

Friends of Mt. Rubidoux

P.O. Box 206 • Riverside, California 92502



NEWSLETTER

#149, October 26, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

The Friends of Mt. Rubidoux strive:

- to restore, preserve, and beautify Mt. Rubidoux Park
- to enhance knowledge of the rich history of Mt. Rubidoux Park
- to foster enjoyment by visitors to Mt. Rubidoux Park

MEETING INFORMATION

No general membership meeting is scheduled at this time. FMR's Board of Directors meets annually and as needed.

Friends of Mt. Rubidoux members,

October 19th we held our first Board Meeting in almost a year. We met in person while wearing masks and maintaining social distance. As noted below, our November 19th General Meeting was cancelled.

I am pleased to announce that our Board will remain intact and meet as needed to assist and support Park & Recreation regarding Mt. Rubidoux issues. As the group knowledgeable of Mt. Rubidoux's history and committed to its future we hope to maintain contact with its patrons and users. In case you see Board Members Nancy Cox, Andrea Lossing, Kathy Schulz, Jeff Sierra, Glenn Wenzel, Katie Wider, or me in the community, know we appreciate your questions or comments. I hope you would also thank them for their service.

Chuck Beaty
951-787-8984

Updates since FMR Newsletter #148, May 3, 2020:

Cancel - FMR General Membership Meeting: Until COVID restrictions are relaxed including access to a City Hall meeting room, FMR plans no future General Membership meeting. FMR's Board will meet, within health guidelines, annually and as needed. Updates will be mailed or e-mailed to members via the Newsletter. Please let us know if your address changes.

9th Street Park Gates: The relatively new gate at Mt. Rubidoux's 9th Street Park Entrance will be updated to allow entrance from 6 a.m. – 9 p.m. (Can exit any time.) An identical gate will soon be installed at the top of 9th Street where 9th Street ends.

Formation – Mt. Rubidoux Cultural Heritage Committee: As most of you are aware, the cross on the peak of Mount Rubidoux was vandalized on Friday evening, June 26. Soon after that, the Rivers and Land Conservancy (formerly Riverside Land Conservancy) formed a Mt. Rubidoux Cultural Heritage Committee to discuss the issues behind this action and to open a discussion that includes all cultures. This committee has been meeting via Zoom almost twice a month since August 10. Those attending each meeting have varied. The make-up of the committee includes many from Riverside and Lands Conservancy, the organization that accepted the responsibility to conserve the 0.43 acre on the peak of the mountain which includes the cross. Also represented are the Mission Inn Foundation and the Friends of Mount Rubidoux (Chuck Beaty and Glenn Wenzel), the other two partners in Totally Mount Rubidoux, the group who raised the funds to win the site at auction and to preserve the cross. In addition, there are a number of representatives of local Native American groups, some people from UCR and also some from the City of Riverside. As to be expected viewpoints are varied and the group is working on building consensus with ideas voiced by many of the participants. Chuck Beaty and I are pleased that the representatives from Rivers and Lands have clearly supported Friends of Mt. Rubidoux's position that the cross on the peak will remain as that is part of the agreement from the funding and purchase of the peak. When more clear visions and directions are achieved, we will keep you the members of the Friends of Mt. Rubidoux informed. If you have any questions or thoughts feel free to contact me (gewnlw@yahoo.com). Glenn Wenzel, FMR Board Member

Members are Welcome

Contacts:

www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMtRubidoux
Email: mtrubidoux@aol.com
www.mt-rubidoux.org

Donations can be mailed to:

Friends of Mt. Rubidoux, Inc.
P.O. Box 206
Riverside, CA 92502



To call Riverside 911 from cell phone:

951-787-7911

Non-emergency RPD:

951-354-2007

To report Graffiti:

1-866-TAGFREE

(1-866-824-3733)

Mt. Rubidoux Memorial Bench Policy: FMR recently consulted on this subject with Adolfo Cruz, Director, City Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept. and endorses this updated policy: *...“As you are aware, our Department, along with members of your group, have seen an influx of requests for additional memorial benches to be installed along the walking paths of Mt. Rubidoux. After several onsite visits with staff and members of the Friends of Mt. Rubidoux, we have determined that we are at capacity and will no longer accept requests for additional benches to be installed. This decision was made primarily to preserve the integrity of the site which is visited by thousands of visitors annually; along with maintaining the aesthetics of this great City amenity. Although we appreciate the significance of memorials, our decision must factor in the broader impact which includes costs associated with the installation, maintenance and repair of vandalism of these benches. ... I hope that the Friends of Mt. Rubidoux understand our position and will support our stance on future inquiries. Your passion for the interests related to Mt. Rubidoux is greatly appreciated.”*

**Celebrating 150 years of Riverside:
a special edition of the Riverside Historical Society Journal**

September 15 marked the 150th birthday of the City of Riverside. In honor of this event, RHS has produced a special journal. After two years of committee meetings, fund raising, writing, rewriting, editing and lay out, the 500+ page journal is at the printer. We hope that all of you will be as excited as we are.

On November 8 from 11-3, RHS Board members will be at 4260 Tequesquite Avenue celebrating Riverside’s 150th birthday and handing out copies of the special journals to RHS members, sponsors and authors. Extra books will be available for the purchase price of \$30 for soft cover and \$45 for hard cover. This lovely book would make a fine Holiday Gift for all your Riverside friends and family.

****Masks are required and social distancing will be observed.**

Join us for this celebration and help us save mailing costs.

See you in the parking lot! In case of rain the event will be held the following Sunday.

**Urban Search & Rescue Task Force – “rope training” - 10/13-10/15/20
Mt. Rubidoux – Fort Chittenden area**

Urban Search and Rescue, US&R, is a "multi-hazard" discipline, that may be needed for a variety of emergencies or disasters. CA-TF6 is one of 28 National Task Forces and one of eight in California that respond as either FEMA or as a California EMA resource during emergencies requiring highly skilled search and rescue personnel. The **City of Riverside Fire Department** is the sponsoring agency for CA-TF6. Participating members include: Corona, Hemet, Murrieta, Pechanga, and CAL Fire / Riverside County Fire Department. Specialties include: Search, Heavy Rescue, Haz-Mat, Medical Team, Heavy Riggers, Structural Engineers, and Logisticians. The team also includes non-fire civilians with professional specialty expertise necessary to complete our missions such as structural engineers, medical doctors, search dogs and handlers.



The City of Riverside performs all Mt. Rubidoux maintenance except the “peak property” which is maintained by Rivers & Lands Conservancy.



Flag upkeep.

Remove graffiti from boulders, benches, the road, monuments, gates, etc.



- Empty many trash barrels
- Clean drains
- Trim trees and brush
- Cordon off, repair collapsed sections
- Repair trails and roads

