



# FORT ROSS - SALT POINT NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA STATE PARK COOPERATING ASSOCIATION

FALL 2009

WWW.FORTROSSINTERPRETIVE.ORG

---

## ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

We now send an E-newsletter with regular updates about Fort Ross. If you have not received the Fort Ross Update on this page, please contact [fortross@mcn.org](mailto:fortross@mcn.org) or call 707 847-3437 so that we can update your membership information with your email address. Thank you!

---

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

These are truly dramatic times for FRIA. Like all California State Parks, we've been hammered by the threat of park closures for several months now. Apparently working at a historic park cultivates taking the long view, because FRIA staff has done a superb job in the midst of it all. I commend both staff and volunteers for weathering this uncertainty with such calm dignity. We have finally learned what lies ahead for the next few seasons: Fort Ross is slated to be closed to the public Monday through Thursday, through June 2010. Our goal is to secure private funding to allow us to re-open 7 days a week starting in the spring, but there is much work to be done. Please let us know if you have suggestions for FRIA fundraising and outreach.

It's particularly difficult to be shuttered at a time when Fort Ross is receiving more attention than ever. Many of our multi-year grant projects are nearing completion. Fort Ross' upcoming 2012 commemoration is helping to re-connect us with institutions and organizations local and beyond. And visits from dignitaries and press have kept us in the spotlight. It doesn't hurt to have an Associated Press journalist write us up – the wire got the word out far and wide. At times like this I am reminded of how valuable the people behind the institution are, and I'd like to thank all those dedicated volunteers and staff who keep this place humming. I would also like to thank you, our membership. You join, volunteer, and send us feedback. These last few months you've written letters on our behalf and clicked on that "donate" button. And sometimes you come to our meetings! For all this and more, thank you. We need you now more than ever. Looking forward to seeing you on December 12th.

Sarah Sweedler, FRIA President.

## FORT ROSS UPDATE!

FORT ROSS will be OPEN on the weekends only  
Friday, Saturday, and Sundays  
10 AM to 5PM

Due to the California State Park budget crisis  
Fort Ross State Historic Park  
Will be CLOSED Monday through Thursday from  
November 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010  
(This closure includes the fort, the grounds,  
and the Visitor Center)

The Environmental Living Program for school children  
will continue during this closure  
SALT POINT STATE PARK  
will also experience Service Reductions  
Call 847-3221 for details

As we move into the spring, our district superintendents will be reassessing and may consider opening up for holidays and spring break. Our park superintendents would like FRIA's help to keep the park open for additional days. In the coming weeks they will inform us of the operating costs necessary to do this. FRIA currently has a very small financial base, and with the park closing four days a week the income from our main funding source, the museum bookstore, will be diminished. We will need to rely on donations, grants, and fundraising events to help the state keep your park open to the public! We will keep you updated. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have donated in recent weeks to help us keep the Visitor Center doors open. Your contributions really do make a difference, and your support is heartwarming.



## ANNUAL MEETING & HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009

Potluck Lunch 1:00 PM  
Please Join our Winter Celebration!  
Bring a dish to share - salad, hot dish or dessert - drinks  
will be provided

Regular Board Meeting  
10:30 to 12:30  
The ballots for the 2008 election  
will be counted at 12:00 PM

# ROTCHEV HOUSE EXHIBIT PROGRESS

All of the historic reproduction furnishings for the Rotchev House exhibits have been completed and are being shipped to Fort Ross from Istanbul, Turkey and St. Petersburg, Russia. The first container is scheduled to arrive the first week in December. Pictured is the parlor set constructed by Igor Mushtukov, master builder in St. Petersburg, Russia based on architectural drawings by Russian historic architect Elena Klimkova; A bookcase constructed at the Central Naval Museum in St. Petersburg which is an exact copy of one in their collection which travelled to Russian America on board the Neva; and a bed made by Turkish firm MOB which is a replica of a bed in the Bishop's House in Sitka, Alaska.



Text for the museum catalog has been completed and is currently being translated into Russian for our bilingual publication. Excerpted below is the biographical information about Alexander Rotchev:

## ALEXANDER GAVRILOVICH ROTCHEV

Alexander Gavrilovich Rotchev was born in 1806 or 1807. He was a writer, lyrical poet, and translator of works by notable figures such as Molière, Shakespeare, Byron and Schiller.

