

## FORT ROSS - SALT POINT NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE FORT ROSS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA STATE PARK COOPERATING ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2009

[WWW.FORTROSSINTERPRETIVE.ORG](http://WWW.FORTROSSINTERPRETIVE.ORG)

### KRASNAYA GORKA SPRING CELEBRATION

AT FORT ROSS

Saturday May 2, 2009

10 AM – 4:30 PM

Noon Presentation



Fort Ross State Historic Park and Russian House Kedry welcome you to Krasnaya Gorka (translated as Beautiful, Red, and Holy Hill) a Spring Celebration based on Russian Folk and Orthodox traditions.

Join our circle dances, songs, games and baking this Spring afternoon, after learning about the traditions of the Commemoration of Ancestors and the Praising of Spring, the Future Harvest, and Life itself!

Fees: \$7 per car (\$6 senior)

Contact Hank Birnbaum or Robin Joy

(707) 847-4777

19005 Coast Hwy, Jenner, CA 95450

[frinterp@parks.ca.gov](mailto:frinterp@parks.ca.gov)

[www.fortrossstatepark.org](http://www.fortrossstatepark.org)

### SALT POINT STATE PARK SHORELINE WALKS

with Keith Nelson

Meet at the Salt Point Visitor Center  
at Gerstle Cove

Walk the bluffs, tide pools,  
wildflowers, and geology

1 1/2 miles round trip

Sat. May 2, noon-2pm

Mon. May 25, 8am-10am Memorial Day

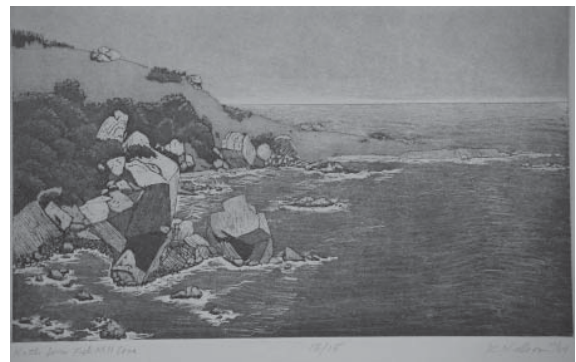
Sun. May 31, 11:30am - 1:30 pm

Sun. June 14, 10am - 12 noon

Sun. June 28, 10am - 12 noon

Sun. July 12, 9am - 11am

Sun. July 26, 8:30am - 10:30 am



*North from Fisk Mill Cove by Keith Nelson*

### WILDFIRE AT SALT POINT

On April 1 a wildfire near Fisk Mill in Salt Point State Park burned about seven acres and threatened the home of Park Ranger Todd Farcau and Charisse Farcau. High winds pushed the originally small ground fire, caused by tree-downed live electrical wires, into dense underbrush and quickly to the canopy of bishop pines and across Coast Highway One. Fort Ross, Timber Cove, Sea Ranch and Monte Rio VFDs responded, as did two Huey helicopters dumping water buckets, and a crew from the Department of Corrections out of Konocti (Lake County) which stayed into the night and returned the next day for mopping up. Ranger Farcau appreciated everyone's efforts and noted the special attention taken by Parks' Curtis Griffin and Chris Almind to ensure that there was adequate water supplied to the many fire tankers. Linda Rath from District office and Mike Chiesa, County Regional Parks, provided excellent communications and traffic control during the almost six hour-long incident. The skills and perseverance of all those involved kept the burn to a minimum, and structures and personnel safe.

# “Señor Don Cirilo:” CALIFORNIA LETTERS TO KIRILL KHEBNIKOV

by Glenn Farris, Ph.D.

Farris, West & Schulz, Davis, CA

(Paper Presented at the annual conference of the California Mission Studies Association, Carmel, CA. February 21, 2009)

