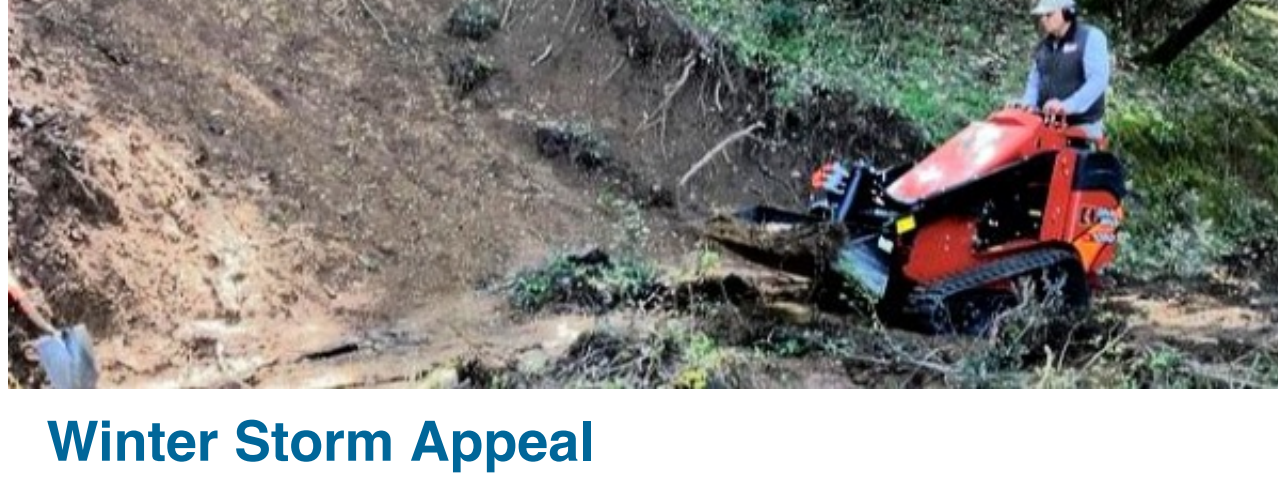


In this edition of the Friends of China Camp Newsletter:

[Winter Storm Appeal](#) | [Dutra Rock Donation](#) | [Earth Day](#) | [Volunteer Celebration](#) | [California State Park Core Leadership](#) | [Movie Night](#) | [Upcoming](#) | [How You Can Help](#)



Winter Storm Appeal

You are the best!

Remember those epic downpours this winter? We do, and we have been busy repairing trails throughout the park. As a result of landslides and fallen trees that damaged trails and facilities, FOCC launched a Winter Storm Appeal on June 1 to help us cover the cost of those repairs.

Thanks to the generosity of our local community and of the FOCC Board who offered a 1:1 matching grant, **we successfully raised over \$42,000 during the month of June!**

Just one of our many wonderful supporters was Julia Violich of Violich Farms, who generously donated \$2,500. Julia recently wrote, "As a rider of the beloved trails of Marin County, I am grateful to support the tireless efforts of Friends of China Camp to maintain the trail system that we are blessed to have in our back yard." Stepping forward to support FOCC's efforts, Julia continued, "Please join me in supporting FOCC while they restore the trails impacted greatly by this past winter's storms."

Thank you, Julia, and thank you, everyone!

[Get Involved](#)



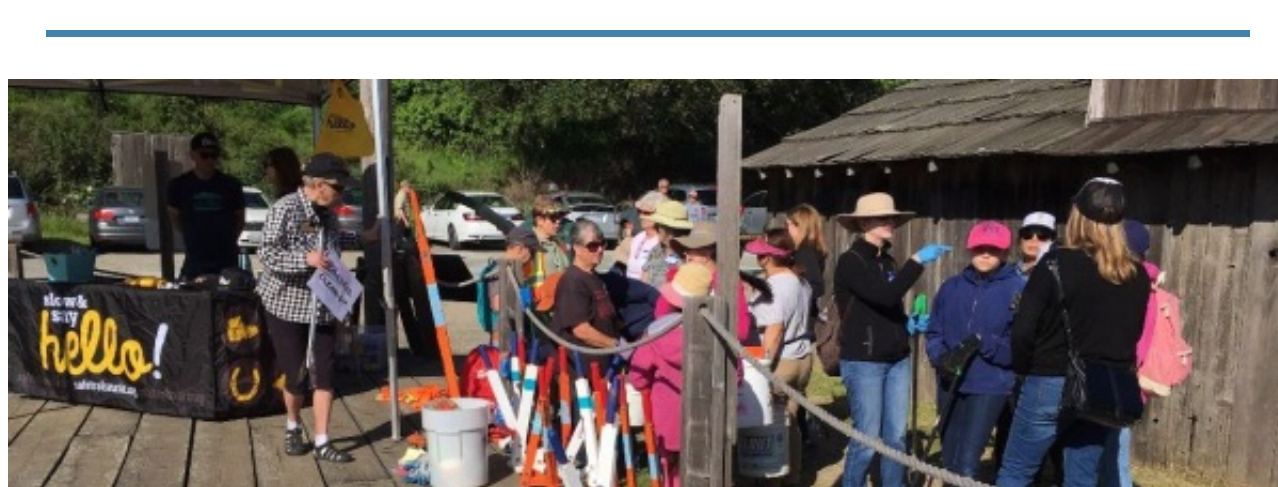
Dutra Rocks!!

