



# Friends of Santa Teresa Park 2025 Newsletter

Friends of Santa Teresa Park Newsletter Summer 2025

## FRIENDS OF SANTA TERESA PARK



*The Hidden Springs Trail leading to Coyote Peak*

### IBM Closing Its Almaden Lab

How will it affect Santa Teresa Park?

by Ronald Horii

IBM has had a long tradition of research in San Jose and the Silicon Valley. In 1952, it opened its San Jose Research Laboratory, which gave birth to the computer disk drive. It started in a small building in downtown San Jose on 99 Notre Dame Avenue. It later moved to a larger building in IBM's Cottle Road campus, where disk drives were manufactured. Needing more room, the Almaden Research Center (ARC) was built on 690 acres in the Santa Teresa Hills, next to Santa Teresa County Park. It opened in 1986. Most of the property has been maintained as open space. The lab buildings are concentrated in a small part of the site, just below the top of Bernal Hill. A berm surrounds it, blocking the view of the lab buildings from most of the Almaden Valley floor, though it can be seen from up in the hills, including from trails in Santa Teresa Park. The research facility consists of four main buildings attached diagonally to a long spine.  
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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 park maintenance and 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). Please visit our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/STPFriends](https://www.facebook.com/STPFriends)

Meetings: 7:00 pm, 1st Thursday of each month.

Zoom meetings since the pandemic shutdown.

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/STPFriends/>

Email: [fostp@stpfriends.org](mailto:fostp@stpfriends.org) (email us to request Zoom meeting link)

Officers:

- Mike Boulland, President
- Ronald Horii, Secretary, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor
- David Huntley, Treasurer

### President's Message

By Mike Boulland

Thank goodness for Fridays!

That is because FOSTP First Friday (FFF) of the Month is when our group of eager volunteers work to BeautifySJ, the interpretive grounds around the Rancho Santa Teresa Bernal historic house and barns and Santa Teresa Spring.

They started work after the COVID pandemic when they noticed the weeds in the garden beds and blackberry bushes overgrowing the paths and Santa Teresa Spring's font.

Today, I am proud to recognize the support of Alex Ale, Park Maintenance, and our FFF group of volunteers, Lee Bangphaxay, Kim, Youngmee, and Robin Fallowfield. The Bernal Ranch Interpretive site looks much better due to the toil of our volunteers, in partnership with Park Maintenance. The three women have joined the park department's Adopt-A-Spot program and have made the garden boxes and butterfly box their project spot. Also, FOSTP volunteer Joan Murphy, spends extra time doing the watering and pulling weeds in the garden. As a result, our volunteers are now discovering the fruits of their labor as the garden boxes have plants, and the butterfly box is ready to attract butterflies. The site is extremely popular with local children.

Since we were so successful at the Bernal Ranch House, our future goal is to Adopt-a-Spot at the Jacoba Bernal house to remove the weeds and trim overgrown bushes.

Next, I want to recognize David Huntley, our new treasurer who joined FOSTP last month. I was impressed by his eagerness to quickly learn our QuickBooks accounting system and volunteer during our FOSTP First Friday workdays. We welcome and thank him for being part of FOSTP.  
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See <http://www.stpfriends.org/#newsletters> for this and past newsletters.

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The Friends of Santa Teresa Park (FOSTP) have been supporting Santa Teresa County Park since 1992. We have been publishing newsletters since 2008.

Here's our 2025 newsletter:

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Scan the QR Code for our 2025 newsletter or go to:  
<https://www.stpfriends.org/FOSTP-Newsletter-2025.pdf>

See all our newsletters here:  
<https://www.stpfriends.org/#newsletters>

See our website: <https://www.stpfriends.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/STPFriends/>

Join our Zoom meetings, the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm, email us for the Zoom address.

Email: [fostp@stpfriends.org](mailto:fostp@stpfriends.org)



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