing animals or strange men in their heavy garments and metal headwear. The colonel's party of colonists includes a teen-aged boy named Jose Joaquin Bernal.



This is the stone font around Santa Teresa Spring. The water from the spring flows into a concrete cistern. The overflow from that goes into the pond. Water from the spring was used for irrigation, but now the overflow from the pond drains into Canoas Creek. The water flows continuously year-round, even during the worst drought years in California history from 2011 to 2017.

Jose Joaquin always remembers this beautiful valley. After serving as a soldier protecting settlements, he returns to this place in 1826 with an abiding vision.

Spain has lost its empire. Mexico has taken California. Jose Joaquin writes the Mexican governor requesting land, a reward for military service. He desires the hills and valley that surround the ceaseless spring the Indians once drank from.

In his sixties but still vital, Jose Joaquin dreams of being a respected landowner, of creating a grand rancho and of a large hacienda for his wife, Maria Josepha, and his dozen or so children. The governor grants his dream, almost 10,000 acres...more land than Jose Joaquin can see while resting and listening to his ever-flowing spring.

Jose Joaquin Bernal brands 5,000 head of longhorn and plants 2,000 grapevines fed by the spring. The missionaries who recite mass by the spring have heard the Ohlone tale of how the healing water began. Jose Joaquin and the padres believe the female spirit to be that of a healing Catholic saint, Santa Teresa de Avila – thus the legend changes and the ever-flowing spring and rancho come to be called Santa Teresa.

Santa Teresa rancho and hacienda become a gathering place for holidays and rodeos. Fandango music – music to dance to – fills the air on these festive occasions. Hundreds of spectators from nearby Pueblo San Jose travel by horseback and wagon to witness a favorite blood sport. A grizzly bear, roped and dragged from the hills, is pitted against vicious longhorn bulls in the rancho's corral. It's a thunderous fight to the death for all beasts.

At least once a year, vaqueros – Mexican cowboys – drive the wild, range-fed cattle to the killing grounds below the spring. Numerous steers are slaughtered, their hides used as currency (3 dollars for each leatherback), fat turned to tallow for soap and candles, and a small portion of the meat dried for future use.

Cattle are the foundation of trade and social stability for California and its sprawling ranchos. Receiving little or no land of their own during Spanish then Mexican rule, the Ohlone who have not succumbed to smallpox or other hardship work as ranch hands or domestic servants.

In 1837, Jose Joaquin Bernal dies at his hacienda. He leaves control to three sons – Bruno, Agustin, and Juan Pablo. A notorious saddle maker and miser named Changara, employed at Santa Teresa, uses the fresh spring water in his tanning vat and sells his expensive saddles to the vaqueros. He buries a sack of gold and silver coins – worth \$10,000 – on the property. Changara's murder by trail bandits sets Bernal descendants digging for the treasure. No one unearths it, thus adding another tale to the rancho's past.

During the Gold Rush, Bruno Bernal manages the rancho while Juan Pablo and Agustin sell cattle to the hungry miners headed north to fancied fortunes. Again, times are changing.



This is the shrine next to the spring. It was built by Pedro Bernal for his mother Jesusita Bernal. The inscription says "Made by P.A. Bernal Oct. 1928." It once held a statue of Saint Teresa of Avila brought from Rome and a medallion blessed by the Pope.

The United States has conquered California, and although the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo promises that Mexican land grants will not be questioned, the treaty is not honored. Bernal family members become entangled in decades of court battles to prove their property rights. In 1856, less than half the original rancho is finally confirmed to the Bernal family.

During the last half of the 1800s, California's economic base shifts from cattle ranching to wheat harvesting and then to the production and transportation of dried fruit. The transcontinental railroad opens markets in the eastern states. The fragrance of hundreds of fruit trees – apricots, peaches, and prunes – hay, and vegetable crops at Rancho Santa Teresa replace much of the dusty stench of cattle.