The San Rafael Quarry Saves the Day

Over the past few winters, our trails have suffered unprecedented storm damage, resulting in slides, severe erosion and rutting. To make the repairs and stabilize the tread, we needed rock. Specifically, we needed Class II All Base, a native rock with no recycled materials.

We knew who to ask. In 2017, when we were faced with repairing a major land slide, the San Rafael Rock Quarry donated a total of 300 tons of rock and gravel. So once again, we approached Aimi Dutra about a possible donation of Class II All Base. She graciously agreed and offered 100 tons!

[Read More](#)



Earth Day 2019 - A Great Success

Work, Eat, Play

This year's Earth Day, on April 13th, provided something for everybody: From pitching-in on an array of park projects, to joining naturalist-led hikes! Volunteers chose where they wanted to put their muscle: For example, they could join the Invasive Brush Removal Team, the Split Rail Fencing Fixers or the Beach Trash Removal Group. With the help of the Marin County Fire Department, 20 piles of brush were chipped! And new this year, at the California State Park Foundation's initiative, China Camp hosted an Open House including children's craft tables, a wetlands walk with a marsh specialist, and more.

Over 70 volunteers arrived bright and early to participate in the celebrations at China Camp. To get started, folks sipped steaming cups of coffee, and nibbled on pastries and fruit donated by Peet's coffee and the Fruit Guy. Now they were ready to break off into teams, and disperse throughout the park to work stations.

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Volunteer Appreciation and a Little Cabaret

We know how to celebrate

This year, we raised the bar...in celebrating our volunteers, that is! Not only did we wine and dine them at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Day, but they were also serenaded!

Friends of China Camp volunteers provide thousands of hours of their time to the park every year. These volunteers sustain the operations of the park. The tasks are far reaching: from repairing the 15-mile trail system, to the endless facility repairs, to educating visitors about the captivating natural and cultural history of the park. There is much to be done to keep China Camp open and accessible to the public, and singing the praises of our volunteers is a priority!

There was a slight hitch this year. Torrential downpours in May! Instead of the China Camp Village, the dinner was hastily moved to the lovely and comfortably dry Marin Yacht Club, and the show went on.

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CA Parks Foundation Honors Joyce Abrams

Featured Core Leader

The California State Parks Foundation is celebrating Champion Your Parks Month and asked if they could feature me, as a Core Leader, on their blog? I was honored and pleased to share my story.

Before I started volunteering at China Camp State Park in 2012, I thought it couldn't be that hard to run a park. There are trails, trees, and historic structures. I was certain volunteers could keep the park humming with minimal effort.

Then I learned about everything it takes to maintain our park: invasive plant removal, painting, mowing, weed-whacking, culvert clearing, staff parking facilities (visitor center, campground kiosk, café, museum), collecting fees, trail maintenance and repair, purchasing and maintaining equipment, opening and closing the park, fundraising, firewood splitting, event planning, campground logistics, hazardous tree removal, and fire extinguisher service... to name a few.

It was clear we needed an army of volunteers with various skills and interests. California State Parks Foundation helped us recruit that army.

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Evening Programs in the Park

Movies Under the Stars and More

We had our first "Movie in the Park" at the end of June, and it was for "The Birds." Alfred Hitchcock that is! It was a lovely summer night filled with entertainment and plenty of popcorn!

Join us for evening events in the park this summer: Outdoor Movie Nights, Hikes and Tai Chi under the Full Moon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior Ranger Program at the Shoreline
July 7, 10:30 am - Noon

Bird Walk at Turtleback Trailhead
July 13, 8:00am - 10:00am

Full Moon Hike
July 16, 7:45 pm - 10:00 pm

Darwin Comes to Town - Evolution Program for Kids
July 20, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Hiking Program - Knight Drive Trailhead
July 21, 9:30 am

Hiking Program - Gold Hill Fire Road
July 27, 9:30 am

[SEE ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



HOW YOU CAN HELP

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

[BECOME A FRIEND](#)

**Little Steps.
Big Impact.**