## INTRODUCTION

A most enduring and observant visitor to California from 1817 to 1832 was the chief agent of the Russian American Company based in New Archangel (Sitka, Alaska), Kirill Timofeevich Khlebnikov. Because of his commercial interests, he came to know a wide number of Californians including governors, priests, presidio commandants, merchants and rancheros. He made nearly annual visits to California over this important 15 year period and usually stayed many months at a time. Several of his key journals covering the years 1820, 1822, and 1824 have been published as “The Khlebnikov Archive” by the Rasmuson Library of the University of Alaska. Journals for some other years will soon be available in a publication of Russian documents edited and translated by Dr. James Gibson. In recent visits to various Russian archives, Dr. Gibson brought back more than fifty letters that had been sent to Khlebnikov by numerous California correspondents. Translation and annotation of these letters will be part of a new project by the Fort Ross Interpretive Association related to the Russian Naval Archive project that I reported on in the Mission Dolores conference (Farris 2007). The letters are generally written in Spanish, although there are some in English from the merchant, William Hartnell. The letters are often short and frequently are requests for items they wish Khlebnikov to bring on future visits or plan to deliver to the Russian ships. The tone of the letters varies in the degree of closeness to Khlebnikov felt by the different authors and probably the formality of the subject. However, in some cases, there is an evident growth in intimacy of the greetings in the letters, particularly those of Fr. Luis Gil y Taboada of Mission Santa Cruz (and later, San Luis Obispo). In this paper, I will discuss this correspondence and the light it sheds on the relationship of the Russian American Company and the population of California in this period of transition from Spanish colony to Mexican province. The cordiality of the correspondence provides an interesting counterpoint to the supposed official antagonism between the Spanish/Mexican authorities and the Russians.

## KIRILL KHEBNIKOV

It might be useful to begin with a little background on the main character in this correspondence. This information is mainly derived from Richard Pierce’s biographical dictionary of Russian America (1990: 229-230). Kirill Timofeevich Khlebnikov was born to an old merchant family on March 18, 1785 in Kungur, Perm *gubernia* in the Ural Mountains of Russia. (Incidentally, these letters largely came from the Perm Archives.) As a 15 year-old, Kirill joined the newly

created (1799) Russian American Company in 1800. His initial assignments in the first decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were on the Kamchatka Peninsula. Due to some health problems he returned to the Company headquarters in Irkutsk and later traveled west to St. Petersburg, where he was offered the position of chief manager of the main office in Russian America at New Archangel (Sitka). He traveled to his new assignment in company with Captain Leontii Hagemeister aboard the *Kutuzov*, arriving at Port Rumiantsev (Bodega Bay) on September 15, 1817. Khlebnikov was one of the witnesses to a treaty of friendship with the Indians around Fort Ross that was signed at this time (Dmytryshyn, Crownhart-Vaughan and Vaughan 1989:298). This was Khlebnikov’s first of many visits to California. From Russian California, Khlebnikov continued on to New Archangel where he took up his duties as office manager for the RAC from the ailing Alexander Baranov while Hagemeister assumed the role of chief manager (or governor) of Russian America. Khlebnikov applied himself to learning several languages, including English and Spanish, which was a great aid to his interaction with people in California, both native Californios and English-speaking merchants. He finally left Russian America in 1832 to return via California and Mexico to European Russia where he was given a post in the main office in St. Petersburg and in 1835 was elected to the Board of Governors of the RAC. In his leisure he wrote many articles and publications dealing with Russian America. He died of a stroke on April 14, 1838 after a dinner out at the home of Baron von Wrangell who had been the chief manager in Sitka at the time of Khlebnikov’s departure.

## KHEBNIKOV’S VISITS TO CALIFORNIA

Whereas not all of Khlebnikov’s travel notes are currently available in English, there is an invaluable journal that briefly lists all of his travels from 1800 to 1837 (Khlebnikov 1990: 15-40). From this journal we learn that after stopping at Bodega Bay and Fort Ross in 1817, the *Kutuzov* made a brief visit to San Francisco and apparently Monterey before continuing on to Sitka. In his travel notes of 1820, Khlebnikov commented that it was from this 1817 visit by Hagemeister that the first grape plantings were brought to Fort Ross as well as some apple and peach trees. On this 1820 visit Khlebnikov arrived on the ill-fated ship *Il’men*, which ran aground just north of Point Arena. Khlebnikov was taken to Fort Ross in a skin boat (*baidara*) and then traveled to Monterey, Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara aboard the *Buldakov*. His next venture to California was in 1822, once again on the *Buldakov*, when he mentions visiting Monterey and San Francisco. He returned again in late 1823, this time on the *Riurik*, visiting once more Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Francisco. Again, in 1824, on the *Baikal*, he returned to Monterey and transferred to the new Fort Ross-built *Kiakhta* to sail up to Santa Cruz.