Biographer M. Sh. Fainshtein<sup>a</sup> writes in the introduction to *Memoirs of a Russian Traveler* by A. G. Rotchev, “. . . The name of the poet, translator and journalist whose talent was widely recognized in Moscow and St. Petersburg salons in the late 1820s and 1830s is known today to a very narrow circle of researchers and historians. Much of his life is unknown to modern scholars, the information being scattered in old publications (memoirs published in newspapers and magazines) and archives. To our greatest pity, the most precious papers stored in the State Archives of the Saratov Region perished in 1974 in a fire.” The following details about Alexander Rotchev's life were found in *Russian Biographical Dictionary*<sup>b</sup> and in articles written by M. Sh. Fainshtein and Vladimir Bezyazychny.<sup>c</sup>

At the age of fifteen Alexander Rotchev began studies in the law department of Moscow University where he also attended lectures in theater and literature. He was involved in Moscow's theatrical and journalistic circles, and in the mid-1820s he became a permanent member in the social and literary society of Professor S. E. Raich. He contributed to magazines and almanacs which printed his translations and poems on Oriental subjects. Like many other young intellectuals of the time, Rotchev was a free-thinker, and this was reflected in a number of his poems published in the *Moskovsky Telegraf* magazine.

After the 1825 Decembrist uprising, the magazine was known as the most liberal in Russia. Rotchev himself was questioned by the Moscow police for the perceived liberal tendencies of his writings. In 1828, Rotchev's *Imitations of the Koran* was published in Moscow with a dedication to his future wife, E. P. Gagarina.

Yelena Pavlovna Gagarina was a member of an old aristocratic family, and a beautiful independent young woman. She was musical, multi-lingual, and very well educated in the sciences. She eloped with Rotchev, an obscure student, in the spring of 1828. They were married in a small town near Moscow and lived in a rented flat in the country. She eventually severed connections with her family after they refused to reach reconciliation over her actions.

In early April 1829 Alexander Rotchev took a leave from the university (he never returned) and moved to St. Petersburg with his wife. He supported his family through translations and other literary works, and in 1833 took a job as copyist and interpreter at the office of the Imperial St. Petersburg Theaters. He worked under the office's director, Prince Sergey Gagarin, his wife's uncle, translating for the theatre the writings of western European classical writers. In the 1830s St. Petersburg was the center of intellectual life in Russia, and his circles of acquaintance included writers as eminent as Alexander Pushkin. His contacts with liberal writers and activists, and his sympathy with their views, continued throughout his life.

Alexander Rotchev entered the service of the Russian-American Company as company emissary in April of 1835. In August he left for the colonies with his wife and children. On April 16, 1836 they arrived at Novo-Arkhangelsk (Sitka, Alaska). Rotchev was appointed commissioner-at-large for the governor of the Russian colonies in America. In his first two years he visited the Pacific coast of North America, China, and India.

*“The duties of the new commissioner were widely diversified: he was to establish contacts with the local tribes, study the markets for distribution and consumption of goods, make inspection visits to the Russian settlements all along the Russian America coast. He had to postpone his poetic hobby for a time to reveal stern administrator’s and keen merchant’s capabilities. Rotchev summarized all his observations in his first journalistic work, “Очерки Северо-Западного берега Америки” (Essays of America’s North-West Coast), which was published in the first book of the Syn Otechestva (The Son of the Fatherland) magazine in 1838. In 1837 and 1838 he was sent on a mission by the governor of the colonies to India. The Russian-American Company had major trade operations with that country selling precious goods from Alaska and California. The huge country astounded the Russian voyager with its very rich culture and the abject poverty of its simple people brutally exploited by Europeans and local Rajas. For the rest of his life, Rotchev would keep the love for the country and deep respect of its people.”<sup>d</sup>*

He was then sent to Alta California (Bodega Bay, Monterey, San Francisco) on the company ship *Sitka* on a special assignment from the governor, and on August 1, 1838 he was named the manager of Fort Ross. *“This was the most favorable time for the colony’s development. The Russian population lived in peace with the local Indian tribes. Rotchev managed to make profitable agreements with neighboring Mexican towns. The manager of Ross and his family became living legends. Travelers were always welcomed at their house; there was a large library there, and music was played quite often.”<sup>e</sup>*

Cyrille Laplace, the French naval officer on his way around the world on the frigate *L’Artémise*, stopped at Fort Ross to replace the yard of the mainsail which was damaged en route from the Hawaiian Islands to the North American continent.