Ygnacio Bernal, son of Bruno, plants these orchards in earth that had once served as his grandfather's slaughtering grounds – huge pits where blood, refuse meat, and cow carcasses had been dumped by the vaqueros.

A graduate of Santa Clara College, Ygnacio knows the rancho's killing fields are rich with fertilizer. His peach saplings sprout ten feet in three years, out-pacing all nearby farms. Between the trees grow soup peas, beans, muskmelons, and pumpkins. The gentle hillsides are seeded with hay. In spring, colorful clouds of butterflies drift through Ygnacio's orchards, and fruit pickers and other workers can hear thousands of insects humming.

An earthen pool has been dug to hold cool water from Santa Teresa spring, creating the valley's first man-made swimming pool for Ygnacio's nine children. The constant spring also feeds the blossoming fruit trees through a maze of clay pipes and open ditches.

With Ygnacio's death in 1906 – the same year the big earthquake hits San Francisco – the new century is also

shaking the rancho. The industrial age is in full swing – Albert Einstein has announced that E equals MC squared, the Wright brothers have flown at Kitty Hawk, and Henry Ford will soon begin mass production of the Model-T.

Much of the original rancho land has already been split among Bernal family members or sold. Jose Joaquin Bernal's grand hacienda and most of the abode structures have succumbed to the ravages of time and fire. With continued population growth and demand for industrial space, California property will soon become more valuable as real estate rather than ranch and farmland. In order to keep their ranch viable through these years, the Bernals embark on various business ventures.

Following the death of Ygnacio, his widow Jesusita Patron creates the Santa Teresa Springs Water Company with the help of their son Pedro Bernal. Jesusita has spent years as a typical ranch wife; she has collected the sacred spring water to keep ranch animals and vegetable gardens healthy, to clean laundry, to prepare meals, and to quench the thirst of her family and visitors. She now manages her own company profitably, an unusual position for a woman of this time, yet she has ambition matching her late husband's and a fine business sense.

Held in glass jugs, the water from the famous Santa Teresa Springs travels by horse-drawn cart to stores in downtown San Jose. History and advertising mix on each jug's label. In part it reads: "The Indians who were considered the best judge of all natural elements formerly used to gather from a great distance to drink this water in abundance, and were noted for living to a ripe old age."

Jesusita's son, Pedro, also brings new enterprise to the ranch. During his boyhood hikes in the rancho's hills, Pedro had discovered large fields of a white mineral called marl – a mixture of shell bits, limestone, and sand – an excellent fertilizer.

In 1915, Pedro builds Bernal's California Marl Fertilizer Company. Eight men work the limestone quarry during the dry season. A motorized crusher pulverizes the marl, the sound of machinery fills the building. Marl powder is sacked on site then trucked to local orchards.