His next visit, aboard the *Baikal*, was in late 1825 to early 1826 when he visited Monterey and then transferred to the *Kiakhta* to travel up to San Francisco. He returned again later in 1826 aboard the *Baikal* to Monterey where he transferred to the *Okhotsk* and traveled down to San Pedro, Santa Catalina Island, and San Diego, with additional forays to Missions San Juan Bautista, San Francisco, San José and probably San Francisco Solano (the “new” mission), returning to Sitka in early 1827. Later in 1827 he returned to Monterey and Santa Cruz aboard the *Kiakhta*, then back to Sitka. In late 1828 he came again to San Francisco aboard the *Kiakhta* and then to missions Santa Clara and San José, as well as the San Pablo rancho and Monterey from which he sailed south to San Diego on the *Okhotsk*. He left San Diego at the end of January 1829 to return to Sitka. In November 1829 he returned to California on the *Okhotsk*, then transferred to the *Baikal* to travel down to South America. In late 1830 and early 1831 he was back in San Francisco, Monterey, San Francisco Solano, San José and Santa Clara. He also visited the San Pablo Rancho. Toward the end of 1831 he was back in California aboard the ship *Urup* and visited Monterey, San Carlos Mission, Santa Cruz, San Francisco presidio and mission, Santa Clara and the San Antonio rancho. His final trip to California in 1832-1833 was in the company of Baron Ferdinand von Wrangell aboard the *Amerika*. They went first to San Francisco, then to San José, next to San Francisco Solano and the rancho San Antonio.

#### THE CORRESPONDENCE

The 50 or so letters and notes, mostly to Khlebnikov, recently found in the Perm archives range in date from October 13, 1823 to December 31, 1835, after his return to Russia. For this paper I will organize them according to the occupation of the author in each case.

##### Governors

##### **José María Echeandia** (San Diego)

In a letter to Khlebnikov dated November 17, 1828, José María Echeandia writes from Buenaventura (?) regarding sale of wheat for goods and silver in the port of San Francisco.

Curiously enough, in another letter bearing the same date as the one above (Nov. 17, 1828), Echeandia gives his address as San Diego and refers to a note of October 20 (of that year) that Khlebnikov had arrived by ship at the port of San Francisco with the plan to purchase some fanegas of wheat in exchange for goods and silver to pay for the right to drop anchor. Refers to a circular of 30 September that he had sent out respecting trade in Monterey and San Diego as well as San Francisco.

Writing from the Port of San Diego on January 8, 1829, Echeandia speaks of Adolf Etholin (Russian captain of the *Baikal*) departing San Diego for the [Baja California] port of San Quintin. Says that he received Khlebnikov’s request to come to visit himself (i.e. in person?). Incidentally, there is another letter from Etholin to Khlebnikov from San Quintin written at this same time in Russian that seems to

mention a number of people in San Diego. It will also be transcribed and translated as part of this project.

In another letter from San Diego dated January 16, 1829, Echeandia asks to purchase 4 arrobas (~100 pounds) of gunpowder in order to be able to provide cannon salutes.

##### Priests

##### **Fr. Luis Gil y Taboada** (Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo)

The nine letters from Fr. Luis Gil make up the single largest number of missives from a single individual in this collection. Eight of these were sent from Mission Santa Cruz and the last was sent from Fr. Gil’s final mission, San Luis Obispo in 1831. The earliest dated letter is dated October 13, 1824, Santa Cruz Mission. His salutation include “Amigo y mui Sr. mio”, “Mi apreciable amigo,y mui Sr. mio,” “Mi amadisimo y apreciabilisimo amigo,” “Mi amado amigo,” and finally, “mi mui caro Amigo Dn. Cirilo” suggesting a very warm relationship. Another indication of his interest in the Russians and perhaps a keenness to please is found in his request for a “*caxa de polvo con el retrato del Imperator Alexander*” [snuff box with the image of Emperor Alexander] whose name he writes in Cyrillic script in a letter dated December 4, 1825, unaware that Tsar Alexander I had died two weeks before.

##### **Fr. José Sanchez** (San Gabriel?)

One letter from Fr. Sanchez dated Feb. 17, 1826, was addressed to Khlebnikov when he was at San Diego aboard the *Baikal* in which he puts in an order for a “pieza” like he had provided to “Don Jacobo.”

##### **Fr. Felipe Arroyo de la Cuesta** (San Juan Bautista)

One letter from Fr. Arroyo de la Cuesta dated Dec. 15, 1826 speaks of sending Khlebnikov 200 *fanegas* of wheat in 8 *carretas*.