*“Mr. Rotchev appeared to justify all the praise which my acquaintances in the Sandwich Islands had heaped upon him. In his company I soon forgot the sad impressions that the view of the landscape had recently inspired in me. I found a man still young, of an agreeable physical appearance with distinguished manners, appearing to be well educated and speaking French perfectly, thus justifying by his good deportment and his spirit the high opinion that the Russian gentlemen who visit our country give us generally of their compatriots of an elevated rank . . . The mistress of the house, a young and gracious lady with a good figure and distinguished manners, speaking fluent French, gave us the nicest and most eager welcome . . .”<sup>f</sup>*

Among the many visitors to Fort Ross was the naturalist Ilya Gavrilovich Voznesensky who traveled with Yegor Chernykh and Alexander Rotchev to map the tributaries of the Russian River (*Slavyanka*) and make the first recorded ascent of the mountain they named St. Helena. In his letter to the Director of the Zoological Museum in Saint Petersburg he remarked that *“He saw much care and was received like a beloved relative by his (Rotchev’s) family, and from the very first day of my visit until the last day... I had all the kinds of useful means and opportunities for my works and travels, to say it short, I had*

*so much assistance from Mr. Rotchev, that I doubt I will ever be able to see the same again . . .”<sup>g</sup>*

Alexander Rotchev served as the company’s business agent in Alta California until January 1842. He successfully took steps to further the position of the Russians in California. He explored and studied California, traveling far inland to present-day Sacramento. A report from Governor Etholen to the Board of Directors of the RAC<sup>h</sup> presents another view of Alexander Rotchev, *“. . . Regarding the offence given by Mr. Vallejo in July of last year to the manager of Ross Counter, Mr. Rotchev . . . it is evident from all of the circumstances of this affair that they were the result of some personality [clash] between Vallejo and Rotchev, and this was the cause of excessive temper and rash behavior on both sides, and it has been observed that both of them now regret it. However, I cannot keep from the Board of Directors the fact that Mr. Rotchev, besides this unpleasant occurrence, during his brief management at Ross has caused various disorders in other respects, for which he certainly ought to have been replaced if the speedy abolition of Ross and our abandonment of that place forever had not been forthcoming . . .”*

Alexander Rotchev was ordered to sell Fort Ross, and at the end of 1841 the California settlement was sold for \$30,000 to Rotchev’s friend Captain John Sutter who owned New Helvetia (Sutter’s Fort) in the Sacramento valley. The Rotchev family and others stationed at Fort Ross left California. The Rotchevs returned to St. Petersburg where Alexander Rotchev submitted a report on his sojourn in the colonies to the company’s Board of Directors and then retired on May 5, 1843. He made his living in St. Petersburg writing articles for the papers. In 1849 gold was discovered near New Helvetia and the “gold rush” was on in California. Alexander Rotchev returned to California in 1851 after helping to survey gold-bearing deposits in Siberia. He did not have success finding gold and soon left California.

*“In 1852 Rotchev set out home. On his way, he visited India again, then he traveled to Aden and Egypt. From Africa, he went to London to spend several months there. There he visited libraries, and was introduced to bankers, scientists and writers. Some of his new friends were Russians. Since the autumn of 1852, he frequently visited [the socialist revolutionary] A. I. Herzen’s house . . . Herzen wrote, ‘Rotchev visits me often, a Russian, quite clever and refined’ . . .”<sup>i</sup>*

Back in St. Petersburg Rotchev was again active in literary and theatrical life, and published poems and a series of articles in St. Petersburg magazines about his travels, including his stay in California. In the late 1850s and early 1860s he published articles dealing with social issues in Russia and foreign policy. In 1867 he set out on a journey to Central Asia, returning to St. Petersburg for a short time in 1870. Then he went to France where he was a war correspondent covering the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 for Russian newspapers. In 1872 he settled in the Volga town of Saratov. He died there on August 20, 1873 and was buried at the cemetery of the Spaso-Preobrazhensky (Transfiguration of the Savior) monastery. He had written the epitaph for his tombstone, *He was human, and erred like humans.*

# Membership Application

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Senior/Student    \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Regular    \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 Family    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Organization    \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation

Fria board meetings are scheduled for the second Saturday of every other month.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Saturday December 12 at 10:30 AM

FRIA website: [www.fortrossinterpretive.org](http://www.fortrossinterpretive.org)

Fort Ross State Park web site: [www.fortrossstatepark.org](http://www.fortrossstatepark.org)



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Fort Ross Interpretive Association, Incorporated, is to promote for the benefit of the public the interpretive and educational activities of the Russian River Sector of California State Parks at Fort Ross State Historic Park and Salt Point State Park.