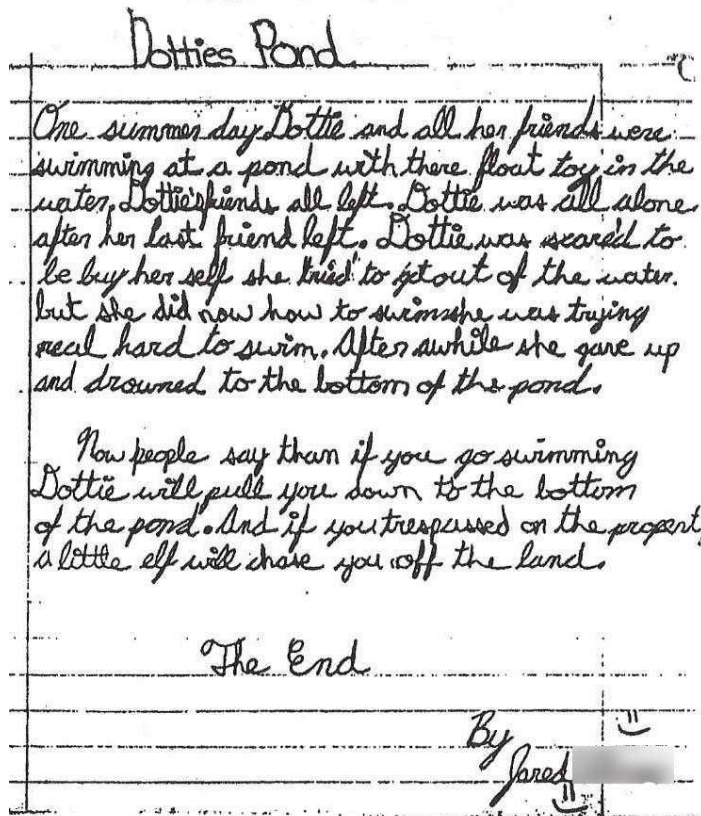
Pedro also digs for cinnabar – ore from which mercury is extracted – but with less financial success. The nearby Almaden/Quicksilver mines have cornered the market. When Pedro Bernal dies in 1955 with no heirs, management of the remaining rancho property shifts to his cousins in the Gulnac and Joice families. Electricity has come to all the wooden ranch buildings. Indoor plumbing makes life easier. The ever-flowing Santa Teresa spring is less and less a needed water source. The mining and water businesses cease while fruit, hay, and cattle continue as ranch commodities in a valley soon to spark the age of computer electronics.

In the 1960s, a large housing development called Century Oaks consumes what once was the rancho's hacienda area and surrounding agricultural land. The cattle and the cowhands roam and work within the view of suburban homeowners. Twenty years later, the remaining ranch property owned by the Joice family is sold to International Business Machines, I.B.M. The computer giant in turn trades it to Santa Clara County to be restored as part of Santa Teresa County Park. Managed as a cattle ranch by the Joice family – Bernal descendants – until 1980, this historic site has experienced many changes. Eluding total urban development, it now serves as a place where visitors can relax and listen to the burbling of an ever-flowing spring and imagine the stories now past.

This was adapted from a script written by now-retired Park Interpreter John Dorrance for a video he made about Santa Teresa Spring. Reprinted with permission of the author.

The Legend of Dottie's Pond

The pond at Santa Teresa Spring is often called "Dottie's Pond." There's a legend about a girl named Dottie who supposedly drowned in the pond. According to Nancy Bonetti, who grew up near the pond, she never heard of this story until after she came back as an adult and was told about it by kids from the subdivision that was built around Rancho Santa Teresa. She thinks the kids made up the story. When Mike Boulland was an elementary school teacher, one of his summer school students told him about the story and wrote it down (see below). Mike thinks there was a tenant at the ranch named Dottie, who told a scary story to kids to discourage them from swimming in the pond.



Mine by Jenny Clendenen

Book review by Mike Boulland

Why are so many locations in the Bay Area and the State named Bernal, Berreyesa, Rancho Santa Teresa, Rancho San Vicente, New Almaden, and Sunol?

The new book *Mine* shares Jenny Clendenen's her-story of a woman, María Zacarías Bernal Berreyesa, as an excellent example of a California Pioneer woman's story. Clendenen shares Zacarias's epic survival story from her Rancho Californio opulent lifestyle and success that only lead to tragic accidents and greedy landowners who take possession of the famous Almaden Mine.

Reading *Mine* explains why Zacarias's story of her family's legacy is one of the reasons so many locations bear their names. The historical significance and her family tragically explode during the middle of the book. Her struggle to save her family and her property gives us a warning: Do not let what happened to her family happen to yours.

