



SPRING 2018

# GATEWAYS

The Member Newsletter of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

GOLDEN GATE  
NATIONAL  
**PARKS**  
CONSERVANCY


PARKS FOR ALL FOREVER™





## HAWK HILL TRAIL

The National Park Service and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy partnered to build 1,000 feet of sustainable new trail up to the summit—and restore habitat with newly planted native plants.

 Follow us on Instagram @parks4all





## FROM GREG'S DESK

**S**PRING truly is the season of rebirth and renewal. Just as colorful wildflowers are painting our park landscapes with fresh hues, we are proud to introduce a redesigned *Gateways* that is easier to read and easier to handle (share your thoughts at [editor@parksconservancy.org](mailto:editor@parksconservancy.org)). You'll find the stories and features you love, brightened with an emphasis on eye-catching imagery.

Meanwhile, our fundraising efforts on the Presidio Tunnel Tops are starting to bear fruit, as we are now planning a groundbreaking celebration that will kick off this historic park-marking project in earnest. Stay tuned for the latest as we partner with the Presidio Trust and National Park Service on creating this 14-acre parkland, bridging the Main Post and Crissy Field—while bringing all of our communities together.

Thank you for nurturing this blossoming new park, and for growing with us...season after season.



*Greg Moore*

**Greg Moore**  
President & CEO  
Golden Gate National  
Parks Conservancy

# MILE MARKERS

## YOUR IMPACT, AT A GLANCE

In each issue, we'll share a few highlights of what your support as a Parks Conservancy member has made possible—across your national parks and in your community. Thank you!

# 59,665

## NATIVE PLANTS PLANTED

this winter as staff and volunteers restored vital ecosystems at 44 sites across the Golden Gate National Parks

# 1,121

## BIRDS OF PREY BANDED

by Golden Gate Raptor Observatory volunteers in 2017, in an ongoing program to expand our knowledge of hawk movement, behavior, and ecology

# 196

## 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS INSPIRED

through the 2017 Migratory Story program, a partnership with the National Park Service that brings kids from San Francisco public schools to Hawk Hill

GOLDEN GATE  
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# THE NEXT CHAPTER OF THE CRISSY FIELD STORY

BY MICHAEL HSU

**F**IRST there was the Restoration. Last year saw the Resurfacing. Up next: a reinvigoration of your beloved shoreline park.

In 2001, a derelict dumping ground along San Francisco's northern bayfront was transformed into the 100-acre national park site we enjoy today.

A signature project of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Crissy Field included a revitalized tidal marsh, a re-created historic airfield, a 1.3-mile Golden Gate Promenade, an urban environmental education center, and hundreds of thousands of native plants planted by volunteers.

The generous lead gift of the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund inspired

thousands of donations to complete this dramatic transformation.

Now—17 years and about 20 million happy visitors later—the time has come to look at how Crissy Field can sustain its success and vitality, maintain its core values, and fulfill its potential as a welcoming public space.

The Haas, Jr. Fund helped support last year's resurfacing of the promenade, made possible by the National Park Service (NPS) Centennial Challenge Program. And for Crissy Field's next chapter, the Parks Conservancy, NPS, and Presidio Trust need your input.

"Including the broader community, at the earliest stages of this work, is essential to ensuring that Crissy Field

becomes truly inclusive in every sense of the word," says Catherine Barner, the Parks Conservancy's Vice President of Park Projects.

During this Community Engagement phase of Spring/Summer 2018, there will be many opportunities to share your thoughts and feedback—at public workshops and a Crissy Field Center open house, on walks/talks/bike rides, and during on-site visits by the Roving Ranger "mobile trailhead."

Planners will also reach out to partner organizations from historically underrepresented communities in the Bay Area.

## TO PARTICIPATE

To see the latest updates on upcoming events, please visit [parksconservancy.org/calendar](https://parksconservancy.org/calendar).

## ENVISIONING THE FUTURE FOR CRISSY FIELD

**Experience:** Ensure Crissy Field is a welcoming and inclusive space for all.

**Safety:** Improve access, safety, and circulation for all modes of transportation; integrate Crissy Field with changing conditions in the Presidio to create a cohesive visitor experience.