To enhance and conserve the cultural and natural historic, interpretive and educational resources of Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks.

To sponsor, publish, distribute, and sell appropriate items which increase visitor understanding and appreciation of this area.

To acquire materials and equipment to assist in the educational and interpretive programs at Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks.

To develop and maintain a library.

To preserve and archive historical material associated with Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks, and to provide and maintain adequate and secure storage facilities.

To sponsor, support, and assist scientific research and investigations relating to Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks, and presentation of these studies to the public.

To promote interpretation that reflects current research.

To plan, organize, and implement fund raising programs to support interpretive and educational activities at Fort Ross and Salt Point.

### Board of Directors:

Officers: Sarah Sweedler, President; Carolyn Coryelle, Vice President; Susan Rudy, Recording Secretary; Glenn Farris, Corresponding Secretary; Jim Allan, Treasurer; Directors: Ludmila Ershov; Konstantin Kudryavtsev; Marion MacDonald; Tom Wright. Director Emeritus: John Sperry.

Staff: Lyn Kalani—Executive Director; Sarjan Holt—Administrator; Lake Perry—Administrative Assistant; Susanna Barlow—Membership Secretary.

Fort Ross Interpretive Association  
19005 Coast Highway One  
Jenner, CA 95450  
Phone: (707) 847-3437  
Fax: (707) 847-3601  
E-mail: [fria@mcn.org](mailto:fria@mcn.org)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 1  
Jenner, 95450

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Nov. 3, 2009

**CONTACT:**

Fiona Hutton/Ann Newton

818.760.2121

[fhutton@fionahuttonassoc.com](mailto:fhutton@fionahuttonassoc.com)

[anewton@fionahuttonassoc.com](mailto:anewton@fionahuttonassoc.com)

**Proposed Ballot Measure Filed to Protect California State Parks & Conserve Wildlife**

*Adoption of Parks Access Fee Would Grant Californians Free, Year-Round Admission To All State Parks*

**SACRAMENTO** – An exploratory committee comprised of parks supporters today filed a proposed statewide ballot measure, called the “California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010,” which would create a stable, reliable and adequate source of funding to protect state parks and conserve California wildlife.

The committee, Californians for State Parks and Wildlife Conservation, is currently considering the feasibility of the proposed ballot measure. If it decides to go forward with the initiative and qualify it for the ballot, via signature gathering, the statutory measure would appear on the November 2010 statewide ballot. Early supporters of the proposed ballot measure include California State Parks Foundation, The Nature Conservancy and Save the Redwoods League.

From the vast stretches of sandy beaches along California’s magnificent coastline to the towering redwoods and much-needed recreational areas in the state’s bustling urban centers, California’s 278 state parks, which include state beaches and state historic parks, are priceless public assets and a vital legacy for our children and grandchildren.

However, budget cuts have starved state parks, causing them to accumulate a backlog of more than \$1 billion in needed maintenance and repairs. Roofs and sewage systems leak, restrooms are not cleaned regularly, bridges have collapsed, trails are washed out, campgrounds and visitor centers are shuttered and buildings and structures throughout the system are badly deteriorated. Thousands of scenic acres are closed to the public because of reductions in park rangers, and crime has more than doubled. Destruction and vandalism of the parks themselves has grown fourfold, and beachgoers are often unprotected because of decreases in lifeguards.

Twice in the past two years, state parks were on the brink of being shut down. Only last-minute budget reprieves kept them open. But nearly 60 state parks will be shut down part-time or their hours of operation reduced because of this year’s budget cuts, and more park closure proposals and budget cuts are expected next year.

“California state parks are in peril because of chronic underfunding,” said Elizabeth Goldstein, President of the California State Parks Foundation. “Our state parks were once considered the best in the nation, and now they’re falling apart and threatened with closure because they have no reliable source of funding. This parks measure would create a dedicated funding source to prevent park

closures, eliminate a backlog of more than a billion dollars in repairs and properly maintain parks and other natural resources for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.”