##### **Fr. Buena Fortuna Fortuny** (San Francisco Solano de Sonoma)

Fr. Buena Fortuna wrote on Oct. 25, 1828. He reports on availability of wheat: 500 fanegas from Sonoma Mission, and possible grain from Santa Clara Mission. He also mentions the purchase of crystal, maps, 1 or 2 pounds of tin, to the account of Sergeant Soto.

##### **Fr. Thomas Estenega** (San Francisco de Asís)

In a letter dated November 5, 1828, Fr. Thomas mentions an organ purchased for the mission as well as keys and a crank; sale of 93 *arrobas* and 10 *libras* of Manteca (lard), 4 botas of seba (fat or suet); also providing 4 *fanegas* of salt and a bag (?) of deer meat.

In another note from Fr. Thomas with no date, but indicated as being from the Puerto de San Francisco mentions various people and missions: Manuel Carvahal, Antonio Suñol, Mission Santa Clara, Mission Santa Cruz, and Don Jacobo.

##### **Fr. Vicente Francisco de Sarría** (San Carlos Borromeo)

Fr. Sarría wrote to Khlebnikov on January 5, 1829 regarding the Kodiak Pedro and his desire to marry. There is the interesting suggestion that Pedro had killed his previous wife, but whether this was in Alaska or California is unclear.



Detail from Spanish map of California created in 1823 by José Maria Narváez shows *Puerto de la Bodega* in the *Distrito de San Francisco* at the top of Spanish California. In 1830 he updated this map with one which included *Establecimiento Ruso* [Fort Ross]. Courtesy Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division.

**Fr. Antonio Peyri** (San Luis Rey)

In a purely commercial request dated January 26, 1829, Fr. Antonio Peyri requests some good iron [*buen fierro*] at 12 pesos per quintal.

**Fr. Juan Moreno** (San Juan Bautista)

In a letter dated December 10, 1830, Fr. Juan Moreno wrote to Khlebnikov. His letter refers to a pocket-watch, Fr. Luis Gil; Don Esteban Monrrad and William Hartnell.

**Fr. Ramón Abella** (San Carlos Borromeo)

Fr. Ramón Abella, while at Mission San Carlos Borromeo wrote to Khlebnikov on Dec. 11, 1830. He mentions transactions with various priests around the San Francisco Bay area (San Francisco Solano, San José, Ysidoro Soto, Fr. Buena Ventura Fortuni, Fr. Narciso).

**Fr. Juan Amoros** (San Rafael)

On January 30, 1831 Fr. Juan Amoros wrote thanking Khlebnikov for the present of a little box and powder. He also stated that he was willing to sell various items like bags of tallow at 2 pesos. Finally he attaches a list of items he wants to buy.

**Fr. José Joaquín Ximeno** (Santa Cruz)

Fr. José Joaquín Ximeno wrote on Feb. 8, 1831 to Khlebnikov a brief note that José Bolcoff would receive goods for the mission of Santa Cruz. In a follow-up letter on Feb. 16, 1831, Fr. Ximeno wrote another letter regarding an account the mission had with John Cooper and some pieces of cloth for Juan Malarin.

**Fr. Narciso Durán** (San José)

In a letter dated February 10, 1831, Fr. Narciso Duran wrote regarding cargo to be delivered to the playa to Hartnell's ship to be transferred to Antonio Suñol. Another letter from Fr. Durán on January 28, 1833 mentions receiving a copy of a map of the Bay of San Francisco via William Hartnell.

**Fr. Fernando Martín** (San Diego?)

This note from Fr. Martin is undated. It refers to 2 fanegas of zepadas valued at 3 pesos and 5 sheep.

**Fr. José Viader** (Santa Clara)

This note signed by Fr. Viader has no date. The location is assumed to be Santa Clara. He speaks of giving money to José [possibly Bolcoff?].

#### Presidio Commandants

**Karl Ivan Schmidt** (Presidio of Ross) to **Ygnacio Martínez** (Presidio de San Francisco)

Writing in Spanish, the young commandant of Fort Ross, Karl Ivan Schmidt, wrote to the Comandante of the Presidio of San Francisco, Ygnacio Martínez on Nov. 26, 1823. Schmidt notes that Khlebnikov has ordered kayaks to the Presidio of San Francisco to hunt sea otters under the direction of Dorofeev on behalf of the Company in conjunction with Luis Argüello and Joaquín Estudillo to represent the Mexican authorities. Mentions reimbursement for food provided for Kodiaks at missions San José, Santa Clara and San Francisco. Asks to be remembered to the señoritas. Postscript mentions a Julian Hitroff (?) and asks news of "this Indian woman."