**Ecology:** Preserve and enhance the ecological value and education potential of natural resources.

**History:** Expand and enhance the interpretation of site history.

**Recreation:** Enhance opportunities for recreation, renewal, and reflection at four distinct park areas: East Beach, Marsh, Airfield, and West Bluff.

**Sustainability:** Increase park durability, minimize maintenance needs, and create a flexible framework adaptable to sea-level rise and demonstrating sustainable design.



## ONLINE PORTAL, TUNNEL TOPS PARKLAND WILL ELEVATE YOUTH PROGRAMMING

An invaluable new resource for educators, parents, and community leaders, [parkyouthexchange.com](http://parkyouthexchange.com) is a one-stop source for activities, camps, internships, and more across the Golden Gate National Parks. Pooling the offerings of 24 park partner



organizations, the website features a searchable database of programs that serve young people of all ages—from “cradle to career.”

Generously funded by the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, this online directory is a project of the Park Youth Collaborative (PYC), with additional support from the James Irvine Foundation and Pisces

Foundation. The PYC is supported by a backbone organization—the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy—alongside the National Park Service and Presidio Trust.

Those three partners are also looking to amplify the impact of educational programming through the creation of an expanded “youth campus” at the Presidio Tunnel Tops. When the 14-acre site is completed between Crissy Field and the Main Post, new labs and facilities will enable the park to serve three times the number of youth currently served by the Presidio—going from 30,000 to 100,000 per year (the equivalent of every child in San Francisco!).

**LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT** the Tunnel Tops project and enrich the lives of young people in our community for years to come, contact Traci Eckels at [teckels@parksconservancy.org](mailto:teckels@parksconservancy.org), or call (415) 561-3035.

## SECOND COHORT OF COHO SALMON RELEASED IN REDWOOD CREEK

On January 12, about 190 federally endangered adult coho salmon were returned to Redwood Creek at Muir Beach—the second cohort of hatchery-raised salmon to be re-released into the watershed. In December 2016, 106 adult fish were re-introduced; however, a stormy winter in 2017 led to a low survival rate.

Another class of coho is scheduled for release in December 2018, as part of an ongoing effort to jump-start a self-sustaining salmon population through a collaboration of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, California State Parks, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.



### AT FIRST SITE

## RANCHO CORRAL DE TIERRA

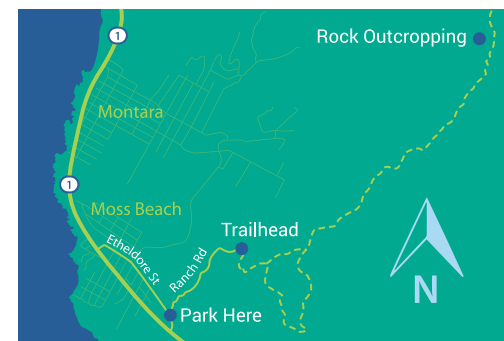
**R**ANCHO CORRAL DE TIERRA is the newest of the Golden Gate National Parks (added to Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 2011), and located near the southern border of the parklands.

What's different about Rancho from, say, the Marin Headlands, is that it's untamed, wild, and a bit difficult to find.

A good place to start your exploration is the Spine Trail. Here's how to get to the trailhead: driving south through Moss Beach (and right after the mileage sign that reads “El Granada – 2”), make a left off of Highway 1 onto Etheldore St., then take your first right onto Ranch Rd.

You'll be greeted by two large ranch signs and a small National Park Service sign. Park there, and walk to the end of the dirt road, about 0.7 miles. Passing the horses, llamas, and goats, follow the small trail signs (can you spot them?) around the barn to the trailhead. It's really quite a quaint start!

The Spine Trail begins with a small loop around a hill, through a small patch of eucalyptus, and then connects to a 3-mile-long section that gently climbs the ridge towards the peak.



As you make your way up, the ground falls away on either side, revealing the long slender farms tucked away in the valleys below. The ocean widens from a sliver to a wide silvery band. As Half Moon Bay starts to peek out, you might start dreaming about the fresh seafood you'll enjoy in town later.

Continue higher and you'll find a perfect rock outcropping to sit on and watch the sun set over the Pacific. If you're looking for expansive, coastal scenery (as well as some solitude), this is the place.