The ballot measure would protect state parks and conserve wildlife by establishing the State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund in the state treasury where, by law, it could only be spent on state parks, urban river parkways, wildlife, natural lands and ocean conservation programs. Funding for the Trust Fund would come from an \$18 annual State Park Access Pass surcharge on all California vehicles, including motorcycles and recreational vehicles. Larger commercial vehicles, mobile homes and permanent trailers would be exempt. Vehicles subject to the surcharge would receive **free, year-round admission** to all state parks throughout the year. Californians will no longer pay day-use fees at any state parks. In comparison, park visitors currently pay up to \$125 for an annual pass or \$10-\$15 per day at most parks. Out-of-state vehicles would continue to pay full entrance fees at parks.

“California’s 278 state parks are priceless public assets, a vital legacy for future generations and essential to strengthening our economy,” said Mike Sweeney, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy in California. “This ballot measure would protect these vital resources and give more Californians access to our state parks by providing free admission to the occupants of all vehicles paying the State Park Access Pass surcharge. This is a small investment that will provide great long-term returns for the health and well-being of our parks and people.”

Rather than living on a budget rollercoaster, state parks and other natural resources would now be funded by a reliable funding stream that would not be used for other purposes. And, with a new dedicated revenue stream in place, state General Fund dollars - that have historically provided a portion of overall state parks funding - would now be available for other vital needs, like schools, health care, social services or public safety.

“In these trying times, it’s essential we keep the parks open to protect a crucial economic engine for California,” said Ruskin Hartley, Executive Director of the Save the Redwoods League. “California state parks also play a critical role in conserving our natural resources by protecting natural areas that are sources of clean air and water and provide essential habitats for wildlife. This measure would help conserve lands that are vital to the health of people and nature.”

The voters’ investment would be protected by strict fiscal and accountability safeguards, including an annual audit by the State Auditor and a Citizens’ Oversight Committee would be created to ensure funds are spent appropriately. The State Legislature would not be able to reallocate the Trust Fund for any other uses.

State parks attract millions of tourists, who spend \$4.32 billion annually on park-related expenditures in California, according to a recent study. It found state parks visitors spend an average of \$57.63 in surrounding communities per visit. They generate so much economic activity that every dollar the state spends on state parks generates another \$2.35 for California’s treasury.

###

*The California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010 was developed by a statewide coalition of interests committed to protecting state parks and natural resources. California's 278 state parks are priceless public assets, important economic engines, and a vital legacy for our children and grandchildren. However, persistent budget cuts are starving state parks, causing them to fall severely behind in needed maintenance and repairs. The measure would establish a dedicated and reliable funding stream for state parks and natural resources to ensure they can be enjoyed for generations to come.*

FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL ELECTION 2009

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

\*Jim Allan (Treasurer)  
\*Carolyn Coryelle (Vice President)  
Ludmila Ershow  
Glenn Farris (Corresponding Secretary)  
Konstantin Kudryavtsev  
Marion MacDonald  
Susan Rudy (Recording Secretary)  
Sarah Sweedler (President)  
Tom Wright

Two board members will be elected in this election. Board members whose name is preceded by an \* have terms expiring this year; the remaining Board members have continuing terms. Please read the information about each candidate. The following slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors of the Fort Ross Interpretive Association for 2009 has been approved by the present board, and is hereby submitted to the membership in advance of the election. The ballots for the annual election for the FRIA Board of Directors will be counted at the December 12, 2009 annual membership meeting. Please mail your ballots in time to arrive before this date, or bring them to the meeting. The next five years will be an exciting time at the Fort Ross, and we need your help! Next year three board members will have expiring terms. Please let us know by next summer if you are interested in serving on the board.

STATEMENTS FROM THE CANDIDATES

**Manoushan Azam** — Is currently a research advisor for historic preservation and museum development projects at Fort Ross, including the Rotchev House restoration. “My family and I came to the United States in 1980 and we settled in Sacramento. In 1988 I joined California State Parks as an Associate Architect until my retirement just a few months ago. During my 21 year career I had the privilege to work on several historical restoration projects as well as design and construction of various new State Park buildings. Of all the state parks I have worked on, Fort Ross remains to this day my most treasured. I spent more than six years working on the reconstruction of the Russian warehouse or "Magazin", one of the essential buildings within the fort. This project gave me the opportunity to carry on my passion for historic architectural research and I acquired valuable knowledge about Fort Ross. Furthermore, I was delighted to revisit the Russian part of my soul. I am most proud to see this project complete and ready for construction. I was born in Tehran, Iran to a Russian mother and an Iranian father. Farsi was my native language and I learned to speak Russian from my mother and formally studied the grammar and literature with private teachers for fourteen years. I attended the American "Alborz" High School in Tehran where I learned English and basic Arabic. I continued my education at Tehran University Fine Arts Faculty, School of Architecture and later graduated with a Master's degree in Architecture. After graduation, I conducted independent research on Persian architecture. In 1974, in cooperation with The Iranian Department of National Cultural Heritage, I collaborated on an exhibition at the British Museum on the ancient city of Isfahan. Since then I have continued my research and have lectured on Persian architecture at universities and community colleges in Sacramento for over 25 years.”