**Ygnacio Martínez** (San Francisco Presidio)

A joint note signed by Khlebnikov and Martínez dated

January 17, 1824 as Mission San Rafael describes an agreement regarding hunting sea otters by 25 kayaks capturing 405 sea otters.

**José Estrada** (Monterey Presidio and Rancho Buenaventura)

Note from José Estrada to Khlebnikov dated Nov. 10, 1826 in Monterey refers to a commercial agreement entered into on October 9, 1824 at Mission Santa Cruz. Re: ships Baycal, Buldakov and Kiakhta.

In a second letter written 12 days later (Nov. 22, 1826) Estrada writes again to Khlebnikov, referring to the agreement they had made up in Mission Santa Cruz on Oct. 9, 1824 and mentions Brig *Maria Ester*, also mentions Henry Wilmot as well as [RAC shipmaster] Christopher [Benzeman].

A very brief note from Estrada to Khlebnikov dated October 27, 1831 from Buenaventura mentions Don Dionisio.

In another note dated November 8, 1831, Estrada writes from Monterey regarding the purchase of 605 pesos in effects to be given to John Gilroy, the bearer of the letter. Finally, in an undated note Estrada writes to Khlebnikov to ask him, "Please send me 500 pesos by the bearer, Antonio Osio."

#### Government Officials

**Santiago Argüello** (San Diego)

Dec. 1, 1825—Santiago Argüello to Khlebnikov, San Diego—Speaks of a contract to hunt sea otters by the Brig Baycal under the command of Don Cristoval [Christopher Benzeman] perhaps based on an 1823 contract between the RAC and Don Luis [Argüello]. Also for the purchase of 300 or 400 fanegas of wheat.

**Luis Antonio Argüello** (Monterey)

On Jan. 24, 1827, Luis Antonio Argüello, former governor of California, wrote to Khlebnikov from Monterey saying that he had written to the commandant of the port, Ygnacio Martínez and also to the majordomo of his rancho to deliver items to the beach at the port for Khlebnikov.

**Romualdo Pacheco** (Casa ?)

On Nov. 22, 1826 Romualdo Pacheco (an aide to Echeandia) wrote to Khlebnikov regarding foreign ships fishing (hunting?) along the coast.

**Rafael Gomez** [San Francisco?]

In a brief letter dated November 2, 1831, Rafael Gomez wrote to Khlebnikov mentioning the availability of wheat for sale and asks for beeswax for Fr. Ventura [Sonoma Mission], Fr. Tomas [Mission Dolores], and Fr. Ramón [San Rafael].

**José M. Padres** (San Francisco)

On February 18, 1831, José M. Padres wrote from San Francisco with orders for his brother in Monterey for a list of commodities including 2 *arrobas* of 4 inch spikes, 3 ramrods, 2 pieces of fine cloth, and one of cotton, 4 medium iron pots.

**Juan Malarin** (Monterey)

Juan Malarin wrote to Khlebnikov on December 3, 1832 from Monterey about a variety of items he had ordered including silver teaspoons and soap, etc. Mentions Adolf Etholin.

## Merchants

Several merchants living in California appear in the letters:

### **Antonio José Cot** (Monterey)

On February 8, 1827, Antonio José Cot of Monterey requested 35 large planks (*tablones*) and 40 planks (*tablas*), the former 3 inches thick and the latter 1 ½ inches thick, like those you sold to Mariano Estrada.

### **William Hartnell** (Monterey)

William Hartnell, a prominent merchant in Monterey wrote to Khlebnikov in English on December 31, 1835 a very friendly letter congratulating him on his new appointment as a director of the RAC; mentions a ship soon leaving for Lima [possibly the *Alert*, a Bryant & Sturgis ship that was in Monterey from Dec. 29, 1835 to Jan. 6, 1836]. By this time, Khlebnikov was back in Russia, but clearly the letter managed to get to him to be part of his archives.

## Uncertain Status

### **Antonio Suñol** (San Jose)

Writing from San José on September 24, 1831, Antonio Suñol stated that he wanted to purchase white and red beads and has 300 fanegas of wheat to sell.