—Carol Klammer



MARCH      APRIL

CRISSY FIELD WALK & CAMPFIRE M

3/9 (5–6:30 PM)  
Join the Crissy Field Center team for a family-friendly stroll around the marsh and enjoy a ranger-led campfire with songs and s’mores! For families with kids ages 3–10. RSVP required: [parksconservancy.org/memberevents](#); registration opens 2/1.

YOGA IN THE PARKS M

3/10 Fort Mason (10–11 AM)  
Bring your mat and join us for some yoga on the Great Meadow—with a view! Suitable for all levels. RSVP required: [parksconservancy.org/memberevents](#), registration opens 2/10.

RODEO LAGOON WALK

3/11 Marin Headlands (9:30–11:30 AM)  
Join docent Ann Jensen on a walk around the lagoon, learning about wildlife and the history of the Marin Headlands. For ages 7 and up; no dogs. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540.

HISTORY COMES ALIVE WITH JUANA BRIONES

3/17 Presidio (1–3 PM)  
At El Polín Spring, experience a day in the life of Juana Briones, a legendary pioneer in the Presidio’s past. Meet Ranger Mariajosé Alcantara in front of the Officers’ Club, 50 Moraga Ave. RSVP required: (415) 561-4323.

BATTERY ALEXANDER WALK

3/18 Marin Headlands (10:30–11:30 AM)  
On this short walk with Ranger Michael Morales, learn the history of Battery Alexander, Battery Smith-Guthrie, and Battery O’Rorke. Rain cancels. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540.

BEGINNING BIRDING

4/1 Rodeo Lagoon (9:30–11:30 AM)  
Experience the birds of the Headlands on an easy walk with docent Jane Haley. Bring field guides and binoculars. For ages 8 and up; no dogs. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540. Also on 3/4, 5/6.

SUTRO BATHS EXPLORATION

M 4/19 Lands End (4:30–6 PM)  
On a walk with historian John Martini, learn about what was once the world’s largest indoor swimming complex. RSVP required: [parksconservancy.org/memberevents](#); registration opens 3/19.

STAR SEARCH

4/20 Rodeo Beach (7–9 PM)  
Join Ranger Al Blank on the beach to view the stars and learn about tides, navigation, and astronomy. Bring a telescope if you have one. Rain, fog, or overcast skies cancel. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540.

DISCOVER NATURE ALONG THE ECOLOGY TRAIL

4/21 Presidio (1–2:30 PM)  
Explore the natural world of the Presidio’s historic forest—learn about the ecosystem and enjoy cultural tales! Meet at the corner of Funston and Moraga at the Main Post. For all ages. RSVP required: (415) 561-4323.

OWL WARS

4/21 Muir Woods (6 PM)  
On this strenuous five-mile dusk hike, learn about the northern spotted owl’s battle for survival. Meet docent Steffen Bartschat at the Visitor Center. No dogs. Bring a flashlight, water, and snack, and dress in layers. RSVP required: (415) 388-2596.

MAY

SUTRO HEIGHTS HISTORY WALK M

5/12 Lands End (10–11:30 AM)  
Historian John Martini discusses Adolph Suto’s plans for a vast “pleasure ground” at the rocky edge of San Francisco. RSVP required: [parksconservancy.org/memberevents](#); registration opens 4/12.

MOTHER’S DAY DISCOUNT DAYS M

5/12–5/13 Lands End Lookout  
Bring your member ID and enjoy a special 20% discount on all purchases at the Lookout (M–F, 9 am–5 pm; Sat–Sun, 9 am–6 pm). No RSVP required.

CRAB FISHING

5/12 Fort Baker (10 AM–NOON)  
Join a park ranger at Fort Baker pier to drop a crab pot in the Bay. Traps and bait will be supplied; catch and release only. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540. Also on 3/10, 4/14.

A COLD WAR DISCUSSION

5/19 Marin Headlands (10:30–11:30 AM)  
Meet at Nike Missile Site SF-88 for an interactive, ranger-led discussion of the Cold War and how its legacy affects us today. Rain cancels. RSVP required: (415) 331-1540.

COME TO YOUR SENSES

5/19 Crissy Field (2–4 PM)  
On this family-friendly, one-mile walk, look for crabs, taste strawberry treats, listen to legends, smell the sea, and touch the sand. Bring sand toys and layers. Meet in front of Crissy Field Center. RSVP required: (415) 561-4323.