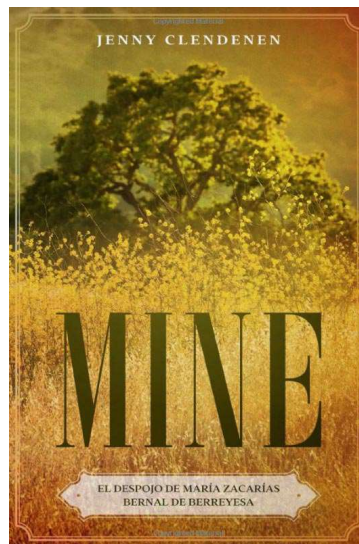
I enjoyed reading Jenny's vivid descriptions of the Almaden Mines, Rancho San Vicente Valley, and the Bay Area landscapes. Here personal family stories are an honest reflection to connect the generation gap to help tell the her-story rather than the history.

Mine is a perfect quick read during our Pandemic times. It's a story that gives me the urge to revisit the locations of her nature reflections and sparks a desire in me to reread and retrace the exact places where the historical connections took place.

Hopefully someday, the Friends of Santa Teresa Park can have Jenny Clendenen make a presentation at one of our "Taste of Santa Teresa Park" speaker series.

Review:

"Clendenen's masterful skill as a vivid writer brings María Zacarías Bernal Berreyesa to life. Not only is the book well-researched and accurate, but the work is also deeply personal. There is an emphasis on the natural environment, then and now, which tethers us across generations." -Judge Paul Bernal, Official Historian of the City of San Jose, California



Inspirational Hike

by Roxanne Koopman

When hiking at Santa Teresa Park, I sometimes come upon a kindness rock along the trail. It instantly makes my hike a more memorable experience when I discover one of these rocks. What the heck is a kindness rock anyway? A kindness rock is simply a rock that someone has decorated with an inspirational message. The point of this stone painting is to sprinkle positivity around the community. The idea is to leave it somewhere for another person to find and enjoy. As we all know, sometimes a simple message of kindness can spark joy and brighten someone's entire day.

I was hiking along Rocky Ridge a month ago and crossed paths with one of my neighbors. He coincidentally mentioned to me that his 8-year old daughter got more motivated to hike in the park these days because of her newly-found hobby. She paints kindness rocks! After she has about 6 rocks completed, she goes on a hike with her dad and loosely hides them along the trails for people to discover. Her favorite themes seem to be rainbows and colorful flowers. Some of the messages she writes on them are: "You rock," "You can do it," and "Smile." Her dad thinks that hiking the trails at Santa Teresa Park is a more enjoyable experience for her now that she has a new purpose.

The next time you're hiking and see one of these rocks, take the message to heart, and know that you matter, and your happiness matters. Someone else went out of their way to paint that rock for you to find. How cool that you're the one who found it!

Park Pandemic Usage

By Greg Koopman

I am so thrilled to see the large number of people coming to the park recently during this crazy pandemic! I see couples, families and even some that hike together while maintaining at least 6 feet of separation. The increase of hikers is something I've always felt needed encouragement. I feel Santa Teresa Park is normally very underutilized for having such a large community nearby. I am seeing a lot of novice hikers as well as families with younger children. The people in our mostly middle-class suburbs nearby seem to be finding more time on their hands to try new experiences and work off all those baked goods! These times will hopefully help the locals remember that there is such a wonderful asset right near their neighborhood even after this pandemic is over. Let's make good habits everybody and keep on hiking!

How STP Is Saving My Sanity During the Pandemic

By Kim Gardner

Few people could imagine how the 2020 pandemic could throw us into so much fear, anxiety, and isolation when it first struck. At first, it was a bit of a novelty to shelter in place, wear masks, and order takeout. But as the days

wore into weeks, and the weeks in to months, we needed more outlets in our lives, and we needed in-person human contact.

I fortunately found all that right here in my neighborhood at Santa Teresa County Park.

