

JULY 2009

Dave and Bill Hikes
Saturday July 4th

Join "Dave & Bill Hikes" this **4th of July** for our annual "by reservation only" hike to the top of Bald Mountain at **Sugarloaf Ridge SP**. Our group is restricted to the first 40 people who reserve a space. Weather permitting we will see 18 different firework displays from around the Bay Area. Bring binoculars, cheese, grapes, chocolate, drinks, blankets, and anything else you can think of to share. This event is a celebration!

The total distance of this moderately difficult hike is 6.5 miles and the elevation gain is 1500 feet. We will begin promptly at 7 PM in order to assure our arrival at the top before dark. Plan to arrive at the horse concession parking lot with your e-mail confirmation at 6:45 PM. Don't forget water and a flashlight. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing. It may be very cold at the top, so be prepared. We will return to the parking lot at approximately 11 PM. Please carpool if possible (parking at the horse stables is limited to 32 cars) and don't forget the vehicle admission fee. Anyone from the Santa Rosa area wishing to carpool can meet at the St. Francis (Safeway) shopping center at the corner of Calistoga Road and Highway 12 at 6:15 PM. This is a "leaderless" carpool meeting place i.e. it's up to those who are there to organize the carpool.

Please email or call me for reservations or further information at fmi@sonic.net or 833-6288, or you can access the "Dave & Bill Hikes" web page directly (add it to your "Favorites" list for fast and accurate information about our hikes - including our schedule of future hike dates) at

www.sonic.net/~fmi/daveandbill.html

Discovery Hikes

Led by Bill, Deborah and Marcy

"Getting to Know Annadel State Park" Series

Saturday July 11th

Explore **Annadel State Park** on a series of docent-lead hikes covering four distinct areas of the park. Learn about its fascinating history and the natural environment of this rich and varied area.

The hikes begin at 9:30 AM on Saturdays. They are of moderate difficulty, with moderate elevation gain/loss and will cover approximately 6 to 9 miles. Each will last approximately 4 hours.

The second hike in the series is **Saturday July 11**. Meet at 9:20 a.m. at the Vietnam Veteran's trail head (park on Carissa Ave. and walk to trail head). There are no facilities at this trail head.

Future hikes in the series are on August 8, and September 12. Information to follow in subsequent schedules.

Mary & Martin Hikes

Sunday July 12th

On **July 12th** we will be meeting at **Jack London State Historic Park** for a 6 1/4 mile hike. We will head to Jack's Lake, pick up the Upper Fallen Bridge Trail, walk through the old orchard and return along the Orchard Trail to the Beauty Ranch picnic tables for lunch. After lunch we will hike to the Wolf House ruins and Jack London's gravesite, finishing at the House of Happy Walls Visitor Center & Museum. The trail is mostly shady with a mixture of redwood and oak forest. Plan for approximately 4 hours of hiking and about 650 feet in elevation gain over the course of the hike.

We will meet in the upper parking lot, so turn right immediately after the entrance station. Remember to pay the entrance fee of \$6.00. Please bring exact change. Plan to arrive at 9:50 for a prompt 10:00 a.m. departure. Pack a lunch since we'll be eating on the trail.

Please make sure you are well prepared by packing your personal first aid items, such as band aids, blister pads, hand wipes, pain reliever, etc. Please wear sturdy hiking shoes, dress in layers, and bring plenty of water.

Anyone who wishes to carpool can meet at the St. Francis Shopping Center near the corner of Calistoga Road and Highway 12 in Santa Rosa at 9:25 a.m. Meet in the parking row closest to Calistoga Road. Since this is a "leaderless" carpool, it is up to those who are there to organize it.

Wednesday Twilight Picnic Hikes

Led by Lonnie Greenfield and John Risse

Wednesday July 29

This series of monthly Wednesday Twilight Picnic Hikes in Sonoma County's breathtaking state parks will commence again on **July 29th**. The free, docent led, 1 to 2 hour hikes through redwood groves, along creeks and over wild flower strewn meadows will delight nature lovers and hikers alike. The first hike, a 1 1/2 hour moderate hike at **Sugarloaf Ridge State Park** will commence at 5:30 pm and culminate with a bring-your-own-picnic at Landmark Vineyards following the hike. The hike will cover the Hillside, Meadow and Lower Bald Mountain trails. Meet at 5:15 pm at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, upper parking lot, 2605 Adobe Canyon Road. Vehicle parking fees in our state parks range from \$4-\$6. The hikes are different each month and will be offered the last Wednesday of the month on 7/29, 8/26 & 9/30. For more information call docent, Lonnie Greenfield, at 707-933-8882 or to be on the email list for future dates and locations email lonnietots@comcast.net. Please type "Twilight Hikes" in the subject space.