It’s fun. It’s healthy. It makes a difference.  
And it’s easy to get started!

With 80,000 acres of national parkland, we need your help as we work towards our vision of Parks For All Forever.

To learn about programs and to register visit [parksconservancy.org/volunteer](#); for more information call (415) 561-3044, or e-mail [volunteer@parksconservancy.org](#).

PITCH-IN REPORT

Break Ground with New Historic Black Point Gardens Program

During the early 1900s, scenic walkways were built at Black Point—a slope on the eastern edge of Fort Mason, overlooking Aquatic Park. When the Army left the site in the 1970s, the paths and stairs were overrun with weeds.



The Parks Conservancy and National Park Service have initiated a project to uncover and restore the pathways for visitor use—and we need your help! Goats have “mowed” the site, trash has been picked up, and now we’re looking to recruit a volunteer corps to keep the area clean and clear as trail repairs begin this year. Join the newly formed Historic Black Point Gardeners! E-mail [volunteer@parksconservancy.org](#) for details.



PROGRAM	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
BEACHES: Cleanups & Beach Maintenance							
Ocean Beach Cleanup						10 AM–NOON (3RD SAT)	
HABITATS: Restore & Monitor Critical Habitats							
Marin Programs		10 AM–2 PM* (2ND, 4TH, 5TH TUES)	10 AM–2:30 PM* 1–4 PM			10 AM–1 PM	9:30 AM– 2:30 PM*
San Francisco Programs			9 AM–NOON	1–4 PM		9 AM–NOON 1–4 PM	10 AM–1 PM
San Mateo Programs						10 AM–1 PM	
Landscapes & Historic Sites: Groundskeeping & Site Restoration							
Alcatraz Gardens			8 AM–NOON*		8 AM–NOON*	8 AM–11 PM** (LAST SAT)	
Golden Gate Maintenance			9 AM–NOON	9 AM–NOON	9 AM–NOON		
Marin Maintenance					9:30 AM– 12:30 PM (3RD FRI)		
Presidio Forest & Trail					9 AM–NOON		
Presidio Gardens & Sustainability				9 AM–NOON			
PLANT NURSERIES: Grow & Care for Plants							
Fort Funston Nursery						9:30 AM– 12:30 PM	
Marin Headlands Nursery		10 AM–2 PM (1ST & 3RD TUES)	1–4 PM			9 AM–NOON	
Presidio Nursery			1–4 PM			1–4 PM	
Trails: Repair, Construct, & Monitor Trails							
Golden Gate Trail Crew (Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo)						10 AM–1 PM (3RD SAT)	
Teens on Trails						10 AM–1 PM** (OCT–APR, LAST SAT)	



## SPRING ACTIVITIES ROUNDUP

### ENJOY TOURS & TAPAS IN THE PRESIDIO THIS SPRING



Our friends at the Presidio Trust are rolling out a new way to experience the historic post-turned-park—and bringing back an old favorite. Beginning in February, visitors have been enjoying the Presidio Experience Tour—a two-hour adventure that includes a scenic

shuttle ride through the park, and an in-depth guided tour of the exhibits at the Officers' Club. This free tour presents a fun and informative overview of the Presidio's past and present. See upcoming dates and register at [presidio.gov/events](https://presidio.gov/events).

On March 18, the Trust also will be kicking off the sixth season of the popular Presidio Picnics, a partnership with Off the Grid Markets that brings the best of the Bay Area's food scene to the Main Post lawn—along with lawn games, music, arts and crafts, and activities for the kids. Presidio Picnics take place every Sunday through Oct. 7 (11 am to 4 pm).

### HONOR THE SEASON OF PARKS, VOLUNTEERS, AND THE PLANET

Here it is—that extra bit of motivation to make this season the one you come out and give back to your national parks. In spring, we commemorate Earth Day (4/22), National Volunteer Week (4/15–4/22), and National Park Week (4/21–4/29)—which kicks off with National Junior Ranger Day and a fee-free day across the country (4/21), and

culminates with National Park RX Day (4/29).

Celebrate with us by doing something that's good for you, your family, and your parks—volunteer! It's fun, it makes a difference, and it's so easy to get started. See all your volunteer opportunities at [parksconservancy.org/volunteer](https://parksconservancy.org/volunteer).



### RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR MUIR WOODS PARKING, SHUTTLE SEATS

Starting Jan. 16, reservations are now required for parking private vehicles at Muir Woods National Monument, or for riding the shuttle. Visitors can reserve their spots at [gomuirwoods.com](https://gomuirwoods.com).

In response to overcrowding and safety concerns in and around the much-loved redwood grove, the National Park



Service has instituted the new system to better protect the extraordinary landscape and resources—and provide more enjoyable experiences for visitors from near and far. For more information and FAQs, visit [parksconservancy.org/reservations](https://parksconservancy.org/reservations).

### PARK STORE PICKS



#### OUR NEW GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE WOMEN'S SOFTSHELL JACKET

is this season's must-have add to your wardrobe! In this sleek and sporty jacket, you'll look sharp and feel cozy—even in wind, fog, drizzle, or rain. Its adjustable hood, water-resistant material, and sturdy but lightweight construction make this jacket the perfect layer to pack for your park explorations, no matter the weather! \$54.95 (members \$46.75).

Available in our park stores or online at [parksconservancy.org/store](https://parksconservancy.org/store)



#### Looking for more Mother's Day gift ideas?

Don't miss our special-discount weekend, **May 12-13**, at the **Lands End Lookout** (M–F, 9 am–5 pm; Sat–Sun, 9 am–6 pm). Show your membership ID and enjoy

**20% off your entire purchase!**



Photo by Alison Taggart-Barone

### ASK THE RANGER

#### Q. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NATIONAL PARK AND A NATIONAL MONUMENT?

**A.** *Gateways* turned to the ever-eloquent Stephen Haller, the park historian emeritus, for an answer. “Historically, the major difference between national parks and national monuments is how they are created,” Haller writes. “It takes an act of Congress to create a national park. In 1906, Congress passed the Antiquities Act, which authorizes the President to proclaim national monuments on federal land in order to protect ‘historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic and scientific interest.’” (Muir Woods, in fact, was the 10th such national monument established—in 1908.)

The other major difference, Haller notes, is in who manages these entities. “All national parks, by definition, are managed as units of the National Park Service (NPS),” Haller says. The NPS also manages other units that do not have the designation of “National Park,” such as National Recreation Area (like Golden Gate), National Historic Site (Fort Point), and National Seashore (Point Reyes). All units within the national park system operate under the same policies and management guidelines.

However, not all National Monuments are managed by the NPS, Haller points out. He notes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages the Pacific Remote Islands National Monument, and the Bureau of Land Management manages the Carrizo Plain National Monument in southern California.

Have a burning question about the parks? Email us at [editor@parksconservancy.org](mailto:editor@parksconservancy.org).





## PARKECOLOGY

# CLOSE ENCOUNTER FLIPS A BAT BIAS

BY CURRAN WHITE

**"B**ATS? Ewww, they carry diseases!" That's probably the reaction of many people (even devoted animal lovers) to the notorious nocturnal flyers.

My mom had a similarly dismissive attitude, so unsurprisingly I grew up with less than a full understanding of the importance of bat populations to a healthy ecosystem. And my first close encounter with bats didn't exactly help form a favorable opinion.

During a childhood trip to the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, Wash. (my hometown), I cautiously approached the partition of the vampire bat exhibit to get a better look. My face was just inches from the plexiglass when—

WHAM!—the vampire bat decided to greet me by sticking itself to the glass before my very eyes.

I threw my arms up and ran from the exhibit, shrieking like a banshee.

Late last year, I finally got a chance to redeem myself. I timidly signed up to observe a team of bat researchers during a mist-netting outing at Muir Woods National Monument.

Mist-netting (temporarily catching wildlife in a volleyball-net-like apparatus) is part of a three-year, three-phased bat study by the partners of One Tam, the public initiative of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative. In this phase, scientists

are measuring the bats and taking genetic and hair samples to better understand several seldom-studied species in and around Mt. Tamalpais.

Leading the outing was Gabe Reyes, a bat biologist for the U.S. Geological Survey. In the two hours I spent with him, my outlook on the species completely changed as he shared his enthusiasm for bats. This guy really loves his Chiropteras.