**Reno Franklin, THPO** — Member Kashia Pomo Tribe; Chairman, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. “He en mahya iwa, my name is Reno Keoni Franklin. I am an enrolled member of the Kashia Pomo Tribe. I have served my tribe honorably as the Kashia Cultural Resource Director, NAGPRA officer and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the last seven years. I was raised in a traditional Kashaya family and taught my culture and traditions since I was born. I am an advisor to President Obama, chairman of the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, an advisor to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and a pretty good dude. It would be my honor to serve on the FRIA Board. If anyone would like to contact me or ask questions, please feel free to call or email me.”  
707 291-2737 [reno@stewartspointrancheria.com](mailto:reno@stewartspointrancheria.com)



**Vladimir S. Kuznetsov** — Professional Experience: President K & T Company, LLC. (Real Estate Development, consultancy) (2002 to Present) Larkspur, USA; Director for the USA-Western Region of the Fund for Presidential Programs (1997 to 2002) Moscow, Russia; Professor of International Relations and World Economy, Far-Eastern State University (1987 to Present) Vladivostok, Russia; Consul General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (1993 to 1997) San Francisco, CA; Governor, Primorskii Krai Government (1990 to 1993) Russia, USSR; Director for International Studies, The Institute of Economic and International Problems of Ocean Development, Far Eastern Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (1987 to 1990) Vladivostok, USSR; Senior Research Fellow, The Institute of the World Economy and International Relations (Academy of Sciences of the USSR) (1981 to 1987); Diplomatic Rank, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary; Professional Affiliation, Russian-American Chamber of Commerce; Fluent in Russian and English. Spanish, French, Serbo-Croatian; Education, Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Ph.D. Major in World Economy and International Economic Relations, 1987; Moscow State Institute of International Relations, M.A. Major in International Economic Relations, 1981.

**Otis Parrish** — Member of the Kashaya tribe and a traditional elder. My interest is to educate the public about who we are as a people and our way of life here at this wonderful Garden of Eden. We have a lot to show the world about how to live with the land we occupy, and to give instruction to children, who come to this wonderful place, of the many ways to respect and live with the environment. My other interest is to build a demonstration bark house as well as to have Kashaya language labels explaining objects that will be on display. I have authored a number of articles for publication, including the latest that is still in progress, a children's book of one of my boyhood experiences. Also I coauthored *California Indians and Their Environment*, 2009, University of California Press. I've earned a BA in California Indian History, with Anthropology as my minor, at Sonoma State University. And I also earned a Master's degree in Anthropology from UC Berkeley in 1997. I worked as a cultural attache' for the Pheobe Hearst Museum of Anthropology for a number of years, retiring in 2007. I am presently consulting on a large project with CALTRANS and am a known expert on the Grave Protection and Repatriation Act.

**Andrey Zabegalin** — I was born in Moscow and my interest in history dates from the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. But it wasn't until I came to America that I learned about the saga of Fort Ross. Researching documents in the Academy of Science in St. Petersburg, I was captivated, and began publishing articles about Fort Ross in Russian and American newspapers and magazines. I now take every opportunity to promote Fort Ross in Russia and among members of the Russian émigré communities in Europe and the Americas. For example, in 2004 I was able to express my feeling about Fort Ross for a DVD on Fort Ross and Russian-American relations made by Voice of America, which was broadcast on Russian television. I am now working with the Consulate of the Russian Federation in San Francisco to combat the impending threats to Fort Ross, including a project to publish a special issue of the Russian newspaper devoted to the history and upcoming bicentennial of Fort Ross. If elected, I will continue to work to build bridges to enthusiasts and financial supporters in Russia and America.



---

## BALLOT

*Please Clip and Mail*

**Instructions:** Vote for two. Ballots with more than two votes will be discarded.

- Manoushan Azam**
- Reno Keoni Franklin**
- Vladimir S. Kuznetsov**

- Otis Parrish**
- Andrey Zabegalin**