### **Carlos de Gerolt** (Santa Clara)

A very interesting letter dated February 6, [1831] was written by a Prussian immigrant to California named Karl Friedrich von Gerolt (aka Carlos de Gerolt) then resident at Mission Santa Clara. This individual is intriguing because he does not show up on the Bancroft lists of early Californians. However, on a tip from Dr. Thomas Blackburn and thanks to information found in the mission records available online in the Early California Population Project, a Carlos de Gerolt married a local California woman, Maria Silveria Pacheco on February 1, 1832 and died a month and half later on March 19, 1832. They had a son named Carlos Antonio y Francisco who was baptized on October 12, 1832 at the age of three days. The child died about seven months later on May 5, 1833. Through information provided by linguist Victor Golla I learned that Gerolt also apparently copied some word lists of Coast Miwok and Ohlone people made up by Fr. Arroyo de la Cuesta. These lists were sent to the polymath scholar, Alexander Von Humboldt. His full name was Karl Friedrich Joseph Maria von Gerolt, born in Bonn on June 26, 1794 and elder brother to a later Prussian ambassador to Washington, DC (1846-1871), Friedrich Karl von Gerolt. In his letter to Khlebnikov he states that “Don Andres” ordered a barrel of aguardiente. He also wishes Khlebnikov a good voyage. He says that the Indians don’t like blue beads, so he is ordering 2 *arrobas* of white beads and 2 *arrobas* of red beads, 1 *arroba* of black beads. The author mentions Don Pedro at the presidio of Bodega [Peter Kostromitinov] and also says he received a note from the merchant Henry Virmond, another German, who very likely may have brought him to California in the first place.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The letters described above make clear not only the extensive involvement of Kirill Khlebnikov with the people of California, but the obvious affection that was generated by their interaction. In his biographical writings, Don Antonio Osio makes the following observation about Khlebnikov:

“The Russian-American Company already had begun its trade, which benefitted those engaged in agriculture. Each December two or three ships would come down from the settlements which they had on both sides of the Bering Strait and load up with wheat. Don Kirill Khlebnikov, the agent in charge of this operation, gained the respect of every inhabitant of California by his gentlemanly behavior. In conducting his business, he never experienced any problems or had any disagreements with anyone, since he always acted clearly and honorably. To assure himself of a regular supply of wheat, he offered to pay three pesos silver per *fanega*, every year, even though he knew from various people in the country, that, depending on the harvest, the wheat was not worth more than one peso or twelve reales per *fanega*. He also would bring very fine goods from Europe and Asia, including fabrics of superior quality and beauty which were ordered by the Reverend Fathers of the missions for vestments and church ornaments” (Osio 1996:70).

Although the American and English trade with California clearly outstripped that of the Russians, it is worthwhile to keep in mind that the commercial interactions with the Russian American Company were of significant importance to the Californios. Whereas the other nations were most interested in the hides and tallow of California, it was the Russians who consistently purchased large quantities of wheat and other vegetable crops, primarily from the California missions. Between 1814 and 1840, Russian vessels purchased 131,058 bushels (81,911 *fanegas*) of wheat alone, not counting quantities of barley, beans, flour, salted meat and lard (Gibson 1976:186-187). This should be kept in mind when economic projections are made on the quantity of grain produced at the mission relative to the population of Indian neophytes to determine how much was available per head. In fact, a notable quantity of the mission production was being funneled into the Russian market.

The question often arises, how much impact did the Russians have on California? Wasn’t it usually antagonistic? The answers are usually framed in terms of the interaction with and concern over the Californian Russian colony of Fort Ross. However, as we reflect on the relations between Kirill Khlebnikov and a host of Californios, it becomes clear that there was a warm commercial relationship with the Russian American Company that spanned much of the era of Mexican California.

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## RANCH ERA REPORT

We continue to have several groups of enthusiastic visitors each time the Call House is open, and the busy season is just beginning. **DOCENTS ARE NEEDED**. Interested persons may come during open hours (1-4 PM, first weekend of the month) to see what is involved.

A bid has been accepted for front porch replacement and minor structural repairs.

The Sonoma County Historical Quarterly plans to edit and publish a memoir by Elsie Cerini about her childhood on the Temple Ranch (at the end of Bohan-Dillon Road) in the early 1900s.

Retired Fort Ross Ranger Bill Walton is busy designing and preparing to build a replica of the *Pomona* sign which used to hang over the Call House porch.

From a report to the FRIA Board by Lynn H. Rudy

The *Old Salt Point Township, Sonoma County, California 1841—1941* by Lynn Hay Rudy will soon be in print and for sale in the Fort Ross Museum Bookstore by this summer! The map below, *Salt Point Ocean Township Lines* is from the book.



# 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 June 13 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; Kent Lightfoot

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