"They are just endlessly thrilling to work with and study, and they have great personalities!" Gabe explained, noting that he enjoys the challenge of learning about a nocturnal flying mammal that remains mysterious to scientists.

During the evening, we caught three bats (two California myotis and one hoary bat). And though the bats were certainly agitated by the interruption to their nighttime feeding, Gabe and his colleagues handled them with the utmost of care.

"They're pretty cute," Gabe said, fondly gazing at the bat lightly clutched in his palm (don't fret—he and the other biologists have their rabies vaccinations).

I couldn't deny it. The California myotis he was admiring, about the size of a puffed-up cotton ball, had ears bigger than its face. And their stubby noses and beady eyes? The definition of cute.

I left Muir Woods that night feeling changed. Seeing bats up-close and personal (and without glass walls) was an eye-opening experience that I won't forget.

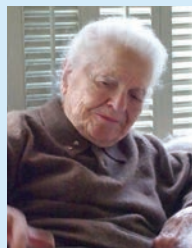
Sure, my mother was technically right: Bats can transfer diseases to us (they're mammals, too, after all). But that's an unfair generalization and simplification of a complex species. My real-life encounter with bats was, in fact, a cure for prejudice.

**LEARN MORE ONLINE**  
[parksconservancy.org/batstudy](https://parksconservancy.org/batstudy)



## LEGACY GIVING

### GIFTS BEYOND HER LIFETIME



**D**R. V. LOREL Bergeron, a longtime San Francisco resident and plastic surgeon, grew up in Minnesota and, in her words,

“moved West as soon as I could.” She always had dogs, and loved to take them for long walks at Fort Funston, a site in the Golden Gate National Parks.

When she passed away just shy of her 101st birthday, Dr. Bergeron left a trust from which her trustees could make charitable distributions to a national parkland that she loved, so one of the trustees hand-picked the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.

Because Dr. Bergeron had frequented and enjoyed Fort Funston for many

decades, her trustees wanted to honor Dr. Bergeron with a bequest that would benefit that park site. The gift was directed to the Fort Funston Native Plant Nursery to purchase two picnic tables, to fund plants for restoration projects, and to repair the shadehouse and soil bin.

Following the successful application of those initial funds, the trustees made a second grant, this time to support the Oceana High School Nursery Program, which benefits the budding young botanists and naturalists, and to underwrite an expanded water catchment system on Alcatraz Island.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. Bergeron and her trustees, who aligned the Conservancy’s vital work with her abiding love for the parks and animals.

To learn more about legacy giving to the Parks Conservancy, contact Audrey Yee at [ayee@parksconservancy.org](mailto:ayee@parksconservancy.org) or (415) 561-3016.

## CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



### STRAVA STRIVES FOR COMMON VISION WITH PARKS CONSERVANCY

This spring, the Parks Conservancy welcomes back our friends at Strava for another fun-filled, team-building day of volunteering in the Golden Gate National Parks. Strava (derived from the Swedish word for “strive”) is a social network for athletes.

Striving to build a community that welcomes all and aims to inspire, Strava is a natural ally to the Parks Conservancy, which works to make parks relevant and accessible for all communities while instilling a sense of stewardship.

As a founding partner of the Parks Conservancy’s new Corporate Volunteering Program, Strava has reaffirmed its commitment to that vision—maximizing their volunteer efforts while donating to support stewardship programs, academic internships, and service-learning projects. Thank you, Strava, for the wonderful support you have provided to the parks and to our communities!

Visit [parksconservancy.org/corporate](https://parksconservancy.org/corporate) to learn how your business can support the Conservancy and give back to your national parks.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

### THANK YOU FOR A DINNER TO REMEMBER!

The Trails Forever Dinner Committee thanks the following Table Sponsors at the 2017 Trails Forever Dinner for their generous support of trail projects, habitat restoration, and environmental programs across the Golden Gate National Parks.



#### TRAILBLAZERS

Anonymous  
The Ishiyama Foundation

#### TRAIL BUILDERS

Janice & Matt Barger  
Mark Buell & Susie Tompkins Buell

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ‘LEI’ DOWN YOUR TOOLS, LUAU IN YOUR PARK

At long last—an occasion to break out that work-boot/Hawaiian shirt combo! At this year’s **Give Back Kick Back** event on April 7 (9 am–2:30 pm), volunteer on a habitat restoration project at Lands



End, and then enjoy a luau-themed party at Fort Miley—with music, barbecue, libations, and more.