Hiking on the roads and trails of Santa Teresa County Park re-opens my eyes to many things and connects me to the community. During my hikes, I cherish:

- Saying hello to families of all types and colors as we pass each other on the trails. We might be total strangers, yet all of us are united by the uncertainty of living in a pandemic and just happy to see another smiling, friendly human.
- Realizing that we are all in these uncertain times together. We don't have any answers as to what might lay ahead, but we could all relate to each other as humans sharing the same stresses and worries
- Gazing up to watch a hawk soaring above.
- Taking time to notice the delicate and colorful wildflowers that brought a calming effect

Embrace your local parks in these times! They are here for you; they are free and they can help restore a sense of calm and order to your life.

Park Programs Go Online

Because of COVID-19, all in-person Santa Clara County Parks interpretive and outdoor recreational programs were cancelled or not scheduled. To make up for this, they hosted online virtual programs, featuring park rangers, interpreters, and staff:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/Pages/parks-homes.aspx>

Some programs were safety tips for park visitors. Others were short videos about backyard nature, made by the park interpreters in their backyards. They were on subjects like birding, stargazing, solar cooking, and redwood trees. There were story time readings for little kids, a tour of the Anderson Visitor Center, and an introduction to the Bernal Ranch. Later, they scheduled live interactive programs on a variety of topics. They were presentations on nature journaling, nests, treasured toys at the Cottle Ranch, fire as a land steward, and woodpeckers. There was a 3-day Neighborhood Naturalists class for adults with presentations on nature journaling and the county's geology, native plants, and wildlife. It was led by Elizabeth Evans and Luke Bailey. This class will be repeated. For Santa Teresa, new interpreter Rob McDonnell had a program called "Santa Teresa Spring Across Generations." He talked about the history of Rancho Santa Teresa and the families that lived there. New interpreter Travis Trinh talked about the importance of blue-green algae, otherwise known as pond scum. Victoria Heyse has been doing birding-related programs. Carolyn Schmandle has been doing programs about Martial Cottle Park. More virtual programs are planned. There's no way to know when in-person events will resume.

FOSTP's National Night Out, 8/6/19

The second Tuesday in August is National Night Out (NNO) Day. Neighbors and neighborhood organizations all over the country hold meet-and-greet events where members of the community can meet each other and public service agencies. The purpose is to promote public safety and reduce crime. Three years ago in 2017 was the first time the Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP) organized an NNO at Santa Teresa County Park's Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch. We had our information table with a new banner and table runner and handed out free popsicles and ice cream. We had games and crafts for kids. The County Parks had information tables and animal displays. Park interpreters and rangers were there. The ranch house and barns were open for touring. Between the barns, there was cattle roping and branding. The County Sheriff deputies assigned to the County Parks brought a patrol truck. Kids got to sit in it. Ron Horii had displays of his park photography. Councilmember Sergio Jimenez stopped by (see picture) and talked to visitors. He left pens and sunglasses for giveaways. We had a raffle at end of the event. The event is a partnership between the Friends of Santa Teresa Park and the Santa Clara County Parks Department, with major funding from the City of San Jose's Beautify SJ Grant.



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.

La Fuente, Santa Teresa Park, 10/19/19

On 10/19/19, the second annual La Fuente event was held at Santa Teresa County Park's Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch. It evolved from the park's Fandango, which was a nearly annual event since 2006. La fuente means 'the source' or 'the origin' in Spanish. The event celebrated la fuente of the unique community histories from the past, present, and future at Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch. It was organized by Park Interpreter Kelsi Ju. This was her second year for the event. Unfortunately, she left the department in early 2020, so the future of the event is uncertain.

FOSTP had an information booth there, as did 4-H and the National Park Service for the Anza National Trail. There was live music by Los Arribenos, who played traditional music in period costumes. El Grito de la Cultura performed Mexican folklorico dances. There were fun activities for kids, like spear-throwing, cattle-roping and branding (all simulated), and lanyard and pendant making. There was a timeline activity that taught the ranch's history. In the barn was an Ofrenda, with offerings and personal remembrances.



Above: FOSTP's booth, dancers, ofrenda (home altar) in the barn