Tickets for the luau are \$25 for those who volunteer in the morning (\$40 early-bird tickets for party-only; \$50 general tickets for party-only); visit [parksconservancy.org/trailmixers](https://parksconservancy.org/trailmixers).

The Give Back Kick Back kicks off our 2018 season of fun and festive **Trail Mixers**, get-togethers at gorgeous park sites where you and your friends can hang out, sip delicious beverages, and savor some small bites and big fun. Save the dates (every second Thursday): 5/10, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9 and check [parksconservancy.org/trailmixers](https://parksconservancy.org/trailmixers) for locations and more details.





## FIVE QUESTIONS WITH...LAURA JOSS

**S**TARTING in her new role as superintendent of Golden Gate National Recreation Area last November, Laura Joss brings to this post 28 years of experience as a National Park Service employee and leader.

Most recently the Regional Director of the Pacific West Region, Laura has served in a wide variety of roles across the agency—from chief of cultural resources at Yellowstone to superintendent of Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine. *Gateways* sat down with Laura to learn more about our new top ranger.

**What do you enjoy most about being a ranger?** Working to ensure national parks are thriving, healthy places that are safe and welcoming to all—particularly to young people.

**What's the secret to making that special connection between kids and parks?** Instilling a sense of discovery and mystery...to find that special way that each of us discovers and makes an emotional connection to a place. But that's the tough thing to identify—whether it's through visual means or scent or touch, everyone learns and experiences in different ways.

**What's your favorite national park in America?** That's a very hard question; having lived and worked in so many parks, I love each of them for their own unique characteristics. But Arches National Park in Utah [where I was superintendent for four years] has a very warm spot in my heart. As a family, we lived in a house in the park, and were all able to explore the park together.

**Do you have a favorite spot in this park?** I particularly love the Marin Headlands. It's such a unique combination of our nation's history and natural beauty...you can walk for 15 minutes and go from a busy urban setting overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge to a very quiet, wild, and restful area.

**What do you hope your legacy will be at Golden Gate?** I hope that legacy represents my goals of: Caring, Sharing, and Connecting—to continue caring for these amazing places so that they're preserved for the future, share them with our community and our nation, and work with our partners to provide opportunities to make meaningful connections—especially for young people—to these special places.

**FOR EXTENDED TRANSCRIPT** visit [parksconservancy.org/jossinterview](https://parksconservancy.org/jossinterview).

## FOTO FLASHBACK

### RECORD TIME

**E**MMA Reimann (right) was a pioneering runner in the women's competition at the Dipsea Race. On April 21 of this year—100 years to the day of the first Women's Hike in 1918—the Dipsea Race Committee and One Tam will commemorate the event with a special women-only tribute walk/run from Mill Valley to Stinson Beach in the Golden Gate National Parks. To learn more, visit [dipsea.org](https://dipsea.org). (Courtesy of the Mill Valley Public Library)

Explore a trove of historical images at the Park Archives and Records Center; visit [nps.gov/goga/historyculture/collections.htm](https://nps.gov/goga/historyculture/collections.htm).



## SWITCHBACKS

### HOT LINKS TO [parksconservancy.org](https://parksconservancy.org)



#### OUR PICK OF PICS FROM 2017

Six park photographers share their favorite images from the past year—and the stories behind each unforgettable photo.

[parksconservancy.org/photos17](https://parksconservancy.org/photos17)



#### WATERSHED CASE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

In 1897, an African American man named John Harris sued for being denied entry to Sutro Baths. That landmark case influenced the historic 1964 Civil Rights Act.

[parksconservancy.org/johnharris](https://parksconservancy.org/johnharris)



#### PLANT ON THE COMEBACK PATH

Learn how staff and volunteers of the Presidio Native Plant Nursery are helping return the endangered Franciscan manzanita to its natural habitat.

[parksconservancy.org/manzanitastory](https://parksconservancy.org/manzanitastory)

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The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is the nonprofit membership organization created to preserve the Golden Gate National Parks, enhance the experiences of park visitors, and build a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future.

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